

# March 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Registration Due</i>	3	4	5 <i>Upper Elem. Camping Meeting @3pm</i>	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 <i>Parent Meeting Line of Work 6-8 pm</i>	13 <i>Parents helping prepare garden 1-2:30 pm</i>	14
15 <i>Tuition Due</i>	16 <i>SPRING BREAK</i>	17 <i>SPRING BREAK</i>	18 <i>SPRING BREAK</i>	19 <i>SPRING BREAK</i>	20 <i>SPRING BREAK</i>  <i>Last Day to pay Tuition</i>	21
22	23	24 <i>Elementary Class Day of Planting</i>	25 <i>Toddler Class Day of Planting</i>	26 <i>Spanish Children's House Day of Planting</i>	27 <i>English Children's House Day of Planting</i>	28
29	30	31				

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### MARCH 2nd:

Registration Payment Due

### MARCH 12:

**This meeting are prepared to help parents further understand the concepts and developments in the classroom environments. Please make all necessary arrangements to attend.**

Line of Work meeting  
6-8 pm in your child's classroom

### Toddler Program:

During our meeting, parents will be able to see what the current students are doing in the classroom.

### Children's House: Mathematics

All humans have a tendency for a mathematical mind. Parents will be able to see how a child develops the mathematical concepts that the environment presents between ages 3-6 yrs.

### Elementary: Geography

The study of the earth and its features and the distribution of life on earth, including human life and the effects of human activity. We will show in our Montessori environment how the child is presented with the study of this science.

### MARCH 15-20:

Tuition Due

### MARCH 16-20:

**NO SCHOOL! Spring Break!**

### MARCH 24-27:

Planting Day for assigned classrooms.

### ELEMENTARY FUNDRAISER:

The Elementary class will be selling goodies on Friday's to raise money for a camping trip they will be attending in May. We are asking all parents for their support.

### TARDY POLICY:

Our main objective for this policy is to help the children be respectful and responsible for their environment and the work of all the children. Classroom doors will close at 8:40 as we need the classrooms to begin working at this time and late comers cannot interrupt. Children that are late will need to fill out a form at the office and wait with their children by the office until 9 AM or till the guide notifies the office that the child can enter. We often have new parent observations in the classroom at 9AM, so we need all parents to come to the office first. After 3 late arrivals, the parents will be called to attend a mandatory meeting with the Director and Guide, where different limits will be set. Please make a note as this policy is important for the development of our classroom environment.

Dear Parents:  
This month we can observe the changes from winter to spring season. We can see how the trees and flowers are changing within our school surroundings. During the month of March we have organized to have Planting Day. This is a day where we invite our parents to attend with their children and help us plant around our school garden. This is a special occasion for the children so we do ask that you make all necessary arrangements to attend with them on this day.  
Last month we shared with you some information about the Sensitive Periods. This month we would like to continue sharing the continuation of this theme:  
Sensitive period for order starts from birth and peaks at 18 months to 2.5 years and prolongs to age five. This is characterized by a desire for consistency and repetition. There exists a passionate love for established routines and is when a child may seem disturbed by disorder. The “terrible twos” are often exaggerated reactions to small disruptions in order that is not perceived by adults. The environment therefore must be carefully ordered with a place for everything and with carefully established ground rules. It is also important to have external order as order in their environment where there is an appropriate place for everything as this helps the child also establish their internal order.  
It is when you see a child may give out a tantrum since things are out of routine and it affects their sense of order. They may at this time insist on the same routine, and at times parents don’t really have time to respect this in the busy lives. One may even see a child put things in back into place if they are out of order if given the chance. It is important to be aware of this as one of the child’s needs to be fulfilled. Having ordered rules helps a child in this sensitive period.  
Another special occasion for our classroom is our upcoming Parent Meeting. We invite all parents to attend since we have prepared something special for this evening.

We wish you all a great Spring Break,  
Haydee & Mariana

Dear Parents:  
I would like to thank all the parents that attended the meetings for “Five going on six” and “Montessori Children’s House”.  
  
Springtime is almost here and we are getting ready for our planting day on March 26. I will be sending you a list of the plants or seeds you need to send with your child. Remember this is a day for the family to join in, so make plans and all necessary arrangements to attend with your child.

I suggest you think about preparing the outdoors for your child as well as the indoor space. If you do not have adequate outside space, then take your child on hikes, parks or playgrounds where your child will have the space to run, climb, swing and frolic developing coordination while you monitor their activities.

The children are working hard. The oldest are working with addition chains and they are reading books. The youngest are working with practical life, sensorial and with the sounds of the letters.

“The child seeks independence through work,” said Maria Montessori.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact the office to set up an appointment so we can meet.

