Montessori Messenger

March 2018

Montessori School of Wooster • 1170 Akron Rd., Wooster, Ohio 44691 • (330) 264-5222
www.woomontessori.org

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Board Members: Sarah Gordon Baker, Vikki Briggs, Casey Cicconetti, Jason Frank, Mary Jo Kreuzman, Rachel Relle, Molly Richard, Pam Rose, David Shallenberger, Greg Shaya, Dan Swartz, Daniel Tzonev, Alison Schmidt

Calendar

MARCH

11 Annual Dinner Auction
15-16 Grandparents & Special & Friends Day 9:30-11:45
19 Spring Portrait Picture Day with Lifetouch
26-30 Spring Break Camp Begins
26 No School – Spring Break
30 No School - Spring Break
31 School Resumes

APRIL

26 Visual Arts Night 6:00 - 7:00

May

4 Nature Night—6:30-8:00
29 Last Day of School Early Release at 2pm
29 Graduation Program 6:30
29 Teacher Workday
30 - Aug. 17th Summer Program Begins

Dinner and Auction 2018

At the Wooster High School Commons & Performing Arts Center

4:30 – Raffle Ticket Sales Begin
5:00 – 6:15 – Dinner & Bidding on Auction Items
6:15 – Auction Closes & Move to Auditorium (All students on stage, parents seated as the audience)
6:30 – 7:00 – Concert
7:00 – Auction & Drawing Winners Announced

And Spring Concert
Research studies have shown that today’s college student are 40% less empathetic than those studied in 1979. Research shows a correlation to excessive use of social media, entitlement without failure/challenges, lack of proper role models and support networks, unrecognized or untreated mental health issues, and a decline in personal face to face communications. Emotional Intelligence has been one of my most recent obsessions. I am fascinated by this research and find myself drawn to it as I ponder solutions to the social issues that seem to fill our news. This story is one of my favorites and I was reminded of it after talking to one of our grandparents the other day.

Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. Early one morning, he was walking along the shore after a big storm had passed and found the vast beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions.

Off in the distance, the old man noticed a small boy approaching. As the boy walked, he paused every so often and as he grew closer, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer still and the man called out, “Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?”

The young boy paused, looked up, and replied “Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can’t return to the sea by themselves,” the youth replied. “When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water.”

The old man replied, “But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I’m afraid you won’t really be able to make much of a difference.”

The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, “It made a difference to that one!”

Montessori education teaches empathy through many different avenues. First, empathy is gently and habitually modeled by the teacher or parent to the students, and by the teacher or parent to his/her peers, friends, and spouse. The child observes this empathy, and absorbs it into their own behaviors. Empathy demonstrated consistently by the teacher or parent in the classroom or the home defines the culture of the room, the way everyone “just is” towards one another, the way one is expected to treat others.

There is a natural need in every human being to find one’s place in the cosmos by finding fulfillment both inside and outside oneself. Montessori believed that it is the duty of every person to work toward and be part of something great which not only serves individual interests but those of all humanity. To understand this great relationship, children must be nurtured in the ways of grace, courtesy and service in order for it to flourish and grow throughout their lives. Toddlers are very empathetic. They become concerned when hearing a baby cry and are quick to offer help and sympathy if someone is hurt or seems sad. They have a natural propensity to serve others. They are able to identify these emotions within themselves and are able to show an awareness of and compassion for others through this empathy.”

Early lessons of grace and courtesy develop positive interpersonal skills that will serve children throughout their lives. Demonstrations of Practical Life activities involving Grace and Courtesy, as well as modeling this behavior, are designed to nurture a child’s natural qualities of Grace and Courtesy, and his inherent desire to contribute to the peaceful order of his environment.
These lessons include, but are not limited to:

- greeting someone
- introducing oneself
- shaking hands
- receiving visitors
- apologizing / excusing oneself
- watching and observing others
- waiting
- taking turns
- using a quiet voice
- speaking in a polite tone
- saying please and thank you
- washing one's hands
- inviting and refusing a partner or playmate
- respecting others and their space
- walking around people and objects
- sitting on and putting away a chair
- walking in line
- offering food
- caring for works, books, and the environment
- rolling a rug
- carrying work or objects
- being silent
- being kind
- making friends

It is so rewarding when I get to see empathy in our students. I am certain this is the same feeling this old man must have felt when he watched this little boy making a difference. It is our goal to instill these traits so deeply that when our children enter into a world that might think it showing empathy is worthless that they will instead be an inspiration to others. We desperately need role models and individuals willing to step up and put others before self. Thank you for being a part of the Montessori family.

