

Family Newsletter

March 2018

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Dear MCH Parents,

Just like spring flowers, the children at MCH are blossoming. In Montessori education, this blossoming is referred to as "normalization". This does not refer to what is considered "typical" or "usual", nor to the process of being forced to conform. Maria Montessori used this term to describe her observation of a unique process in child development. When children are permitted to function independently and with self-direction aided by an environment that meets their needs, they blossom. Through continued intense concentration on work of their choice that fully engages their interest, children grow in inner discipline, peace and contentment. Maria Montessori cited this process of "normalization" as "the most important single result of our whole work". She went on to say, "Only "normalized" children, aided by their environment, show in their subsequent development those wonderful powers that we describe: spontaneous discipline, continuous and happy work, social sentiments of help and sympathy for others. . . . An interesting piece of work, freely chosen, which has the virtue of inducing concentration rather than fatigue, adds to the child's energies and mental capacities, and leads him to self-mastery. . . . One is tempted to say that the children are performing spiritual exercises, having found the path of self-perfectionment and of ascent to the inner heights of the soul. (Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, 1949).

Thank you, MCH parents, for allowing us to be a part of this amazing time in your child's growth.

All my best,
Marsha
Marsha Hirschhorn, Principal

[Click here for the monthly calendar](#)



MONTESSORI
CHILDREN'S HOUSE
Educating the Whole Child

Family Stages Performing

Our friends from Family Stages will be here on March 16th to perform *The Legend of Finn McCool*. We always enjoy the entertaining Family Stages, who perform the entire show with only two actors! What a treat!

Pajama Day – Friday March 2nd

Children love pajama day! Everyone is invited to come to school in their pajamas on Friday, March 2nd for a cozy day as we celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and enjoy stories from one of our favorite authors. Be sure to bring along outdoor clothing and shoes if necessary for recess time.

Staff In-Service Day – March 9th

Both school and supplemental care will be closed on Friday, March 9th for a staff in-service day.

Parent/Child Night – March 8th

On March 8th, we will be hosting Parent/Child Classroom Visitations. This is an opportunity for your children to show you the materials they have been working with all year. A sign-up sheet listing two time slots for visiting the classroom is posted outside your child's classroom. This is always a favorite event for parents and children alike! We look forward to seeing you in the classroom on March 9th as you share in your child's enthusiasm! (NOTE: Because of limited classroom space, this event is for currently enrolled MCH students and their parents or adult guardian only; it is NOT a Family Night.)

Book Fair Success!

Our recent Scholastic Book Fair was a great success. The children loved the book selections, and they were sorry to see the book fair come to an end. Thanks to your support, we earned over \$1200.00 in Scholastic vouchers to purchase books for our children's library, teacher's resource library, and classrooms. We are especially excited that we raised \$171.00 "All for Books" book fair service project benefitting CHOP'S "Reach Out and Read" and the Ambler-based "Reading Recycled" programs. PLUS, Scholastic is donating a book to kids in need for every dollar we raised with "All for Books", so they will be donating 171 books! Wow! Thank you all, and happy reading!

International Family Fest

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, May 5th, 2018



Announcing our major fundraising event, the ninth annual MCH International Family Fest! Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 5th at 4:00PM, and stay tuned for lots more information. The whole family will enjoy an evening of food, activities, and entertainment from around the world. Last year's International Family Fest was a tremendous success, and we look forward to another wonderful celebration with our MCH family. Tickets will be on sale in April!

Blue Bell Montessori Children's House
Marsha Hirschhorn, Principal
marsha@mch2learn.org
215-646-6816

We need parent volunteers to help plan and run this event. If you are interested in helping, please contact Marsha at marsha@mch2learn.org . Thanks in advance for your help and involvement!



Camp Discovery at Montessori Children's House

June 18-August 24, 2018

The word summer triggers a sense of freedom in children, a chance to have fun and discover in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Our mission at Camp Discovery is to enrich the physical and social life of each camper in an environment consistent with Montessori principles. We will inspire, challenge and excite campers as they explore new adventures and develop lasting friendships. Camp Discovery offers five exciting 2-week sessions! Enrollment is now being accepted.