



## Learn and Play Montessori School

# April Newsletter

April 2016 Newsletter, Volume 1, Issue 26

Our Mission Statement: Learn and Play Montessori School provides a superior quality toddler, preschool and Kindergarten education, assisting each child grow to his/her fullest potential by recognizing each stage of development and creating an environment that nurtures and facilitates learning using the Montessori philosophy.

## A Message from the Curriculum Director

Dear LAPMS Parents and Families,

Spring has finally arrived! As we welcome the beautiful, balmy weather and the fragrance of spring rain, we are also approaching the last few months of school and moving towards the summer curriculum. Children have come a long way since the school year began. Their growth is exponential in all aspects—academic, emotional, and social. Teachers continue to expand on skills gained in all areas of the classroom with the goal of moving children towards mastery of these skills. Children, who, at the beginning of the school year were learning the sounds of letters, are now reading words and recognizing sight words. Many have exploded into reading and are reading non-phonetic words and short books.

Parent Observation Days are coming up! Observation is a wonderful tool for parents and teachers alike. Sign up for an observation time slot, and take a glimpse into your child's Montessori world. Sign-up sheets will be available in your child's classroom.

Parent-Teacher Conferences will follow, beginning April 7<sup>th</sup>. It is a golden opportunity to speak with your child's teacher and communicate any concerns and questions. Sign-up sheets are available in your child's classroom. Page 2 of this newsletter contains the Parent-Teacher Conference schedule. Feel free to speak to me for any concerns or questions, as parents are our partners in improving the quality of education for our children.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,  
Ms. Aurelia

## Mark Your Calendars!

Apr. 1, 4, 5: Parent Observation Days  
Apr. 7-8: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 2)  
Apr. 11-12: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 3)  
Apr. 13-14: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 4)  
Apr. 15-18: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 5)  
Apr. 22: Earth Day  
Apr. 26: Earthquake Drill  
Apr. 27: Administrative Professional Day  
Apr. 29: International Day Celebration

## Plan Ahead!

May 2-6: Teacher Appreciation Week  
May 4-5: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 6)  
May 6: Mother's Day Breakfast  
May 8: Mother's Day, Sunday  
May 9-10: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 7)  
May 11-12: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 8)  
May 13-16: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 9)  
May 17-18: Parent-Teacher Conferences (Rm. 10)  
May 25: Fire Drill  
May 30: Memorial Day: No School

## IN THIS ISSUE:

|                             |  |                           |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Activities this Month.....2 | Parent-Teacher Conference Schedule.....2 | Special Thanks.....4      |
| Reminders.....2             | Cultivating Young Scientists .....3      | Safety and Security.....4 |
| Parent's Corner.....2       |  | Birthday Celebrants.....4 |

*"These words reveal the child's inner needs: 'Help me to do it alone'."*

-Dr. Maria Montessori

## School Activities

### Earth Day- Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

The children will have fun and exciting Earth Day activities and art projects which reinforce lessons about the 3 R's--Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. During this week, there will be poster-making about how to care for the earth. Parents are welcome to schedule for a class presentation related to Earth Day. Please speak with your child's teacher for volunteering in their classroom activities.

### International Day- Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

- Our International Day is on Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 A.M. in your child's classroom.
- After performances, parents may enjoy a potluck lunch with their child.
- Sign-up sheets for the potluck will be in your child's classroom. Food items **MAY BE STORE-BOUGHT or HOMEMADE** with ingredient list attached. **Food containing eggs and nuts are NOT ALLOWED.**
- Parents may take their child home after performances. **Please inform your child's teacher if you are taking your children home after the performances and sign out at the front desk on ProCare.**

## Health and Safety Reminders

- Children should stay home when they show any symptoms of deviation from normal health.
- If a child is brought to school with any symptoms of communicable illness, a doctor's note must be provided to return to school.
- Check every Friday if your child has extra clothes available in his/her cubby and replenish them as needed.
- Label your child's belongings, and take home any soiled clothes at the end of the day.
- Beddings and blankets must be taken home for washing every Friday, so that they are ready for use the following week.

## Parent's Corner

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

- Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled this April, starting on **Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**. Please check below for your child's classroom schedule.

#### Parent Teacher Conference Schedule

**Room 2:** April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

**Room 3:** April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

**Room 4:** April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>

**Room 5:** April 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

**Room 6:** May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

**Room 7:** May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>

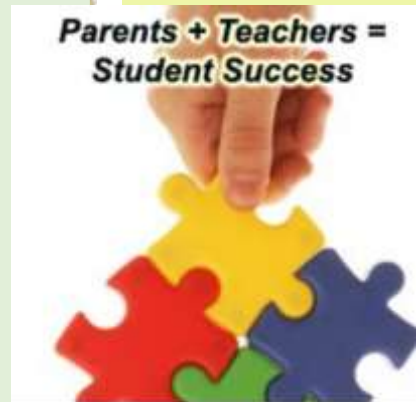
**Room 8:** May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

**Room 9:** May 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

**Room 10:** May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>



**Parents + Teachers =  
Student Success**



### ***What Parents Are Saying about Learn and Play Montessori at Niles...***

*"My son has been attending this Montessori school for over a year and half now. He has grown so much in this program and we, his parents, are very grateful to all his classroom 2 teachers. **We are really impressed by the systems for learning math, arts, music, science, reading and writing.** Ms. Rhea and team always discuss about his growth and share detailed student reports few times a year with us. The front desk staff is also very cooperative. We are glad we enrolled my son here. He will surely miss this school and his teachers when he will move to public school this year."*

*Tejas Shah  
(Room 2 Parent)*



## Cultivating Young Scientists: LAPMS' Second Annual Science Fair

By R. Juarez

Science takes center stage this month of March! Our **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Science Fair** was a success! The courtyard was transformed into an outdoor museum, complete with an array of science projects from various fields of science.

