White Mountain Montessori Schools

Learning for a Lifetime

www.whitemountainmontessori.org

May 2009

Teachers & Staff

3-6 Teachers
Jan Krening

Joey Valichnac

Kelly Sullivan

Nicole Buckles

6-9 Teacher
Adam Nolan

Music
Eithne Stover

Art
Victoria Hanyzewski

After Care
Beth Alwin

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End of Year Celebration

May 21st at 5:30PM (Please have participating students at the school by 5:15PM)

North America Night: Taking the Show on the Road

The elementary class gave a heartwarming presentation of North American culture and songs which showcased students' learning from the spring semester at WMMS in late April.

WMMS Students performing at Solterra Senior Living.

It is difficult to say what made more of a positive impression when the elementary class performed their North America Presentation at Solterra Senior Living center: the music or the individual interactions with residents when it was all over.

"We were so impressed at how into it they were," said Nan Martin, Activity Director at Solterra Senior Living. "They were all completely focused on their presentation. All the residents were talking about it afterward."

Students sang songs, performed a skit and enacted Ernest Thayer's famous baseball poem from 1888, "Casey at Bat." The musical medley that closed out the evening got the audience involved at WMMS and at Solterra.

"You could see the residents (at Solterra) go back 40 years in time," said parent and board member John Bratch. "They sparked up at the songs."

All of the adults were surprised at how comfortable and mature the students were when interacting with the Solterra residents.

"Each of the students went out into the audience and was talking to the residents" Martin said. "They didn't stay in a group. Some of them were even hugging."

Bratch agreed: "Besides their music, it's the way they presented themselves as young adults," "We couldn't have planned it any better. They mingled like they were at a cocktail party."

The event made a positive impression, and the students have been invited back for future presentations.

The students are ready to return as well. "Ian keeps asking me when we can go back," said Sarah Davies, mother of Ian Ferguson.

Learning for a Lifetime

Great Start to the Parent Teacher Organization

The WMMS Parent Teacher Organization has agreed to undertake three main tasks in the coming year in order to support the needs of the classrooms and the school: 1) Help organize volunteers for events and projects; 2) Plan and implement fundraising projects; 3) Facilitate social events for parents to become better acquainted. The group will meet at alternating times in order for more parents to attend. On even months, the meeting will be on the first Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. On odd months, it will be the first Wednesday at 3:15 p.m.

Elections for offices of president, vice-president and treasurer will be by self-nomination and will be held on August 5th at 6:30.

Every parents Is encouraged to get involved and stay connected via our website: www.whitemountainmontessori.org/ There is a tab to sign up on the home page. It's that simple!

At the recent 3:15 meeting, the group worked on ideas for the fall fund-raiser of Music Night. A committee is being formed to help pull together a formal event for September 12. Please indicate your interest via the website. The group will need to work over the summer.

Exploring Our World

The school year is ending with great field trips for the Kinders to help them better understand our earth, its habitats and how to better care for it. The Kinders went to Jacques Marsh with Miss Jan to demonstrate the different life zones and the wildlife they support.

The alpaca farm and the Rim Trail provided other opportunities for Miss Kelly and Miss Joey to teach about animal life and our environment.

"This kind of environmental study will hopefully leave a lasting impression on young minds to celebrate our planet and treat it and all its living things with respect," said Miss Kelly.

All students in the 3-6 class have learned about litter and recycling as part of Earth Day.

There are several caterpillars in the classroom undergoing metamorphosis. Teachers and students will release the newly developed butterflies before school ends. Botany is "hands-on" as well with students are growing beans in the classroom and planting flowers.

Where the Wild Things Camp

The Elementary class had a hugely successful camping trip to Sharp Creek on May 14-15.

"There was super parent support," said teacher Adam Nolan. "The highlight was swimming in Tonto Creek. It was such a hot day; that really helped to cool things off."

