



Weekly Reminders

December 6, 2011

Only two weeks left of school before our Winter Break! If you need childcare during Winter Break be sure to sign up for **camp**. We will post and email the camp registration form this Thursday. We will offer camp the week of January 2nd only and space will be very limited. Check your email and our website on Thursday for details!

Our annual **Holiday Conch Tour Caroling** event is filling up fast! If you have not secured your spot yet, please do so ASAP. The event takes place Thursday the 15th. Please join us for Santa and refreshments at 5:00pm. The trains will leave promptly at 6:30pm from the school. This is a fun event for the whole family, bring along your friends and neighbors to partake in the festivities. If you would like to learn about other fun upcoming events, attend our Fundraising Meeting tomorrow, December 7th @ 8:30am in the aftercare room!

Our midyear **Parent/Teacher Conferences** are taking place this week! Wednesday and Friday school will be dismissed @ 12:45 for our full day students. If you need childcare until 2:30pm please sign up in the office. Those children already registered in aftercare, need not sign up. It's important to take advantage of this one on-one-time with your child's Directress.

During this time of year parents are looking for **gifts** to please and delight their children. Television is full of commercials bombarding us with the latest must have items. When choosing toys for your child, look for safe well-made toys and games which allow the child to experiment, solve problems and think creatively. These types of items will allow you to connect with your child. Remember that toys and books send strong messages about our values. Be careful to choose items that do not convey stereotypes, which can limit children's view of themselves. Of course, always choose toys that are developmentally appropriate for your child's age.

Toys can be divided into the following categories:

- Active - balls, bikes, scooters, garden sets
- Manipulative - blocks, Legos, K'nex, puzzles
- Creative - art supplies, microscopes, magnets, science kits, cameras
- Imaginative - dolls, puppets, stuffed animals, books

Check the Oppenheim Toy Portfolio online at www.toyportfolio.com. Each year they publish a list of the best toys available. Their recommendations are based on kid testers and expert evaluation. They accept no money for project listing. The following companies offer beautiful well-made products for children. All are accessible online.

- Hearthsong, Chinaberry Books, Michael Olaf and Mindware to name a few.

Please be reminded, December tuition is now past due if you have not already done so, please make a payment to the office.

Yours in education,

Kim Livingston, Head of School



WORKPAY OPPORTUNITIES



• WORKPAY PARTY, THIS SATURDAY DECEMBER 10TH, 8:30AM UNTIL ?



• House and Grounds



- Cut (w/sawall) lattice for access to electric outlet (library)
- Rebuilding and painting of wooden hurricane shutters (take home project)



- Painting over winter break
- Repair gutter in cubby area to ensure proper drainage



- Clean gutters of leaf debris
- Over winter break, clean classroom shelves and materials (see your child's teacher)



• Help at Scholastic Book Fair on Friday December 16th



• Sign up to help at Christmas Caroling event, Thursday December 15th, signups will be posted outside the office tomorrow afternoon



THANK YOU!

Craig Reynolds and Evan Bell from Ecoscapes, for

the beautification of the front office area! It looks amazing, the dedication of families and community members have transformed our campus over the past few years! Not only do we have a top notch educational program, but our campus is gorgeous! MCS thrives with your efforts!



IMPORTANT DATES

- December 7, 9 - Early Dismissal Parent/Teacher conferences
- December 15 - Board Meeting @ 8:30am
- December 15 - Conch Train Caroling
- December 15 & 16 - Scholastic Book Fair
- December 22 - last day of school before break
- January 2 to 6 - Winter camp
- January 9 - Professional Day—if need childcare please sign up by the front office
- January 10 - Back to school

Congratulations!

To Eva Hamilton our Unsung Hero. Eva has been a dedicated Montessori parent for eight years! Specifically house and grounds, hurricane preparedness, Thanksgiving Feast and health issues. Her 3rd child, Annabel, will graduate this upcoming Spring and we will miss Eva's experience and dedication to our school!

"Grown-ups and children must join forces. In order to become great, the grown-up must become humble and learn from the child."

-Maria Montessori, The Absorbent Mind