

# THE GUMBO LIMBOS

September 27, 2011



**Don't forget our bake Sale on FRIDAY**

SOUND OF THE WEEK:

WORD OF THE WEEK  
Collapse

C

SHAPE OF THE WEEK  
CIRCLE

“One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child.”

## RECOGNIZING PEACE

International Peace Day was a tremendous success. All of the children had the opportunity to share in the experience. Proceeding the march to the White Street pier, the kindergartners joined the younger children on campus to take part in a bubble blowing ceremony. In the classroom we are continuing our discussions on ways to resolve conflict through peaceful discussion. As with everything we teach at school, the lesson resonates when we follow through at home.

I would like to thank our parent chaperones for assisting with the event.

## MEET AND GREET

Next Thursday afternoon we will be holding a “welcome back” potluck on campus at 5:30pm. I will be in the Gumbo Limbo room from 4:30pm onwards to address questions that parents may have about their child’s day and about the Montessori method of teaching. I welcome current and new parents to join me in an open discussion. Three years is a formative amount of time to commit to an educational philosophy. The more we communicate, the better prepared your child will be for their academic journey.



*Marching for peace on the White Street*



*Bubble blowing for peace*



*MCS and MECS standing for peace*

## CLASSROOM SPONSORS

I am excited to announce that this year our classroom has been sponsored by both the Strunk Family and the Barroso Family.

The Strunks are committed to ensuring that there is adequate technology in the classroom, so as to take advantage of every teachable moment. We have arrived at an age where audio and visual materials are available instantly. As a class we frequently use the iPad or laptop to answer curious questions. We love watching belugas breaching or cicadas molting. We enjoy listening to blue whales signing and hyenas laughing. All of this will be enhanced with the purchase of a flat screen TV and other devices made possible through the support of the Strunks . Thank you Andy and Jamie.

Jason and Jessica Barroso, in their infinite generosity, have asked that their donation be distributed amongst all of the classrooms. This is the kind of egalitarian trait that we try to teach the children each and every day. We like the way you lead by example!

We truly appreciate your consideration with regard to sponsorship. While we are given an a budget each year, the additional income allows for more sophisticated materials. You help to make our classroom the best that it can be.

### The Garden

The soil and mulch have arrived and we are tilling to our heart's content. Jane, our proactive garden mum, has already germinated seeds with the children as part of Samantha's star

of the week project. Together with the children Jane weeded the beds and then lined them with weed cloth to prevent further infestation. The children have filled the beds with soil (with some help from our weekend work party) and they are now ready for the seedlings. The Pièce de résistance of course, is the peace sign that Jane and the children fashioned as a decorative outline for our impending herb garden.



*Thank you Ms Jane.*

## Understanding your child's learning style.

In the last newsletter I discussed the idea of learning styles and briefly described Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences. This week I would like to introduce our new parents to the theory of Human Dynamics. As part of a longterm study being carried out in conjunction with the Human Dynamics Foundation, we are assimilating information about the ways in which children learn. If you would like your child to be part of this study please sign and return the release form accompanying your newsletter. Hard copies can be obtained in the office.

### What is Human Dynamics?

Human dynamics (HD) is a model of learning proposed in the late 1970's by two American research psychologists, Sandra Seagal and David Horne. It is a simple approach to understanding the learning styles of individuals by identifying their unique core attributes. The premise of HD is that an individual is mentally, emotionally, or physically "centered". There are nine possible configurations that stem from these centers, however studies indicate that 98% of the population embodies five of the personality types.

- Emotional Physical
- Emotional Mental
- Physical Emotional
- Physical Mental
- Mental Physical



*Star of the Week: Kanaan Sundance*

While the central principle plays a significant role in who we are as individuals, the dynamic interplay of the other two principles effect how we interact and engage in life.

The emotional principle deals with how we perceive ourselves and interact with others. It is associated with feelings, connections and creativity. In contrast, the physical principle is related to actions and practicality. It is what drives an individual to follow through, complete and carry out tasks. The mental principle gives perspective and enables individuals to examine and process "the big picture". A system of values provides a framework and grounds mentally centered individuals.

HD has applications at all age groups and socioeconomic levels and has been applied with considerable success in both corporate and educational contexts. Each personality type has distinctive attributes that remain unchanged from birth. Optimal learning can be achieved by identifying the personality type and learning style of an individual at an early age. In order for an individual to grow and develop most effectively it is important to recognize their personality dynamic, however maturity is realized when all three principles interact in concordance.

