



# Boundary Bay Montessori House

Operated by MIND

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2004

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## Special points of interest:

♥ September 7, 2004

*First Day early dismissal and Coffee on the Lawn*

♥ September 10, 2004

*Family BBQ*

♥ September 15, 2004

*Peace Day Shared Lunches*

♥ Classroom Volunteers wanted—see Lize, Jana and Eileen

♥ Artist-in-Residence

♥ Out of School Care Program

## Message from the Academic Director

**“School is a model home, a complete community, an embryonic democracy”...Francis Parker, *Teachings in Pedagogy***

Welcome Back! We are in a state of change! First the exciting news that occurred over the summer—The Preschool is at the Elementary location! Secondly, Heather is retiring and so the reporting structure of our school has newly evolved to include an Executive Director and an Academic Director. We will perform the roles and responsibilities that have up to now been partly the job of Principal and partly the job of the Board. I think that the structure is a great model for BBMH as it will help us address the multitude of tasks that lie before us! The most important step in this process of change is to continue to share our vision both collectively and individually as a school community. A community that includes the teachers, parents and most importantly, our students—your children.

For those new to our school, we have recently undergone a ‘visioning’ process called the Blueprint. Please read the excerpts that will be included in the BBMH newsletters. This vehicle has been created collaboratively by the school

learning community and encompasses our beliefs as to what BBMH holds as its values when articulating Montessori Education. We are proud of our school, we know that we have chosen it as the ‘right’ educational model in which our children will

- learn to love learning
- value their unique contributions in a collaborative learning community and
- build resiliency and personal wellness

I know that the curriculum and teachers of BBMH are exemplary. We are a diverse group of experienced people. Where we do not diverge is in our focused commitment to educating children fairly, with love. It is because of the brilliance of the Montessori Methodology that we are able to create rationale in order to respond to the individual needs of our students so freely. It is as though Dr. Montessori theorized the concept of “common sense”. Common sense is simple, Put into practice it becomes excellence. Here is to another year of excellence!

Lize Hart

## BLUEPRINT UPDATE

Heather Main, former principal of BBMH in conjunction with members of the MIND - Montessori In Delta Society produced our BLUEPRINT. This document is based upon a model produced by Tim Seldin, President of The Montessori Foundation, who states “The most effective schools consistently show a strong commitment to an on-

going process of self-study that involves not only the faculty and administration, but parents and students as well. He suggests the blueprint cycle takes about three years and is accomplished in a series of stages. The first step is to define a simple, one sentence mission that summarizes the basic reasons for the schools existence and its special

## BBMH Mission Statement

***Boundary Bay Montessori House will offer a quality***

***educational program for***

***children that***

***remains true to the spirit of***

***Dr. Montessori’s***

***philosophy of***

***education to help equip them with the tools necessary to become***

***independent adults while allowing their unique personalities to***

***unfold.***

character. The second step engages the general community in the development of a detailed “blueprint” of the school’s fundamental values and beliefs. The final step is to adopt the blueprint and to use this for planning, setting policy and evaluating the school facilities and educational programme. Look for excerpts of our BLUEPRINT in this section!



## Peace Day, Wednesday September 15, 2004

*"I ask the dear and all powerful children to unite ... for the building of peace in man and in the world..."*

*Maria Montessori*

The Elementary classes will be having our annual Peace Day celebration on Wednesday, September 15, 2004. In the Montessori setting, human and social development or social responsibility is known as the Peace Curriculum. It is a value shared by all - school, families and the broader community. This is an event that supports the British Columbia Ministry of Education mandated curriculum for human and social development. Our students are aware of the rationale of this day. We share with each other, learn the skills of peace-

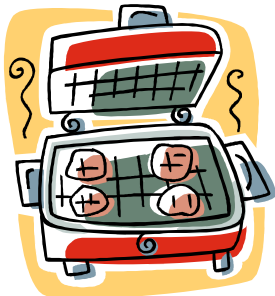
keeping and connect with one another on a school-wide basis, in an atmosphere of trust and inclusion, enjoying food and cooperative games. Look for further details in the class handouts!

Each student has been partnered with a student with whom they will share lunch. The children are reminded to be courteous and gracious as they discover the identity of their partner. The children will prepare and bring a lunch for that person on Friday. Each child must inter-

view the other to determine food preferences. We encourage the children to continue to be courteous when determining the taste preferences of their 'guest'. aged groups to play cooperative games and to engage in peace .

Thank you for supporting your child with this project.

## Family BBQ



This year's Family BBQ will be on Friday, September 10, 2004. It is a wonderful event that our students enjoy immensely! Our Family Advisory Committee will be lighting the BBQ at 5:30 p.m. Please come and join us for Hamburgers, Salad, Dessert and Refreshments!

## Potluck/AGM

Friday, September 24, 2004 at 6:00 p. m. is the date for the annual Potluck dinner. This is the time that you have the opportunity to meet the teachers and parents who make up Boundary Bay Montessori House. In addition to a lovely Potluck dinner, sign up sheets for the various volunteer opportunities will be available for you to make your choices as to how you would like to spend your parent participation hours!

The staff look forward to socializing with you on this evening!

The date for the AGM is September 24, 2004 and begins at 8:00 pm sharp! This is an adult event - all members of MIND are invited to attend.

