



dubuque **montessori** school

*Loving Children Since 1968*

# The Sandpaper Letter

November 2010



## Dates to Remember

### NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 3  
School photos

Tuesday, November 9  
Kindergarten Conferences

Sunday, November 14  
SCRIP Orders Due, 12:00pm  
[www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)

Monday, November 15  
Board Meeting, 6:45pm  
All Parents are Welcome

Saturday, November 20  
Kids Care Club, Meet at DMS to  
assemble blankets for "Project  
Linus", 9:00–10:30am

Wednesday, November 24 –  
Friday, November 26  
Holiday, No School

Sunday, November 29  
SCRIP Orders Due, 12:00pm  
[www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)

*Please visit our school website for the  
complete 2010-2011 calendar.*

## A Message from Our Director

Dear Montessori Families,

BEV BOS! Say what? BEV BOS! On October 16<sup>th</sup>, the entire staff of Dubuque Montessori School as well as board president, Molly Schreiber, had the great fortune to attend a five hour seminar with Bev Bos, thanks to Tara Rodick, Child Care Resource and Referral and funds from IBM. Unless you are in the field of early childhood education, I am sure you are wondering just who in the world is Bev Bos. Well, I have been one of her biggest fans for over thirty years, so you can imagine my excitement when I heard she would be presenting at NICC in downtown Dubuque!

Bev Bos has been lecturing around the country as well as internationally on the importance of early childhood education through "play" for well over thirty years! She has been the keynote speaker numerous times at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, which is where I first saw her speak in person, in Anaheim, California over 25 years ago.

Bev has also authored four books on early childhood (three of which I own that have been personally autographed by Bev, does that scream "groupie" or what?) If you have the opportunity, they are worth your time. Before the Basics, Don't Move the Muffin Tins, Together we are Better and Tumbling over the Edge. Bev currently directs the Roseville Community Preschool in Roseville, California where she has been for over 40 years! Besides lecturing, directing, teaching and writing books, Bev also performs concerts for families with young children. And I thought I was busy!

In her seminars, Bev and her son-in-law, Michael Leeman, passionately advocate on behalf of children by talking with educators in the field on ways to strengthen our understanding on how children learn so we can best meet their needs by setting up appropriate environments which will optimize their growth and development. Bev brings such hope and humor to some of the "political" issues we face every day with regard to licensing laws as well as the unacceptable pressure which have been placed upon children to obtain knowledge at such a young age and in unnatural ways!

Listening to Bev and Michael reaffirmed what I know as an early childhood professional and as a Montessorian, and that is play is a child's "work". If we provide the environment where children can pursue their natural curiosity, exploring the world through their senses, spurred by creativity and motion, they will build problem-solving skills, self-esteem and they will develop all aspects of self: physical, social, emotional, and cognitive!

I am so proud to be a part of Dubuque Montessori School and I feel blessed to come to a place I adore and cherish every day and to be surrounded by these precious children. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to do what we love by entrusting us with your children!

Love,  
Beth Gilbreath  
Director

## Contact Us

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[www.dubuquemontessori.org](http://www.dubuquemontessori.org)

**Dubuque Montessori School is a not-for-profit parent-run organization.** Our mission is to bring together children of all social, economic and cultural backgrounds in an atmosphere that encourages children to develop to their fullest potential, using proven, child-directed Montessori methods and materials in a warm, nurturing, safe and loving environment.

## Save the Date!

### Winter Music Jam



*Sunday, December 19, 2010 at 3:00pm*  
*Carnegie-Stout Public Library*  
A DMS sponsored family event where Abbey Dvorak, Music Therapist, performs songs that promote movement, hands-on instrumental participation and singing along. Donations will be accepted at the door.

### DMS Trivia Night



*Saturday, January 22, 2011 at 7:00pm*  
*Thunder Hills Golf & Country Club*  
Teams of 8  
Challenge your brain power!  
Music, Sports, TV, and more..  
\$10 per team member

### 6th Annual DMS Golf Outing



*Saturday, May 14, 2011*  
*Shot-gun start at 3:00pm*  
*The Meadows Golf Course*  
9 holes with cart, 4 person best-shot  
Kalmes' Steak or Chicken Dinner  
Silent Auction and Raffle  
\$50 per person

## A Note from the Board of Directors

### Kids' Expo

We will promote our school at the 2010 Kid's Expo which takes place at the Grand River Center on Saturday, November 6 from 10:00am until 2:00pm. We are looking for volunteers to work at the booth. If you are able to help at this event, please contact Jennifer Webber at [thewebbers3@msn.com](mailto:thewebbers3@msn.com).

## Notes from the Office

### Items in Need

- \* Brown paper bags to use for our food scrap program.
- \* Gently used tea pots to use during the annual DMS Tea Party.

### Brrrrr...

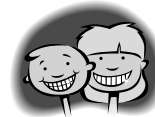
- \* Now that colder weather is coming, please remember to send your child to school wearing weather appropriate clothing.
- \* Please switch out your child's supply of extra clothes at school for winter weather clothing.



## Fundraising Information and Updates

### Fall Fundraiser

The DMS Board of Directors' Fundraising Committee is pleased to report that the Fall fundraiser was a great success! Thanks to our generous families we raised \$2,778!



### Dollar-A-Day, Giving Back

Dollar-A-Day is a fundraising program that takes the place of participation in our annual sales fundraisers and involves donating \$1 per day for each day that your child is enrolled at DMS. For example, if your child attends school 5 days per week, the suggested donation amount is \$171. For more information, please contact Mariann Kurtz Weber at (563) 513-2288 or [mkurtzweber@gmail.com](mailto:mkurtzweber@gmail.com)

### SCRIP

Thank you to all of the families who have been ordering SCRIP! Keep us in mind as you prepare for holiday shopping. Please write a separate check when paying for SCRIP orders. Do not include SCRIP payment with tuition and/or extended day payments. To learn more about SCRIP or place an order, please contact Jami Slater at (563) 583-1330 or [jami8523@aol.com](mailto:jami8523@aol.com) or visit [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com).

## Thanks to our Volunteers

- \* Wahlert Foundation for funding a \$2,000 grant that will be used for classroom materials and programming.
- \* Jen Hayes for making delicious cupcakes for our staff.
- \* The Duve Family (Luke, Sheila, Haley and Olive) for spending an entire day at DMS working on several projects including garden maintenance, plumbing and cleaning. Haley is a graduate of DMS and Olive is currently a student.
- \* Dubuque City Firefighters for teaching the students about fire safety.
- \* Dubuque City Police for visiting with the students and discussing the daily routines of a police officer.
- \* Dr. Tom Schreiber for spending time with students and sharing with them how doctors use Science every day.
- \* Thank you to all who grabbed leaves off of our Giving Trees and made supply donations!



## Green Vision Education Reminder

### Save Fuel & Reduce Emissions

For every two minutes a car is idling it uses about the same amount of gas it takes to go about one mile. But when you are not going anywhere, idling gets ZERO miles per gallon.

Don't let your car idle while you wait in line at school. If you are going to be parked for longer than 30 seconds, turn off the engine or park your car and walk inside.