



Operated by MIND

Volume 3, Issue 3

OCTOBER 2006

Message from the Business Director

We are pleased to announce that Jana ,Christina and Elicia opened the doors to the new preschool on Wednesday October 18th and the room looked beautiful! The children were very excited to work with the familiar Montessori materials available to them on the crisp white shelving or sit on the cozy arm chairs with a book. So many volunteers helped to make the dream of our new preschool a reality. Heartfelt thanks are due to all those who worked on various aspects of the project and especially those who set aside endless hours during critical moments when the project might otherwise not have been completed on time. My sincere thanks to all those who provided assistance during the preschool construction project:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Allen Kanerva | Construction Manager |
| Mike Farkas | Construction Manager |
| Harvey Shaffer | General Construction |
| John Larsen | Kitchen, bathroom, doorway installations |
| Bruce Gillespie | Shelving and Table construction |
| Alexi Danelevitch | Interior Painting |
| Kirsten & Michael Schaufele | Painting and assembling shelving |
| Tars Mahli | Fence Construction |
| Jaki Larsen | Deliveries, Purchasing, Sourcing |
| Lee Lawley | Landscaping & general construction |
| Earl Masarsky | Flooring Preparation and construction |
| Andrew Hart | Demolition |
| Pam & Rob Ferguson | Demolition |
| Cara Jean | Painting & cleaning |
| Alan & Vickie Buttery | Exterior Painting |
| Vicky Paramanathan | Painting |
| Sheila Binnie & Arthur Ma | Demolition & Cleaning |
| Szilvia Korda | Painting, Fence, yard work & bunnies |
| Paula & David King | General construction |
| Jennifer & Ravi Sthankiya | Lunches and supplies |
| Jeremy Meausette | Demolition, deliveries, |
| | General construction, |
| Bruce Gamage | General consttuction |
| Sukhi Benning | Painting & cleaning |
| Manoj Sood | Landscaping |
| Wendy Hamilton | Yard work & bunnies |
| Mark Yamanaka | Moving and General construction |
| Wayne Davey | General construction |
| MIND Board and Society | Support and Financing |

This project has demonstrated that we are indeed a school built on community! ~ Barbara Hofmann

Ps. A heartfelt thank you to Barbara Hofmann for successfully managing this project. She accomplished this task with enthusiasm and dedication. Her cheerful presence set the tone throughout this project.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Board Meeting

Monday, October 23, 2006

United Nations Day

Tuesday, October 24, 2006

In the Elementary classroom please help your child to dress in a costume from any country from around the world. We ask that you bring a dish from around the world for the Elementary children to share with each other in our festive meal. Please read the information in the Preschool news to find out the plans for the preschool children.

Read-a-thon

November 1, 2006

We will be having our annual read-a-thon this year. The children can bring favorite books and share with others. Donations will be in support of the MS Society.





Our first parent education evening was held last Thursday, October 12, 2006. Titled the Montessori Peace Curriculum, Peace Resolution and Restitution, the directresses shared information about the kinds of activities that are both implicit and explicit in the Montessori curriculum and classroom. We began with an introduction to the Drum Circle and how this circle exemplifies the strength in cohesive community. Led by our resident Music directress, Pamela Ferguson, and her husband, Rob a REAL drummer we learned to work in a syncopated rhythm and wow did we sound good. We then had a demonstration of how we introduce the VIRTUES PROJECT to our students and discussed the merits of how to apply the language of the virtues in our day to day dialogue with our children. Following this we gave an overview of some of the components of Choice Theory beginning with teaching the five basic needs, establishing a picture of each of our quality worlds and then leading to establishing our beliefs based on the knowledge of what our responsibilities are using the exercise called "My Job~Your Job". Discussion followed and then the Preschool directresses shared what these strategies look like in the preschool/Kindergarten environment. We were also treated to seeing the example of the "Peace Table" as seen in the preschool/EDK room and the nomenclature of Picasso's Peace Art. The evening ended engaging the parents in the 'egg game' a fun cooperative game involving marble eggs and fine pine plywood platters. We enjoyed and appreciated both the fancy and delicious baking of Helen Luchene and the



