

The Montessori Schoolhouse

1301 E. Ft. Lowell, Tucson, AZ 85719

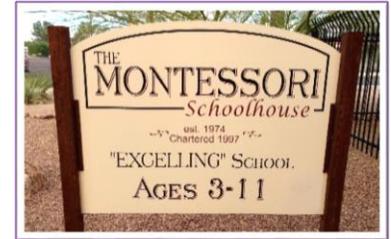
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Dear Montessori Families,

Another year has whooshed by. Our students have been joyful, poetic and productive. We have had another round of remarkable Spring Projects: Italian food, black holes and Jupiter's Moons in Lower Elementary; Tornadoes, da Vinci's Inventions and Shakespeare's sonnets in Upper Elementary. The presenters never cease to amaze us with the depth of understanding they have of their many unique topics.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

As Lower Elementary has wrapped up **Italy** and **Astronomy**, we have moved into our spring topics of **Botany**, **Artists** and **Literature**. The students have been dissecting and labeling seeds (cotyledon, anyone?), painting **Matisse** and identifying different types of literature – mystery, science fiction, fables. Do I imagine **Shakespeare** around the corner? We will be reading a version of *The Tempest*, listening to some of Will's greatest lines and even doing a bit of theater!



Upcoming Events & Information

Parent/Teacher Conferences

LE: 4/16 – 4/26 UE: 4/30 – 5/10

AIMS Science Test

Grade 4 ONLY - Tues. April 17th

Upper EI Poetry Breakfast

Tuesday, May 1st
9:00 am – 10:00am

Open House

Wednesday, May 9th
4:45 – 6pm

Upper EI presents:

*A Midsummer's
Night Dream*

Saturday, May 12th
Call time 12 noon,
Performance at 3:30pm

Last Day of School

Friday, May 25th - Early Release

LE: 11:45am

UE: 12:00pm

**School Closes promptly at
12:15pm / No AfterSchool**

Summer Art Camp

Begins June 18th!

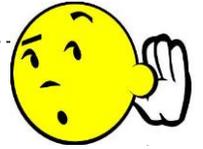


In **Math**, our Lower Elementary students have been gathering data to make **Bar Graphs**, expanding their knowledge of **Multiplication** and enjoying a new **Polygon** board the teachers found in Denver during the AMS national conference.

Overheard

“Black holes are very time-consuming.”

-Zachary Soto during his project presentation on the Big Bang



Taiga demonstrating what happens in a black hole.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

The Upper Elementary class has been wrapping up the year with amazing new units and lessons. **Language** studies have included enriching lessons on **Verb Tenses, Synonyms and Antonyms**, the **Structure of Texts**, and **First and Second-Hand Accounts**, to name a few. Students thoroughly enjoyed our study of **Poetry**, and they look forward to sharing their poems at our annual Poetry Breakfast!

In **Science**, we have had engaging presentations about **Weather!** Our lessons have included **The Layers of the Atmosphere, Weather vs. Climate, Weather Words, Weather Fronts**, and **Weather Maps!** We also further examined **Weather Instruments** by making **Anemometers**. Ask your student all about it! Additionally, we were able to practice **Weather Words** in **Spanish!**



Students have been thrilled to explore the age of the **Renaissance** in our latest **Geography** unit. We have introduced **Renaissance Art, Science,** and **Math** along with notable figures such as **Leonardo da Vinci, Brunelleschi, Galileo, and Copernicus.**

Finally, Upper Elementary **Math** students have begun preparing for next year, with all students now working on their next grade level math. For 3rd graders, this means work with manipulating fractions in different ways, operations with fractions, and beginning decimals. 4th graders are jumping into powers of ten and advanced fraction equations, while 5th graders are preparing for middle school with lessons on percents, statistics, and ratios and rates.

Last, but not least, in **Choir** students have been enthusiastically engaged in the creative endeavor of writing their own opera! Don't miss the performance of **A Midsummer Night's Dream** on Saturday, May 12! Call time is 12 Noon for a closed rehearsal, and the performance begins at 3:30 P.M.

AFTERSCHOOL

Our amazing AfterSchool staff create some incredibly fun projects and themes each year. If you are not already joining us in AfterSchool, consider enrolling next year. Here, the students are participating in Community Week by making felt sushi to enjoy in their community restaurant during their study of Japan. This year's theme is **Art from Around the World.**



NOTES

ABSENCES: Please remember it is our policy that you **always** call the school to report your child's absence. Unreported absences will be recorded as unexcused.

COATS AND SWEATERS: Now that the warmer weather is here, please remind your child to **bring home his or her jacket and sweater**. We will donate any unclaimed clothing **after** the last day of school.

SUMMER ART CAMP: We are so happy to be offering **3 weeks of Summer Art Camp** (June 18-July 6) at our Ft. Lowell Campus! **Sign up before May 11th** to secure your spot for our new summer curriculum. **Sign up with a friend for extra fun!**

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL/FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: Our last day of regular classes will be **Friday, May 25th and will be an early release day**. Our first day of school will be **Wednesday, August 15th and will also be an early release day**. Please check the calendar for pick-up times. **School closes at 12:15p.m. on early release days.**



Two of our Poetry winners: Daniyal and Eleanor at the Tucson Festival of Books. Also winners but not pictured are Olivia Renner and Mia Hunter.

We used our "High Performing School" bonus to attend the National Montessori Conference in Denver. It was loads of fun and we got many new ideas from the workshops. We were also further inspired just by being in the presence of so many Montessorians whose deep felt mission is identical to ours: to serve children of all ages in pursuit of their education, independence and leadership.

Have a wonderful Spring season and hope to see you at Open House,

*Regine, Olive, Judi, Perla,
Maddie, Paige, Lano,
Gabriella and Rosemary*