



Dates to Remember

End of JANUARY

Saturday, January 22

DMS Trivia Night Fundraiser
7pm, Thunder Hills Country Club
To register call Amy @ 557-1375

Monday, January 24

Teacher Inservice, No Classes
Extended Care Open
PM Conferences

Tuesday, January 25

Conferences, No Classes
Extended Care Open

Sunday, January 30

SCRIP Orders Due, 12:00pm
www.shopwithscrip.com

FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 13

SCRIP Orders Due, 12:00pm
www.shopwithscrip.com

Monday, February 21

Teacher Inservice, School Closed
Open House & Public Registration,
5:00pm–6:30pm
Board Meeting, 6:45pm
All Parents are Welcome

Sunday, February 27

SCRIP Orders Due, 12:00pm
www.shopwithscrip.com

MARCH

Monday, March 7

Father's Night, 6pm–7:30pm

Sunday, March 13

SCRIP Orders Due, 12:00pm
www.shopwithscrip.com

Friday, March 18

Teacher Inservice, School Closed

Monday, March 21

Board Meeting, 6:45pm
All Parents are Welcome

Sunday, March 27

SCRIP Orders Due, 12:00pm
www.shopwithscrip.com

Please visit our school website for the complete
2010-2011 calendar. www.dubuquemontessori.org

A Message from Our Director

Dear Parents,

Happy, Happy New Year! May joy, happiness and good health fill your days in the new year. It is great to be back at school. It is amazing how much we miss the children over break. What a joy it is to be surrounded by their innocence and excitement over their surroundings!

Watching a child do his or her own work in the Montessori environment is truly amazing. It is especially exciting to see a five year-old child who is in his/her third year of the three-year cycle. The confidence that these children have of their own abilities is astonishing. The positive feelings they have acquired about learning will be the foundation that will carry them through their entire school experience and throughout their life.

I have witnessed this with my own grown children who attended here at Dubuque Montessori School as well as my recently adopted young child who also was a student here. It is not the degrees and great academic achievements that impress me but rather the self discipline, the desire to learn and the positively kind and caring individuals that they have become that I am most proud. I often say that enrolling my children here is the best thing that I ever did for them and for myself and I believe this whole heartedly!

January to May is a very productive time in the school year. Most extreme situations have leveled off and calm has settled in. The classroom atmosphere is secure, loving and constantly challenging. This is the best time for growth and development in all areas and the best time for children to experience "productive work." They are able to sit for a longer period of time, can focus better and have the ability and desire to finish a task to their own satisfaction from beginning to end. Their work has a definite beginning, middle and end.

Because research has proven that Montessori learning is cumulative and that everything comes together in the third year, I hope that while making the very important decision of where to send your child to school you will give the gift of another year at Dubuque Montessori School, you will be glad you did.

Registration for the 2011-2012 school year begins Monday, January 31st.

We look forward to seeing each of you at conferences!

Most sincerely,

Beth S. Gilbreath
Director

2011-2012 Registration

Returning Students

Registration for returning students will begin on Monday, January 31.

Open House for New Students

Registration for new students will begin on Monday, February 21 during an Open House from 5:00pm until 6:30pm.

February DMS Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will take place on Monday, February 21 at 6:45pm. This meeting will follow the Open House scheduled for the same day.

Teachers will be presenting traditional Montessori work at the meeting.

All parents are invited to attend!



Kids Care Club and Project Linus

The DMS office recently received the following letter in response to the recent Kids Care Club service project:

Dear Montessori Students,

Thank you so much for the generous donations of fleece blankets to Project Linus. You can be sure that the children who receive the blankets will be comforted by them. Your generosity of time and materials allows our local chapter to continue to help children who are ill or needy.

Keep up the good work and keep us in mind in the future projects.

*Gratefully,
Lisa McCarthy*

Fundraising Information

Trivia Night on Saturday, January 22

It's not too late to register your team! To join the fun, contact Amy Van Otterloo at 557-1375.

General Mills Box Tops & Swiss Valley Cash for Caps



We are looking for a parent volunteer to coordinate the collection and redemption of the General Mills Box Tops for Education and Swiss Valley Cash for Caps fundraisers for the 2011-2012 school year. If interested, please contact the main office.



Green Vision Education Tips

Try making these small changes in your everyday lifestyle, they can make a big impact:

Run your dishwasher only when it's full. Don't pre-rinse dirty dishes. Tests show pre-rinsing doesn't improve dishwasher cleaning, and you'll save as much as 20 gallons of water per load. When you buy a new dishwasher, look for one that saves water. Water-efficient models use only about only about 4 gallons per wash.

Fix that leak. Leaky faucets can waste thousands of gallons of water each year, like money down the drain. Repair or replace old or damaged fixtures. If you're not sure you have a leak, check the water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.

Brush your teeth with the water off. The average bathroom faucet flows at a rate of two gallons per minute. Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth in the morning and at bedtime can save up to 8 gallons of water per day, which equals 240 gallons a month.

Source: www.epa.gov