Make the child a world citizen at the beginning of conscious life to carry mankind forward

~ Maria Montessori

United Nations Day will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2006

The Kindergarten children will be joining the Primary Children and should enter the school by the Elementary entrance at 9:00 am on that day. For the last sixteen years we have celebrated UN Day. This event presents our students the opportunity to show their respect for cultural diversity, the common bonds of unity and the universal desire for peace. The children dress in ethnic costumes and offer food from the country which they choose to represent for a multi-cultural potluck banquet . The day is filled with sharing, songs, statements recited from the UN Convention of The Rights of The Child, feasting and, in the afternoon, we play multicultural games. Please help your child design a simple costume that highlights either their own ethnic background or one from another continent that will add to the texture of the day! Also, please help your child prepare and contribute to the potluck banquet. We ask that your child bring labeled dishes and cutlery for the luncheon. We have a range of contributions from cookies to butter chicken. For those of you with busy schedules please keep in mind that the act of participation is as important as preparation!!!

CLOSURES TERM I
October 20
November 13
November 30 - December 1
November 24
December 20 PM
Last Day December 21
December 22-January 8

NOTE: TERM TWO BEGINS TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2007

Physical Education Schedule Term One	
Please call to confirm availability for carpooling for skating sessions.	
PRIMARY/EDK	INTERMEDIATE
GYMNASTICS— MONDAY 1:45-2:45 PM OCTOBER 2, 16, 23, 30	HAP DO SOOL—MONDAY 1:45—2:45 OCTOBER 2, 16, 23, 30
SKATING—WEDNESDAYS 10:30-11:30 AM NOVEMBER 8, 15, 22, 29 DECEMBER 6,13	SKATING—WEDNESDAYS 10:30-11:30 AM NOVEMBER 8, 15, 22, 29 DECEMBER 6,13



News from The Preschool/EDK Class

We have arrived! We are so appreciative of having such a beautiful environment in which to work. Thank you so much to Barbara and her volunteers for making this possible! Our greeting time will be a little different as there is no 'reception' area inside the building. We will receive the children on the porch. The directresses will help them to remove and hang up their outdoor clothing and don their slippers before joining their friends at circle. Remember to sign the book to signify your arrival and departure time.

UNITED NATIONS DAY FOR THE PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN

This year we will hold our United Nations Day on Tuesday, October 24, 2006. We will combine both morning and afternoon sessions and the day will begin at 11:00 and last until 1:00 pm. Please bring your children, dressed in costume, to school that day at 11:00 am and join us for a potluck multicultural lunch at 12:00 until 1:00 pm. From 11:00 am to 12:00 the children will be having a multicultural 'show and tell'. If you have any cultural artifacts for them to share please help your child to describe them. This will prepare them to describe the items to their friends. You may also want to write a small description and attach it to the item so that the directresses can assist your child in the presentation. We ask that each family bring in a dish from a country of their choice. There will be a sign-up sheet for food on the bulletin board in the cloakroom. Food can be dropped off at 11:00 a.m. Food dishes should be **well labeled and nut free**. We will need three volunteers for set-up and clean-up. ~Thank you, Jana, Christina and Elicia

From the Intermediate Classroom...

In culture this term, our explorations commenced with the story about how the universe came into existence through presentation of the story: "God Without Hands". Leading on from this, the 6/7 students began studying how the elements are born in stars along with the structure and interaction of atoms. At the same time, the Year 4/5 students began exploring how the rock cycle developed as the earth cooled and matured. Their studies have included how Igneous, Sedimentary and Metamorphic rocks are formed and how fossils can be created within Sedimentary rock.