I am working with a group of professionals to assemble some parenting classes and workshops later this Spring. Please watch for these announcements. I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Dinner Auction, March 11th. This will be a fun night and yet another great way for you to show your support for our students and school.

Article obtained in large from Simply Montessori Blog (2010) and NAMC Curriculum guide
The 2018 Montessori Dinner Auction is upon us—it is scheduled for March 11, 2018 at 5:00pm. For those of you who are new to our community or who have not attended in the past, this is a great event to get to know other families and is our biggest fundraiser of the year. The event consists of three parts: (1) a delicious dinner, (2) a silent auction for the adults and a Chinese auction for the children, and (3) a performance by the children. This is a CASUAL FAMILY FRIENDLY event that is held at the Wooster High School commons and performing arts center. The dinner starts at 5:00pm and the menu and order forms are included below (adult and children’s options are available). The attached flyers feature some of our bigger ticket auction items that might involve coordinating with other families in advance to purchase. The auction items will be available to bid on during dinner and will close right before the children’s performance. You and your family are welcome at any time, but we would encourage you to come early even if you don’t plan to eat or participate in the auction—as this event provides an opportunity for everyone to socialize and get to know one another better.

As you know, our mission at the Montessori School of Wooster is to provide an exceptional education through application of the Montessori philosophy, and to the fostering of self-confidence and creative thinking in an environment of peace, respect, and compassion. We could not do what we have done over the past few years without a successful auction. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and helps us to accomplish so many things—including, but not limited to, purchasing materials for classrooms, maintaining desired student teacher ratios, maintaining a beautiful nature preserve and playground and keeping tuition costs manageable for everyone. We hope you can participate in some way, whether it be by volunteering, showing up to eat, donating auction items or bidding on auction items. If you have any questions, please let Jerrilynn know and we will get you an answer! Below is the link to sign up for a volunteer spot. Some of these spots are for preparations, while others are for short shifts the day of the auction. We appreciate all of you and all you contribute to make our community the inclusive, supportive and wonderful place it is!

http://signup.com/go/jnxHuPn

We're using SignUp.com (the leading online SignUp and reminder tool) to organize some things for the upcoming auction.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1) Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp.com: http://signup.com/go/jnxHuPn

2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.

3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

Here are just a few items that will available at the auction:

Class Projects       Happy Hour Room       Burger and Brews at the Lake
Pancake Dinner for 8 Photo Shoot               Commissioned Portrait
and so much more. . .
You are invited to the Annual Montessori Dinner, Auction and Spring Concert at Wooster High School on March 11, 2018 at 5:00 PM

Please select your dinner choices below by indicating the quantity of each dinner you wish to order. The pasta dishes have been generously donated by Broken Rocks Café and Bakery and the meatballs have been donated by Certified Angus Beef. The Indian food is from Bombay Sitar in Canton.

Dinner Options

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**Indian Chicken** ~ Chicken Tika Masala, Vegetable Samosa, Rice, Naan, Dahl

**Indian Vegetarian** ~ Aloo Gobi, Vegetable Samosa, Rice, Naan, Dahl

**Spring Veggie Pasta** ~ Spring Vegetables tossed with pasta and parmesan cheese

**Vegan Spring Veggie Pasta** ~ Spring Vegetables tossed with pasta

**Buttered Noodles** ~ Farfalle Noodles tossed with butter, parmesan on the side

**Noodles & Meatballs** ~ Farfalle tossed with Certified Angus Beef meatballs and tomato sauce

Desserts, vegetables and drinks will be provided.

Take-Out Option

Please share this invitation with friends and family who may not be able to attend the evening’s events but want to support our school by enjoying some delicious food. Take-out orders are welcome!

_____ Please check here if this is a take-out order. Take out is available from 4:30PM to 5:00PM.

Cost:

**Adult Meals are $18.00**

**Children’s Meals are $9.00**

Name: ___________________________  Total Cost: ______________

Please return this form with payment to the school by **Monday February 26, 2018**. Please make checks payable to the Montessori School of Wooster. Thank you for supporting the Montessori School of Wooster!
Mrs. Lanham’s Class—Children’s House
Mrs. Hofmeyer’s Toddler Class

Our learners made some Valentine’s Day Cards for their parents.

Our learners made had the opportunity to decorate their own cupcakes for Valentine’s Day. Emmy’s decorating her cupcakes.

Come rain or snow, our learners always have fun during recess! Sophia is crossing the hurdles of the obstacle course.

We love our morning circle time with sing-along songs, introductions to the day and storybook reading.

Learning should be fun!

Amos is having fun with sorting the fruit and vegetables.