It was truly a celebration of the awe-inspiring world of science—hands-on learning in its truest form.

Guided by their mentors, our young scientists not only showcased their knowledge; with this experience they have also built the foundation of a lifetime of learning, of asking questions about the world, and of knowing the joy of discovery.

In the classrooms, LAPMS students delved into the wonderful world of science as we prepared for our science fair. Here are some highlights from various classrooms:



### Room 9 Butterflies

March was a great month for our adorable toddlers in Room 9! The warm spring sunshine has opened its arms to the first few spring butterflies! In celebration of the arrival of spring, Room 9 children learned all about butterflies. Children had so much fun tracing butterfly designs and they painted them with vibrant colors. What a wonderful way to welcome spring!

-Rm. 9 Teachers



Projects ranged from botany to physics and chemistry and earth science. With topics such as "Crystal Formations", "Color Synthesis, and "Potential Energy", students beamed with pride as they discussed their project with their teachers and classmates in the classroom. A few children even dressed up as scientists, complete with goggles and lab coats; some performed live demonstrations using their materials and following experiment procedures, which sparked their classmates' interest to learn more!



### Room 4 Gardening

Room 4 warmly welcomed spring by planting flowers and vegetables in our beautiful classroom garden. It was a fantastic learning experience for all of us and we would like to thank the parents for their donations of plants. We appreciate the support you all give us and the class and hope that it continues as the year goes by.

Thank you!

Room 4 Teachers



## Safety and Security

- Only an authorized parent/guardian may drop-off and pick-up the child. If someone other than the parent is picking up the child, please sign a parent authorization form, and turn it in to the front desk.



**WE ♥ OUR CHILDREN.  
PLEASE HOLD YOUR CHILD'S  
HAND DURING DROP-OFF  
AND PICK-UP, ESPECIALLY IN  
THE PARKING LOT.**

- When checking in and out from ProCare at the front desk, the computer plays a short sound when the procedure is finished. Please wait for this sound to ensure that you have successfully completed the signing-in or signing-out process.
- Late Pick-Ups: Please call us if you are going to be late in picking up your child. Please note that a fee of \$2.00 per minute will be applied.



### Tours and Orientations

**Tour Time:** 9:00-11:00 A.M. Daily  
**Orientations:** 1:30-3:30 P.M. Daily

## Admissions

### Admission Procedures

Admission at LAPMS depends on space and availability. Simply follow a few easy steps to get the admission process started!

- Call to schedule a tour. The school director gives tours at 9:00-11:00 A.M. during the Montessori activity period. This is the best time to observe the children at work with different subject areas.
- Fill out an application form and pay \$100 non-refundable registration fee.
- Complete a packet of health clearance and immunization records.
- Read the Parent Handbook.
- Schedule an orientation.
- Complete packet of paperwork and orientation prior to child's start date.
- Set up codes for drop-off and pick-up and take identification pictures for ProCare system.

## Special Thanks

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to all of our wonderful parents who came to support our young scientists at our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Science Fair at LAPMS Niles! Your guidance with each step made this an unforgettable experience for each child.

We would like to express our gratitude to the wonderful LAPMS parents who came and did a guest presentation in their child's classroom this past month of March. Our special thanks go to Ms. Jennifer (Room 2 Parent) for a wonderful presentation and fun project about cultural diversity. We would also like to thank Ms. Angel (Room 2 Parent) for a delightful presentation on gemstones and crystals! We would also like to express our thanks to Mr. Joe (Room 2 Parent) for a musical presentation on the violin!

We are so grateful to all of you for your unending support!

## Birthday Celebrants



### Happy Birthday to all April celebrants!

Your child's birthday is a very special day and it can be celebrated with his/her friends in the classroom. Birthdays are celebrated between 10:00-11:00 A.M. Speak with your child's teacher prior to the celebration. You may send pictures of your child when he/she was newborn, one-year-old, three-year-old, or you can prepare a timeline with pictures, happenings or special moments that your child experienced each year to be read by the teacher during circle time. The children would love to see how they grow over time.

Parents may bring a healthy treat to share with the other children. Due to allergies it is necessary that cakes are eggs and nuts free. Parents may also choose to bring fresh-cut fruit instead. If you are bringing goody bags for the children, please ensure that they contain only educational items, such as small books, crayons, erasers, or pencils.

If there is a school event on the day of your child's birthday, we would prefer that the birthday be celebrated in the classroom a day before or a day after the event. Thank you for your understanding.