



Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2011

MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF CELEBRATION

ISSUE ONE



The children are very excited to be back in school!

Ready for Another Year

Coral Room

The children are very excited to be back in school, and you can feel the excitement in the classroom. We are working on establishing a new sense of community and welcoming all our new students. All returning students are excited to take on their new roles as role models and helpers, and the Kindergartners are "rising to the occasion" as the leaders in the room. In the upcoming weeks we will be welcoming Fall and studying the seasons. We will also be looking at different varieties of apples and tasting them. We will be starting our "shares" on Tuesday, September 6th, (more information to follow), where the children will get to bring in something from home for show and tell. We will keep a Sharing



Day schedule posted on our classroom door.

Green Room

Greetings from Lower Elementary We are off to a wonderful start this 2011/12 school year. The children have come in enthusiastic and ready to work. It is nice to see so many returning faces and a warm welcome to the following new students:

- Logan Wolf
- Jay Tonkin
- Kellan McMullen
- Alex Farmiga
- Cristian Farmiga
- Alexander Kim
- Mohammed Hamdeh
- Malek Allid

The children are excited and looking forward to PE which will be starting September 9th. Spanish, Art, and Yoga will begin in October as well as the

Japanese Drumming for the third year students. Also in the coming weeks, the third year students will be working on presenting the Creation Story.

If you have a special skill/talent that you would like to share with the class we



invite you to schedule a date to join us. The children truly enjoy when a parent shares.

We are looking forward to another amazing year and thank you for your support!



Montessori School of Celebration
901 Begonia Road, Celebration, FL 34747
Tel: 407.566.1561 Fax: 407.566.1544
Email: montessori.school@celebration.fl.us



Welcome

Welcome to the 2011 - 2012 school year! We've had a great start to our year and we are looking forward to working together to make this the best year yet.



Thank you to all of you who made it to our Community Meeting this past Wednesday. It was very nice to gather together as a school family and to start to get to know each other.

Important dates:

Monday, September 5: NO SCHOOL / Labor Day

Tuesday, Sept. 6: Catered Lunches begin

September 12 - 15: Speech and Language screenings

Friday, September 16: First Parents Night Out (more information coming soon)

Upper Elementary



We've had a great beginning of the year in our classroom, and the students are enjoying getting to know new friends and renew old friendships.

We started in on our studies in Biology with a review of the Five Kingdoms into which living organisms are classified and are taking a more in-depth look at the Monera, Protista and Fungi kingdoms. Did you know that lichens, the greenish, curly covering you see on some branches, is a combination of organisms that live symbiotically to benefit each other? As always, taking a look at the nature that surrounds us never ceases to amaze us.

For Literature Circle the class is reading Time Cat a great story that takes us through several ancient civilizations. We will take a

historical in-depth look at the Sumerians and Ancient Egypt as part of our studies in History, discussing, comparing and contrasting the fundamental needs of humans in those two civilizations. In Geography we are taking a look at land and water forms around the world and the students continue to develop their mapping skills as they identify major formations around the world. They are creating a classroom atlas with their research on major land and water forms.

Stop by and visit sometime. You will see an enthusiastic group of students learning and working through the day!



Children's House: Yellow Room

It's amazing to witness the amount of energy and enthusiasm for coming back to school.

The children have adjusted so well to their environment and new friends. Returning students are being good role models and helpers to the new preschoolers. We understand that the humidity is still a little intolerable. Still, the children enjoy their outdoor time by interacting and playing different games with each other likes soccer and duck, duck, goose, jumping rope and outdoor chalk art.

This is just the beginning of the school year and it is with enthusiasm and excitement that we look forward to an outstanding year.

This first week the children learned about:

- Getting to know one another, ground rules, and familiarizing themselves with the different areas.
- Finding themselves around to use the bathroom, have snack and lunch, and

also see and understand what our circle time is like.

Here are some great pictures of the children excited about getting started.

Kindergarten Group

Kindergarten Group is off to a great beginning. The children are eager and ready to explore new ideas and their world. The group will take a more in-depth look at Geography, Science and other subjects. So far, they have shared and illustrated wonderful summer memories and placed the locations on a map. Most were concentrated in the East and Midwest, but we also had a CA and a Europe trip. We held our first Game Day with Number Bingo, and children have drawn maps of their rooms at home. Soon we will walk around the block and construct a 3-D map of the area. They have an activity that places them on their street, town, state, country, continent, planet, solar system, universe. Ms. DeVere and Ms. Simon will lead the group, regularly, and Mrs. Saint Leger and the Lower Elementary students will offer activities, occasionally. We look forward to an exciting year of learning and fun.



*Top: Athena learning the world Continents
Bottom: Diego enjoying snack time*



Adolescent Class

We're well into our first work cycle. Students are studying anthropology in Social Studies where we're focusing on the unusual cultures of Easter Island. You may be familiar with the giant statues that this island is famous for. We're studying the devastating effects that carving those statues had on the native ecosystem. This connects to our Language Arts work where we've begun reading Thor Heyerdahl's Kon-Tiki. This true story of an anthropologist who sailed a tiny balsa raft 4000 miles across the Pacific to prove a theory about the origin of Polynesian peoples is just as much adventure story as scientific analysis, and the students are excited to follow the journey.

Science Students are entered into the Future Cities Program, a statewide community-design competition run by the Florida Engineering Society. Since we are situated in Celebration, a planned community, we have the perfect example of community design all around us. We've already gone on an extended walk to observe elements of the community that we might otherwise miss in our busy lives. We've even approached local business people to find out their views on Celebration. As our work continues, students will design an original community plan and build a scale model from recycled materials.