



# Montessori Children's School

February 2012

Dear Montessori Families,

February is upon us and it will be a busy month for our students and families. Attached to your email, is a flyer for our kids carnival fundraiser "A Day of Love and Play". Please print out the flyer and post it at your place of business or anywhere else you feel it would help to advertise for this fun-filled event. We also have copies available in the office if you do not have a printer, stop by and pick one up. Everyone is invited, bring your family and friends. We still need parents to help at the event. Areas of need: set-up, arts & crafts, face painting and GAMES! Please sign up outside the office. We have been getting positive feedback regarding the sale of tickets and some families have come by to pick up more. Way to go everyone, hopefully we will do really well this month with fundraisers and meet our goal. Once you sell all your tickets, please bring the stubs and payment to the office. We do need donations for our silent auction, if you have anything we could use, please bring it to the office. This also counts as fundraising/workpay hours, so please get some gift certificates or items for our auction. Ways to earn extra fundraising hours:

- Every five tickets you sell in addition to your 15 required, you receive 1 hour
- Every silent auction donation, you receive 1 hour if value is over \$250 its 2 hours
- Sign up to help out at the event and receive real time hours

As Valentine's Day approaches the question of Valentine cards for the children comes into question. Each Directress has their own opinion regarding card distribution at school. Please speak directly to your classroom Directress with questions if it has not been expressed to you in the February newsletter. **Do NOT send candy** to school, this goes against our policy. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

If you have any time next week to help leaf blow and spruce up the grounds before our big children's event, please let me know. We also need some painting done around the property if you have still have workpay hours to complete

Enrichment classes begin today and we are looking forward to the Winter Session. We are so thankful to have talented artists working with our children. Please see our listing for availability if you are interested in having your child participate. We will have music on *Friday* only and we have 3 spaces available. Our Creative Expressions class with Ms. Jen from the Mangrove classroom also has a few spaces and Ms. Liz has space in her Works of Art class.

If you have not already done so, please send to the office your "Intent to Remain" form so we can properly plan for our open enrollment to the community. We will have an Open House on March 3rd for the families in our community to check out our school. Spread the word if you know anyone interested in MCS for their child.

Yours Sincerely,

*Kim Livingston*



# Montessori and Moral Development

Many theorists question when important moral development is learned by a young child. Moral development is one of the important foundations in Montessori and in the development of a contributing adult in our society. We strive to use every opportunity at school to expound upon the potential of moral development in each child. It is only through his own actions that a child can develop morality. Morality exists as a matter of choice and one day each child will have to make a choice on his own, a choice of compassion or selfishness, one of generosity or greed, one of love or hatred. The only thing that will guide him at that critical time of independent choice is the sum of all the choices he has had the opportunity to make prior to that moment. Maria Montessori made a profound discovery about the child. She realized that the freedom to *choose* moral action must be present in the child's life both at home and in the classroom. She directed that the classroom offer and protect these opportunities for choice, and therefore development. Each aspect of the Montessori classroom serves the development of the moral child. It is in this way, that Montessori is a preparation for life, rather than a method of education. By working together we can use the life experiences of your child to further develop good moral value in them, and in turn, the world.



*Eva Hamilton*

*This year's MCS Unsung Hero!*

## PR

**If you have ideas or pictures of our children at work or play, email our Public Relations chair, Christy.**

**[PR@montessoriskeywest.com](mailto:PR@montessoriskeywest.com)**

## PJ PARTY

### Staff Fundraiser

**We still have space available for our PJ parties.**

**Pre-Primary, Tuesday, February 14th**

**Primary, Friday, February 10th**

**Sign-up sheets for our Primary students are located outside your classroom and our Pre-Primary sign-up is located on the playground during drop-off. This is a fun night, both you and your children can enjoy.**

*If education is always to be conceived along the same antiquated lines of a mere transmission of knowledge, there is little to be hoped from it in the bettering of man's future. For what is the use of transmitting knowledge if the individual's total development lags behind?*

*-Maria Montessori*