

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

With the exception of a few days we are reveling in the wonderful winter weather we have been able to enjoy. We want to thank you for sending your kiddos ready to play outside. For those snowy days – and we know we'll get some – please remember to send your child with:

Snow boots for walking in the snow

Mittens for touching the snow

Snow pants for sitting in the snow and sledding

If your child is missing any of these pieces they will not be able to participate in playing in the snow. Thank you.



Around the House

November
2011

THANK YOU – The words seem so inadequate!

We have had amazing support from our parents – not only for our PTO and BOD functions but also in the classroom. In fact, since the first of September, we have had **272.5 volunteer hours** documented and \$1750.00 in donated items for the classroom, office, play ground and yard.

We apologize if we leave anyone out but here are a few of the people that have given generously to the school in the course of the last few weeks.

- The Davis Family for tilling the garden
- The Keszler family for donating bags of salt for the icy walkways
- The Machecek family for donating a multi-function printer
- The Hoeke family for donating a new electric snow blower
- Tammie Morin Baxter and Mrs. Pappel for donating back their winnings from the cash raffle
- The Barsch for donating a laptop to the elementary classroom
- Sarah Hadd for helping with a special art project
 - (watch for this at the auction Feb. 4th)
- Our “regular” classroom helpers, Lori Whistler, Tammie Morin Baxter, Molly Davis

*“It is necessary for the teacher to guide the child without letting him feel her presence too much, so that she may always be ready to supply the desired help, but **may never be the obstacle** between the child and his experience.*

Dr. Maria Montessori

From the Desk of the Director

The “Joy of January” – let me explain. For me, January is the best month of the school year; not because we are on the down side of the school year but, because the kids have returned from the holidays ready to work. It's like they experienced a metamorphosis and now are comfortable in their school environment and are ready to “dig in”. The teachers often times have a hard time keeping up with all the requests for “new lessons”.

In January the students move throughout the school environment with ease and confidence. The returning students take it upon themselves to help the new (often young) students learn what they already know – how to make the most of your time at Children's House. They are helpful, sympathetic and kind. Patience becomes a notable virtue. It is a wonderful thing to witness and the staff is honored to be invited by the students to participate in this growth. Dr. Montessori referred to this “normalization”. We simply like to stand back and watch it happen☺

We want to welcome our new students and their families: Rosaria Pretends Eagle, A.J. Hendrickson in the 8:15 class and, Claire Koop, Ashley Koupal, Corey Ryder and Tailynn Trescott in the 8:30 class.

Janelle Jewett

Special Request – No Peanuts or Peanut Related Items

We would like to ask that you refrain from sending any items into the classroom that contain peanuts or peanut products. We have a student with severe peanut allergies. In order to ensure the safety and welfare of that child, we are making this request of all families.

Thank you for your indulgence with this request.

8:15 Class
Mrs. Nylander & Mrs. Barsch

Things have been going great so far in 2012! We would like to welcome our new students to our classroom, A.J. and Rosaria! It has been really good getting back in the swing of things. Students dove right back into work, not missing a beat at all.

The 3 day students have started a unit about their "Five Senses". The focus right now is the eye and how we see. It is great seeing their minds absorb all the new information! Our 5 day children have been learning about the layers of the earth along with volcanoes. For their curriculum, the kindergarten students have been learning about Asia. There has been a lot of focus on addition, subtraction, reading and writing! It is always a busy day at Children's House!

8:30 Class
Mrs. Pappel & Mrs. Bollock

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Ashley, Claire, Corey and Tailynn. They joined our class in January and already know many of the classmates' names. They have settled right in and their classmates are enjoying showing them their school

We are learning about "Our Five Senses" in the 3-day class. Watch for the fun projects the kids will bring home. Remember to ask questions about what senses they used today. The 5-day students are learning about our planet Earth. We formed the layers of the earth with play-doh and exploded a volcano during morning group time. We will be studying maps and globes and then beginning our focus on the seven continents.

Elementary
Mrs. Pokorski

The elementary students are studying Africa. We have learned that Cleopatra was the last Egyptian Pharaoh. We will be making shape books full of information about animals, landforms, famous people and historical events of Africa.

In writing we are writing a personal narrative and each student brought in a baby picture for our "Who's Who, Baby?!" guessing game.

All-in-all, the elementary room is a very busy place!

Wish List

Snow Shovels

We are still hoping to get a few shovels so when the snow arrives (and we KNOW IT WILL!) the elementary students can help out the neighbors with their snowy sidewalks.

Picture "Uploader"

We are still looking for someone to take the school camera and upload our pictures for development. Right now the teachers have to do that outside of their classroom time.

Thank you for your donations.

Please remember to call the school office or email your child's teacher if you have any questions, concerns or comments. That is the most effective way to reach any of us. Thank you.

Mrs. Pappel – cindypappel@chkids.net
Mrs. Bollock – pandibollock@chkids.net
Mrs. Nylander – andreanylander@chkids.net
Mrs. Barsch – christinabarsch@chkids.net
Mrs. Pokorski – stacipokorski@chkids.net
Janell Jewett – director@chkids.net

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

January 27 – Kindergarten/elementary semester conferences
No School for these students

Preschool Students – REGULAR SCHEDULE

Silent Auction items due

January 30 – Mrs. Pappel is on KOTA noon show!
February 2 – Mrs. Pappel is on KNBN morning show – 6:30!
February 2 – PTO Meeting - 6:00 PM
February 4 – Montessori Education Kick-off - 10:00 am
Canyon Lake United Methodist Church Gymnasium
February 6 – Dinner at the Texas Roadhouse – 10% return to CHM—Watch for a special invitation to send to everyone you know
February 7 – Montessori Show and Tell
8:15 & elementary students & parents - 5:30 – 6:30
8:30 students & parents – 6:30 – 7:30
February 11 – Date Night for Parents – RC Gymnastics Academy
Kids enjoy supervised gymnastics while parents enjoy a night out
February 16 – BOD Meeting - 6:00 PM
February 17 – Registration Forms are due in order to secure a spot for your child
February 20 – NO SCHOOL – President's Day
February 21 – NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
***Information to follow about the activities for the first week of February**

Montessori Education Celebration Kick-off
February 4th at 10:00
Canyon Lake United Methodist Church

If you love being at Children's House, we would like to encourage you to write a letter to the Rapid City Journal about your great experiences and educational opportunities. Request your letter be published during the month of February; **OR** type in www.chkids.net or www.greatschools.org and write a review.

Let's inundate Rapid City and the web world with CHM & Montessori Education!