Sincerely,  
Norma and Julia

Dear Parents:  
Spring is almost here!!! Personally my favorite time of the school year. We start to see the children bloom. Just like the grass, flowers and leaves unfold we see the progress of the children. They have been working hard to get to where they are. And just as spring, this is a beautiful thing to observe.

During this month we have our traditional planting day. We will be planting the week returning from Spring Break. This is a special day for the children so please make plans to attend or have someone come with your child. We don’t want anyone to feel left out. On this day the parents are invited to come and plant along with their child. After we plant we enjoy a picnic lunch outside. The children will then care for these plants. I will admit not having much of a green thumb so I invite any parent that does to help on selecting areas around our classroom as well as the types of plants to be planted. We do prefer annuals. We will be doing some of our own planting in the classroom before this date and learning more on how to care for our plants. I am also asking parents (dads especially) who could help in preparing our vegetable garden area on Friday March 13. We need to till and set up our garden before leaving on Spring Break. Please let me know if you can help. It will be from 1 to 2:30 so to be done before the children are let out.

One last reminder, we are also getting ready for our Carnival in April and we would like to thank you in advance for your help. This is another fun day for the entire family and it is all thanks to your help in putting it together.

Sincerely,  
Monica and Lupita

Dear Parents:  
We would like to give thanks to the parents that came to the meetings that took place last month.  
We are getting ready for our planting day on Thursday, March 26. This is an exciting day for the children so make plans to attend with them this day. We would like to share with you the following article of the benefits children get when exposed to the care of plants:  
First: The child is initiated into observation of the phenomena of life. He stands with respect to the plants and animals in relation to those in which the observing teacher stands towards him.  
Second: The child is initiated into foresight by way of auto education; when he knows that the life of the plants that have been sown depend upon his care in watering them.  
Third: The children are initiated into the virtue of patience and into confident expectations, which is a form of faith and of philosophy of life. When the children put a seed into the ground and wait until it fructifies, and see the first appearance of the shapeless plant and wait for the growth and the transformations into flower and fruit, and see how the deciduous plants have a rapid life and the fruit-trees a slower growth, they end by acquiring a peaceful equilibrium of conscience and absorb the tillers of the soil in the time when they still kept their primitive simplicity.  
Fourth: The children are inspired with a feeling for nature, which is maintained by the marvels of creation-that creation, which rewards with a generosity not measured by the labor of those who help it to evolve the life it creates.  
Fifth: The child follows the natural way of development of the human race. In short such education makes the evolution of the individual harmonize with that of humanity.

Thank you,  
Alicia and Carmen

Dear Parents:  
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting the school and myself in reaching this goal of having another elementary class. Without your support this would not have been accomplished. I want to welcome the following children to the new environment: Mateo Bailey, Itzel de la Pena, Pablo Emilio Jimenez, Mathias Maidl, Maria Sandoval, Nina Velasco and Brandon Scott Pearson.  
In the month of February the children learned about how to take care of the environment and recycle. With your help in the children’s project you have enhanced their learning experience. I hope you enjoyed working on this project since there will be more to come.  
We have planted seeds that will later be transplanted to the classroom where we will watch veggies grow. In regards to planting day, remember to send your child with a bottle of sun block, garden shoes and hat. In the following month the class will be planting a tree at the school. This tree will represent the seed we are planting in each child. Lowe’s Home Improvement Warehouse has donated this beautiful gift. We thank Monica Moreno for helping us obtain this donation.

Sincerely,  
Liliana Valverde

Dear Parents and students,  
  
The elementary class has different kinds of learning activities going on at this time. The Upper Elementary students are doing a report on the United States of America. They are investigating states, capitals, mountains, rivers, etc. They are memorizing the presidents of the United States of America too. Everyone is doing a report on the state of Texas. The Lower Elementary students are doing it too but at their own level. The Lower Elementary students are also doing a research on George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

We are planning a field trip to the Insights Museum. We would have liked to attend the “Walking with Dinosaurs” at the El Paso County Coliseum; however the Insights museum is more feasible and accessible for a class field trip. We hope that some of the children will have the opportunity to see the Walking with Dinosaurs show and will be able to share it with the class, if they attend with their parents.

The students have been working to prepare the garden for planting day. This is an important event that allows parents, friends and / or family members to come and work and enjoy a special day with their child. Please remember to send garden shoes for your child so that we can avoid having to send them home with muddy shoes. Having a clean environment is a class work and it is important for your child to feel that he or she is participating in all aspects of the class room such as keeping the school grounds and classroom environment clean and beautiful for them and our visitors. We have purchased tools for the students to use during gardening time

We would also like to thank you for supporting the classroom fundraisers. We look forward to working with the children in such an exciting learning activity that will further build team work and lasting friendships between both elementary classes and the other classes of Mountain West Montessori. We would like to remind everyone that we will be holding a sale every Friday for the next few months.

Thank you,  
Amada & Monica