

# AROUND THE HOUSE



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## OUR COMMUNITY

While I cannot believe it is February, I always look forward to a month that encourages chocolate consumption. Valentine's Day is just around the corner.

For some adults, Valentine's Day stirs up wonderful notions of love.

For other adults, it conjures feelings of phoniness. But I can attest that Valentine's Day for children is pure delight. If you have the pleasure of watching children receive Valentine's Day cards, you will see how they hold fast to the holiday as a precious experience of feeling cared about by friends and showing friends that they care about them too. It is for this reason that we rejoice along with our students in this celebration of friendship.

The elementary students will be making cards for children who will be spending their Valentine's Day at the hospital, either as a patient or visiting a loved one. What a great way to share the love!

February is also an important month at CHM because the last week is Montessori Education Week. This is a worldwide celebration! We will use the week to highlight some things we find super cool about our founder Maria Montessori. The week will also entail a Montessori student appreciation day and Show and Tell (my favorite). We will send home more information soon.

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

## THANK YOU!

... the PTO for their support  
...the School Board for all they do for our school  
...the Development Committee for their vision  
...Seth Malott for his leadership in fundraising for CHM  
... Dr. David Gilley and assistants from the School of Mines for their microbiology lesson in the Elementary  
...Jenny Kilcoin for fun, creative art projects for our primary students  
...the Tennis Center of the Black Hills for elementary and kindergarten tennis lessons  
...the Black Hills Studio of the Arts for filling our classrooms with music  
...Alexis Berry for her calming presence and yoga  
...the Arrowhead Foundation for tennis instructions for our primary students  
...Rachelle White for help on the playground  
...Mrs. Simons for her writing courses

## MONTESSORI MINUTE

One misconception of Montessori is that because children are focusing on improving concentration through work, the students lack opportunities for social development. However, the Montessori classroom is a rich social environment. It can be found in a soft "please" and "thank you" and "excuse me" as children move about the classroom. The mixed age groups in Montessori classrooms naturally foster social development. The younger children are given models for more mature behavior. The older children are given opportunities to develop their potential for leadership and social responsibility. This not only helps socially but academically as well. Maria Montessori believed and insisted that young children must be in a community of others to develop to their full potential. On all levels of Montessori education, it is the indirect learning that occurs among children that is the beauty of this environment.

"Of all things, love is the most potent." – Maria Montessori

## FROM THE PRIMARY CLASSROOMS

8:15 /8:30

The primary students will be finishing their solar system study. We will be talking about the outer planets. Look for their mobile to come home mid-month. The second half of the month we will begin our continent study.

Sincerely, Mrs. Butler, Miss Parastou, Mrs. Verchio, & Mrs. Gibson

## KINDERGARTEN

Kindergartners will begin learning how to tie a shoe. If your child has their own pair of laced shoes to practice with at home, please have him/her put the shoes on and practice a few times in the evenings and on weekends. In addition, Kindergartners will be learning about money, telling time to the hour and half hour, continuing with their map work, and writing questions and answering them in their journals.

Sincerely, Mrs. Verchio

## FROM THE ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM

We are trying to propose for a class pet. We would like a hedgehog because they are cute. We had to research all about hedgehogs. We learned that hedgehogs have 700 quills!

We really like math. We get to do flashcards. It is a fun activity that helps us learn. We are working on arrays. It is a way to learn multiplication.

We are reading good books. We are reading chapter books like "Race the Wild: A Great Sea Adventure" and "Jigsaw Jones."

We like to go to tennis. The teachers are nice and let us pick fun partners.

Sincerely, Cora Mehlhoff and Haileigh Frybarger

Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – Valentine’s Day Party  
 Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – Professional Development for Teaching Staff, NO SCHOOL  
 Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – President’s Day, NO SCHOOL  
 February 18<sup>th</sup> – PTO Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.  
 February 24<sup>th</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup> – Montessori Education Week #MontessoriEdWeek (Schedule to be Announced Soon)  
 February 27<sup>th</sup> – Montessori Show & Tell (Parents are invited to school to see the kids’ work)

### Notes from the Office:

- Registration for the 2020-2021 school year for current families is now! We will open registration to those on the waitlist on February 19<sup>th</sup> and then to the general public on March 1<sup>st</sup>. We would love to see you back next year!
- **Please stop in the office and check the Lost and Found if you are missing anything.**

