

# AROUND THE HOUSE



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## OUR COMMUNITY

Happy New Year! I hope your family enjoyed winter break and is ready for the school routine again.

Can you believe 2021-2022 Enrollment is just around the corner? I will be emailing a link to a survey about next year's

programming. Please take a few minutes to answer the survey questions. It is important that we have your voice when making decisions. We will be opening enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year to current families on January 20, to our waitlist on February 17th, and then to the general public in March. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

For our families who will have a kindergarten, lower elementary or upper elementary student, we will have special information meetings at the end of January. We will send a notice home with the dates and times of those meetings soon. It is open to the general public so feel free to invite those interested in a Montessori elementary education. We hope to see your child next year at Children's House!

Thank you for your support! Danielle Giuseffi, Director  
~Office Hours: Monday-Thursday; 7:30 to 11:30~

## THANK YOU!

- ... the PTO for all their support and sending home holiday packages for all of our students
- ...the School Board for all they do for our school
- ...to our current parents for welcoming new families
- ....to our teachers for the extra effort they put in every evening and on their "break" to make sure they are prepared for our students.

**This month, we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, a man of peace. He and Dr. Maria Montessori shared this same vision of living at peace with all humanity. We continue to share peaceful lessons each month with our students. Ask your student about "shining their light."**



## MONTESSORI MINUTE

How does it feel when you are trying to master a new skill, and someone tells you that you are "doing it all wrong?" Or someone finishes the task for you? Even well-intentioned criticism can be de-motivating. It is this reason that Montessori works have a built-in Control of Error. Control of Error is an important Montessori principle because it gives the child a way to correct his or her work without input from the guide. This instant feedback helps the child analyze and solve problems on his or her own. It is easy to see how this can build the child's independence, self-esteem and self-discipline.



A great example of Control of Error in a Montessori work is the cylinder block work. A child will not be able to fit all the cylinders properly into a cylinder block if one cylinder is out of place. The child is left to find success by learning from mistakes and planning how he or she wants to try to correct the mistake. The desired outcome is that the child will continue to be motivated to try new things and continue to take appropriate risks. Can you think of a task at home that you could incorporate Control of Error?

"Give their lesson, plant the seed and then disappear, observing and waiting, but not touching." – Maria Montessori

## FROM THE PRIMARY CLASSROOMS

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful break. Do not be surprised if the first couple weeks are difficult. It is almost like starting over. Please be patient. The first week back is spend re-establishing our routine.

After that we will begin our study of the solar system. We will talk about the sun and the inner planets this month. Look for notes coming home regarding what we learned about and ask your child about the solar system song.

Sincerely, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Atterberry, Mrs. Verchio, & Mrs. Gibson

I hope everyone enjoyed our winter break. Although the break was enjoyable, it is always nice to get back into a regular routine. The Kindergartners have easily fallen back into their school routine and have been working diligently at completing their lessons. Book bags will be sent home again starting this Friday. Please remember to have your child read to several family members and to return the book bag on Monday. Throughout January, Kindergartners will be learning about the comma and an exclamation mark, writing last names, counting backwards, writing addition number sentences along with using various addition strategies to add, comparing a ten frame to the Montessori Golden Bead Ten Bar, working with place value and geometric solids, and studying maps – beginning with the universe.

Sincerely, Mrs. Verchio

## FROM THE ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS

Happy New Year! I hope your Winter break was relaxing and filled with some good old family bonding! I am so excited to be back with my students; I missed them dearly! This month we will be finishing our writing/research project about the animals we chose. Third grade is learning to type on keyboards and will type their final copy! We are also learning about the history of time and how that relates to our calendar and clocks! In Math, third grade will be using all of our Multiplication and Division material to memorize their facts as well as help them in real-life story problems! Second grade is starting to learn Dynamic addition and subtraction (borrowing and carrying) using the infamous Stamp Game!! First grade is continuing their work in number sense using subtraction strip board, addition strip board, addition snake game, and number lines! Everyone is busy reading and challenging themselves to more difficult words! Yay! We love to read!

Sincerely, Mrs. Pena

On behalf of the upper elementary students, I would like to thank our families for their support of our holiday fundraising/gift-drive. With their generous contributions, our classroom was able to fulfil the majority of the items on the Christmas Wishlist for the East Living Unit, Black Hills Children's Home. The gifts were delivered to their Rapid City office on Friday, 18 December. This project was student-led, from calling the organization and making arrangements, to fundraising and purchasing the gifts. We look forward to participating in other community service projects throughout the school year:-)



With best wishes for your safety and health in 2021 and beyond! Parastou

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> – Classes Resume  
 Jan 18<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King Day, NO SCHOOL  
 Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – Parent Conferences (Kindergarten and Elementary Students)  
 Jan 19<sup>th</sup> – NO SCHOOL for K-5th ONLY ([Preschool on Regular Schedule](#))  
 Jan 20<sup>th</sup> -2021-2022 Enrollment opens for current CHM families