## Elementary P. E. Program

Tentative dates have been set for the following P. E. Programs:

Jump Rope for Life  
Gymnastics  
Skating  
Swimming  
Regular P.E. will be held on Tuesdays for the Primary Class and Thursdays for the Intermediate Class

### PRIMARY SCHEDULE

September 13 - 27 SKIPPING  
October 4 EVENT  
*Jump Rope for Heart*  
October 13 - Nov 3 YOGA  
November 8 - 17 SKATING

### INTERMEDIATE SCHEDULE

September - GYM - TBD  
October - EVENT  
*Jump Rope for Heart*  
October 13 - Nov 3 YOGA  
November 8 - 17 SKATING

## MS Read-a-thon

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 3 week 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 to help them support research into a cure of MS and for essential services that meet the immediate needs of people living with MS in all communities throughout British Columbia.

How it works:

1. Presentation October 2004 TBD

## Out of School Care Program

This year we will be offering out of school care (OSC) program from Monday to Fridays for Elementary students 6 - 12 yrs. The after school session is from 3:00 to 5:30 pm and is available full time or part time. Jana Luchene will be the coordinator for this exciting program with general supervision by Eileen Wilson, Cathy Goss and Lize Hart. The cost for this program

2. Student Registration - place your name on Classroom List
3. Pledges-students collect pledges on pledge forms
4. Reading - students record minutes read over a 3 wk period
5. Money Collection—due Nov 15 (2 weeks after Reading Day)
6. Money Pickup –by BRINKS
7. Counting Funds—done by MS Society—tax receipts for over %15.
8. Prizes—scholastics books 10% if school raises over \$2500.
9. November 1, 2004 Reading Day - All Students will be involved in a Day of reading! Wear cozy clothes and come to school for a day of pure reading fun!

is

- \$1,250.00 per year
- \$ 160.00 per month
- \$ 50.00 same day per week
- \$ 15.00 Drop in

In order to register for OSC please contact Lize Hart at the school 604-946-9814.

## BBMH CALENDAR Fall Term 2004

September	2	Primary Orientation
	7	School Begins/Open House
	10	BBQ
	13	Sign up For Conferences
	15	Peace Day
	17	Newsletter
	20	Potluck Sign Up
	23	Parent Conferences
	24	Potluck/AGM
October	5	Mohandas Gandhi
	11	Thanksgiving Day
	15	Newsletter
	21	UN Day
	25	ProD Day 1
	27	Sign up for Obs/3way
November	1	Read-a-thon
	8	Observation Week
	11	Remembrance Day
	12	Newsletter
Newsletter	15	3 Way Conferences
	16	3 Way Conferences
	26	ProD Day 2
December	10	Newsletter
	13	Rehearsal
	14	Rehearsal
	15	Rehearsal/Concert
	17	Skating Party
	17	Winter Holiday 11:30 am

*I have never known any distress that an hour's reading did not relieve.*  
- Montesquieu, French political philosopher

## Artist-in-Residence Program

This year's Artist in Residence (AIR) Program is beginning to take form and Artist's with varied backgrounds have expressed an interest in sharing their gifts with your children! Here are some of the anticipated highlights!

**Choir with Natasha Neufeld,** Natasha holds a Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education

from U.B.C. Her most recent studies were in Salzburg, Austria at the Mozarteum University, in the vocal pedagogy program. She has played in various instrumental and choral groups, including the Vancouver Youth Symphony, Vancouver Philharmonic Orchestra, UBC Symphony Orchestra, UBC Chamber Choir and University Singers, and the Salzburg Bach Choir. Since September 2003 she has been singing with

the Vancouver Chamber Choir. Choir will begin Wednesday, Sept 29 and run through to early December and will include outreach to Delta Hospital and/or The Kinsmen Centre.

**Film Making with Ken Malenstyn** A member of the board Ken has agreed to share his expertise in the area of film production. Offered to intermediate students, this program will run for 10 weeks.

**Art of Water by Ron Stevens** Students will produce a painting of their chosen organism using the Australian Aboriginal style of dot painting.

Other areas of interest that we are pursuing are Cooking with Esther Rocks and Minerals with Daniel St. Gelais, Horticulture with Brad and more! There will be 6 sessions throughout the year and they will run 5 weeks in duration. Details to be posted in the Green Brochures!



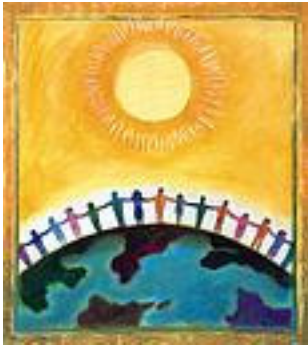
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Boundary Bay Montessori House is an independent Montessori school registered and classified as a Group I school (Preschool to Grade 7) under the British Columbia Ministry of Education. BBMH opened its Elementary program in 1990.

BBMH is administered by the Montessori in Delta Society (MIND), a registered non-profit society since 1986. MIND is comprised of educators and parents who strive to promote excellence in Montessori education in Delta, B.C. All staff are qualified by the Ministry of Independent Schools or the B.C. College of Teachers in accordance with the Independent School Act of British Columbia.



### Characteristics of Montessori Education at BBMH

- ♥ The child's inherent desire to learn and perfect his/her skills is nurtured by the stimulating and dynamic Montessori environment.
- ♥ The child develops a lifetime love of learning
- ♥ Each child works at his or her own pace and receives a high degree of individual attention.
- ♥ Student teacher ratios at BBMH are 10:1 in Preschool and 18:1 in Elementary.
- ♥ A well structured, prepared environment, with learning materials that are self-correcting.
- ♥ Respect for each other, the self and the environment are taught within a peace curriculum that is multi-cultural and non-denominational.
- ♥ With these opportunities, the child is empowered to fulfill his/her own potential thereby fostering
  - Independence
  - Self-discipline
  - Self-esteem
  - Self-motivation
- ♥ The child is honoured in this caring, community-minded educational environment where parents are invited to participate.