Mathematics this year commenced with the timeline of Mathematics. The Year 4/5 students were presented with the overall timeline from early man to the present day, while the 6/7 students went into greater depth regarding the developments of mathematics between the 1400's and 1800's. The Year 4/5 students enthusiastically constructed dioramas to show how early man began to use mathematics and then presented their work. The Year 6/7 students studied a mathematician of their choice and created posters to show key developments in mathematics. With the timelines complete, the Year 6 and 7 students have been reviewing fractions, decimals and the divisibility rules. While their studies in Geometry have included the concepts of Similarity, Congruency and Equivalency. This work culminated with each senior student presenting the Transitive Proof.

Junior Great Books sessions have begun. These stories deepen the student's reading comprehension skills as well as provide the opportunity for them to begin writing some of their own stories.

From the Primary Classroom,

Thanksgiving has come and gone and our students took the opportunity to write some thoughts on our special word, thankfulness. Here are some samples:

I am thankful for my parents, my pets, my money, for Canada and for chicken fingers with fries, donuts that are chocolate glazed and cars and for coming to this school.

-Love Kama

I am thankful for being born for playing hockey with my cousins, for the whole world and for going to school.

-Milan

*I am thankful for parent who are kindhearted and for friends. I am thankful for Sam—Eva
I am thankful for my nice, helpful parents, my warm, cozy bed, my strong house and the fabulous woods around us.*

Happy Thanksgiving!-Cody

This week we began the Fundamental Needs of Humans lessons in preparation for United Nations Day. The children are preparing booklets that illustrate the various needs of humans both physical and spiritual. This work supports them in their study of human understanding and other cultures. We have embarked on our homework schedule for this term. Please look for the coloured folder in your child's knapsack. The folders should be returned by Monday morning every week.



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Opportunities for Being a Global Citizen:

- MS Read-a-thon** is a program created by the MS Society of Canada as a fundraiser that promotes literacy, disability awareness and community involvement in schools. It is a one day program that stimulates students to read and enjoy books of their own choice. Students collect pledges from family and friends for the minutes they read and help raise money for the MS Society. This in turn helps support research into a cure for MS and for essential services that meet the immediate needs of people living with MS in all communities throughout British Columbia. Your child will bring home a pledge form on October 27, 2006.
- UNICEF Pledges**—this year we have learned that UNICEF will not distribute the traditional Halloween boxes. Instead they are asking children to collect donations and submit them to their class teacher. The amounts raise go directly to students in Malawi. The following amounts describe what items are provided:

- \$20.00 school supplies for two students
- \$25.00 desk for one student
- \$50.00 Teaching and learning materials for one class
- \$100 Sports Equipment for an entire school
- \$1500 Desks for an entire classroom

DID YOU KNOW?

Last year our contributions to UNICEF aided Rwanda and helped build or rehabilitate 200 classrooms in five provinces which benefited 12,000 school children. For more information log on to www.unicef.ca

CALENDAR 2006 2007 FALL TERM 1

SEPTEMBER	6	SCHOOL BEGINS TERM 1
	8	FAMILY BARBEQUE—ALL WELCOME
	11	NEW PARENT ORIENTATION
	12	PEACE DAY
	25	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
	29	TERRY FOX RUN/Potluck Dinner AGM
OCTOBER	5	GANDHI BIRTHDAY
	9	THANKSGIVING DAY
	12	PARENT EDUCATION SERIES 1
	20	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2
	24	UNITED NATIONS DAY
NOVEMBER	1	READ-A-THON
	13	REMEMBRANCE DAY
	14	OBSERVATION WEEK
	24	PROFESSIONAL DAY 3
	30	PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE PRESCHOOL
	30	3WAY CONFERENCES INTERMEDIATE/PRIMARY
DECEMBER	1	3WAY CONFERENCES—INTERMEDIATE/EDK
	18	CONCERT REHEARSAL
	19	CONCERT REHEARSAL
	20	CONCERT REHEARSAL—SCHOOL CLOSED PM
	20	CONCERT EVENING
	21	SKATING PARTY 9:30—10:30 TSAWWASSEN
	22	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR WINTER BREAK
JANUARY	9	SCHOOL BEGINS TERM 2