Reading is fun. Vasia and Leo are enjoying quiet time in the reading corner.

Happy Valentine’s Day! (Most of the cupcakes made the trip home.)

Our learners having fun during music time on Mondays and Friday with Mrs. Seling.
Spring Break Camp
March 26th-30th 2018

Toddlers - 8:45 - 3:45 (5 days a week) - $215.00  Daily Rate: - $50.00
Toddlers - 7:45 - 5:30 (5 days a week) - $275.00  Daily Rate: - $60.00
Preschool/Elementary - 8:45 - 3:45 (5 days a week) - $160.00  Daily Rate: - $40.00
Preschool/Elementary - 7:45 - 5:30 (5 days a week) - $220.00  Daily Rate: - $50.00

Please register by February 23, 2018

Parent Name: _____________________________________________________
Child’s Name: _____________________________________________________
Email: ____________________________________________________________ Phone: ______________

Please make checks payable to the Montessori School of Wooster, mail to 1170 Akron Road Wooster, Ohio 44691.
2018 Summer Program Registration Form

Registrations are due by May 15th
Please complete a separate registration for each child.
Registration may also be submitted on the school’s website on the Summer Program Registration page. (www.woomontessori.org)

A $50.00 non-refundable deposit is due with each registration.
We are not offering any multiple student or payment-in-full discounts.
The balance due will be invoiced.

Please make checks out to: Montessori School of Wooster, 1170 Akron Rd., Wooster OH

Weekly tuition rates are being set at:

- **Toddlers** - 8:45 - 3:45 (5 days a week) - $215
  - Daily Rate: $50.00
- **Toddlers** - 7:45 - 5:30 (5 days a week) - $275
  - Daily Rate: $60.00
- **Preschool/Elementary** - 8:45 - 3:45 (5 days a week) - $160
  - Daily Rate: $40.00
- **Preschool/Elementary** - 7:45 - 5:30 (5 days a week) - $220
  - Daily Rate: $50.00

Parent Name: ____________________________
Child’s Name: ____________________________
E-Mail: ____________________________ Phone: ______________

Week(s) Requested:

- [ ] May 30 - June 1 *
- [ ] June 4 - June 8
- [ ] June 11 - June 15
- [ ] June 18 - June 22
- [ ] June 25 – June 29
- [ ] July 2 - July 6 *
- [ ] July 9 - July 13
- [ ] July 16 - July 20
- [ ] July 23 - July 27
- [ ] July 30 - August 3
- [ ] August 6 - August 10
- [ ] August 13 - August 17

* - These indicate a short week. Tuition will be reduced by 1/5 to reflect the short week.
March 19th!

Spring Pictures

Lifetouch School Portraits
Mrs. Tello’s Aftercare Program
Montessori Moments

Are you ready for a Spanish Competition?

Logan built this log house in before care.

Bucket of Hope Update
By Maya Tzonev

Congratulations to Lower Elementary, the winners of the Middle School’s Bucket of Hope!

We raised $550.00 for Heifer International. Every student that donated helped our school provide two girls with the money their families need to so they can go to school.

We are very grateful for everyone’s help, and we hope that you understand that every penny counts! Somewhere in the world, two girls will have the opportunity to get an education. Thanks again for all the support, and if you have any questions please contact the Middle School classroom.
Miss Frank’s Middle School Class

Brady and Maya do a math activity with pentominoes inspired by the mystery novel Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett.

The College of Wooster's Dr. Pam Frese gave a lecture on the origins of Valentine's Day and helped the students make their own valentines. Thanks Dr. Frese!

Students sorting key words and concepts during ecology work.
Snowy owl fun with lunchbunchers during naturalist time.

Upper and Lower El fun with owls!

On the trail!
Ms. Kowatch’s 2nd year students made a flip book showing how the water cycle works.

We had a fun time celebrating the 100th day of school! They wrote about what their lives would be like when they are 100, drew a picture of what they will look, strung 100 beads, read 100’s Day poems, made a jester hat with 100 dots, sorted, graphed, and wrote about 100 Skittles, and did what seemed like 100 other things!

2nd year children were enjoying playing in the snow.
Mrs. Boreman’s Music Class

The Upper Elementary took a Field Trip to watch the Symphony at the College of Wooster
Family Nature Night

May 4th

5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Food will be available!
Program starts at 6:30 ends at 8:00 p.m.

Presented by the Wilderness Center Naturalists

* TWC Naturalists introduce habitats & animals that live there.
* Families visit stations to touch, hear and learn about the animals of each habitat.
* Children complete a food chain craft to take home.