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January, 2018

# Montessori Children's House E-Update





The families of both the Toddler & Preprimary Program children enjoyed the Celebration Of Light on the last day of school before the start of winter break. It was a time to celebrate the season, our wonderful students and families and join together in our traditional Celebration Of Light ceremony.

#### Dear Anna,

Welcome back to school as we begin 2018 together! January is often a time of great concentration in the classrooms. The children arrive from break ready to work and hungry for the routines of school. At this point in the school year, the students are very comfortable in the classroom environment and are moving on to greater challenges and new opportunities for learning. It is our goal to continue our mission of nurturing and guiding your child(ren)'s growth and development throughout these formative years.

Winter weather is upon us and in the event that school is closed due to severe winter weather, parents may check:

http://www.emergencyclosingcenter.com

or call the school's voice mail to see if it is closed. All school families will also receive an email if the school is closed.

Every child must bring a winter jacket, snow pants, hat, gloves or mittens and boots to school every day. We ask that all mittens and gloves be attached directly to your child's coat with glove and mitten clips. Tying a special string or ribbon to your child's boots can also help them to identify which are theirs. Please be sure to label all items with your child's name.

As a reminder, stay in your car and in the car line during arrivals and dismissals. Children will be assisted out of the car at arrivals and brought to the car by our staff and buckled into their car seat during dismissals. Even though the driveway is plowed and salted, conditions are slippery. Please observe your child's arrival and dismissal times and leave enough time for driving in the winter weather conditions.

February is **Parent-Teacher Conference** time, when the Toddler and Preprimary Programs' conferences will be scheduled. As we get closer to

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#### **Parent Committee Meeting**

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**Preprimary Program** 

**Important Dates** 

### Important Dates

#### January 1

**Tuition Payment Due** 

2 Payment Plan

4 Payment Plan

9 Payment Plan

#### <u>January 3</u> Classes resume

January 15
Martin Luther King Day
NO SCHOOL

January 16
Parent Committee Meeting
9:00 a.m.

January 29

February, information will be sent home. In preparation for conferences parents of 3-6 year old students are welcome to schedule a time to observe their child in the classroom (Preprimary class only). From behind the one-way window, parents can witness the exciting process of new discoveries during the busy, yet peaceful, daily work time of the students. If you would like to observe (Preprimary only) please contact the school office at office@mchnb.net or at (847)550-0917 to schedule a time.

Photos from our school events and everyday life at MCHNB can be found on our Facebook page.

## Parent Committee Meeting



Please join us for our Parent Volunteer Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 16th at 9:00 a.m. as we work together and share ideas for our Spring Fundraising event.

The event itself is taking place on the evening of Saturday, March 3rd at Makray Memorial Golf Club. This will be for adults only including a silent auction, dinner and wine, and fun with others from our MCH community. Save the date and stay tuned for more details!

We welcome parents to join the volunteer committee, whether you are able to make it to all the meetings or not. Our fundraising goal this year is to raise enough funds in order to purchase specialty Montessori materials for both the Toddler and Preprimary Programs!

Please R.S.V.P. to the school office if you are able to attend.

## Yoda Prodram



The program will be offered on Thursdays, starting February 1 and run through March 22nd from 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Children who attend all day are welcome to add this to their

schedule, and half day students are invited to return in the afternoon for this opportunity. Class size is limited, so apply early if you are considering this option for your child.

Enrollment forms will be sent home the first week in January.

## Parent-Child Program

The Third Session of Parent-Child Classes will begin on Monday, January 29th, 2018.

This class is designed for children from birth to 2 years of age. It is a wonderful opportunity to share the earliest school experience with your child, learn about child development from a renowned expert, and to get to know other parents with children of similar ages.

The Parent-Child class is led by Ms. Loreto Wille, who has dedicated her life

Parent Child Classes Begin 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

February 1 Yoga Classes begin

February 16 Parent-Teacher Conferences NO SCHOOL

February 19 **Presidents Day** NO SCHOOL

February 28 Re-enrollment Deadline for 2018-2019

Please feel free to download our updated School Year Calendar or use it online

### Montessori Moment

Check out this lovely article for Montessori parents: "Talking Respectfully to Your Children". It was published recentlyin Montessori Life, the magazine of the American Montessori Society.

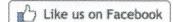
#### Montessori Parent

### Quick Links

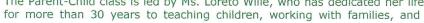
Montessori Children's **House Website** 

> Seton Montessori **Institute**

American Montessori Society



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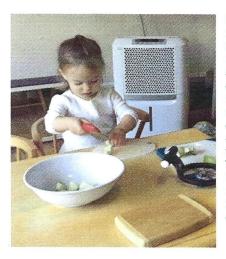




training future Montessori teachers. Ms. Loreto has been a part of our Montessori Children's House Community for many years, and we are proud to have several of her former students who have returned now as parents with their own children at MCH.

The Parent-Child Class is held on Monday mornings from 9:30 till 11:00 a.m. If you or a friend have a young child at home please contact the school office for more information or to sign up for a complimentary visit.

## Toddler Program



Food Preparation is one of the most popular Practical Life activities of a Montessori Toddler classroom and is practiced on a daily basis. It has a multitude of benefits for the child. The Toddler child develops independence, strengthens fine motor skills and develops hand eye coordination. This is also an opportunity for a child to taste new foods. In the photo a child of the Toddler Program demonstrates her independence as she cuts apple wedges with a child safe chopper. She is preparing the snack for her class at such a young age!

## Preprimary Program



The 5 year old child in the photo above is working with some of the Montessori Nomenclature Cards. Sets of these cards are a common sight in a Montessori classroom. Also known as 3-Part Cards, they are often used for building vocabulary and a variety of concepts within the classroom. The material is made up of matching pictures and the corresponding labels. Children who are unable to read can also use the material by matching the pictures and labels, as can be seen in the photo the child is concentrating to complete his own book.

In the photo below a child is preparing snack for the children of her classroom. She is spreading the cream cheese on the bagels with care and precision. As the child works on this Practical Life activity she strengthens essential skills such as hand-eye coordination, fine motor skills and concentration. These are all skills necessary for further success in all areas of the Montessori classroom. Practical Life activities are the foundation of all authentic Montessori schools.



The Montessori Children's House staff thanks you for sharing your children with us!

Sincerely,

**Anna Perry** 

Head of School

Montessori Children's House of North Barrington

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