Students had their own ideas about what was best:

Kyra Covey: "I liked the wildlife, especially the short-horned lizard."

Chase Alwin: "I like learning music. I learned to play the mandolin."

Cameron Covey: "I loved finding a shelled fossil and BIG crystals."

And sometimes simple pleasures are the best: "We got to roast marshmallows," said Amber Alwin.

Can You Help?

WMMS needs a person with a weed eater to help keep weeds under control during Monsoon season. The time spent will count towards your volunteer hours… and if you have a teenager at home complaining about nothing to do during the summer, this would make a wonderful project.

Contact Gary Hanyzewski or Susan Vest if you can help.

Applause!!

The teachers would like to specially recognize numerous parents for their help in the classroom. With your help, WMMS is able to do so much more!

Classroom Assistance throughout the year— Beth Alwin, Lois Goode, Amy Hatch, Ron Towne, Lucinda Sinclair, Jean Day, Susan Vest, Steve Nolan, Sarah Davies

Laundry Assistance—The Dentons

Lunchroom—Margaret Petty, Sarah Nolan, Kris Slaughter

Field Trips—Amy Hatch, Susan Vest, Mary Reidhead, Ron Town, Margaret Petty, Mike Mahoney, Warren Day

Tires for the Playground—Cywinski's

Lending hay bales for the Fall Festival—Reidheads

Tuition Support Organization—Anna Atencio and Gary Hanyzewski

Office Duty—Gary Hanyzewski, Susan Vest, Sarah Davies, Sarah Nolan, Pat Lopez, John and Janelle Bratch, Amy Hanridge

Thanks Feast—Heather Emma, Gayle Emma

Easter Egg Hunt—Sarah Davies, Natalie Soderquist, Robert Emma, Susan Vest

Garage Sale—Here are the wonderful volunteers who helped make our annual WMMS yard sale a success. First: "Containers on Demand" whom for the third year running has donated the storage container. Sarah Davies who again worked tirelessly by my side to help me sifted through and price all the donated items. The all night security volunteers: Joseph, Chase, Amber and Connor Alwin; Adam Nolan; Steve Nolan. The following volunteers helped with set up, clean up and/or working the yard sale. Ron Towne, Lucinda Sinclair, Margaret Petty; Rhonda and Blue Penrod: Eithne, Maeve and Liam Stover; Natalie and Hans Soderquist; Nicole Buckles; Mary Reidhead; Susan, Mark, Jennie, Carrie Vest; Nancy N.; Gregor and Tarri Randall; Bruce and Caroline Goode, John, Janelle, Keala and Nicole Bratch; and John Bratch Sr.; Nicole Buckles; Sheriffs Posses for donation of tables (Blue Penrod); Unity Church for donation of tables. Mike Mahoney for: boosting our morale and being a good sport. Mr. Nolan's 6-9 class. The many families who donated items.

"Receipts for Education" is one of the programs that requires diligent volunteers like Lois and Bruce Goode who picked up the receipts from Eddie's Country store on a weekly a basis and Melissa Amos who spent many hours totaling the hundreds of receipts.

Thank you to "Eddie's Country Store" for their participation in this wonderful program.

"Receipts for Education" is a program in which a penny spent at Eddie's Country Store is a point earned for purchase of classroom resources. This year WMMS earned a total of 116,000 points from the submission of Eddie's Country store receipts. Last year we earned about 45,000 points. Our teachers are able to purchase resources for math, language arts, Spanish, art and science, physical education, etc.

Box tops for Education: A huge thank you to Lucinda Sinclair for counting all the box tops.

Thank You, Miss Beth,
for all your hard work to make the Yard Sale GREAT!!! Here's to $3,600!

Box Tops

Don't let the school year end without turning in the Box Tops you have saved all year! Please put them in the box in the lobby.

WHITE MOUNTAIN MONTESSORI SCHOOLS

PO Box 1819
Pinetop, AZ 85935
Phone: 928.367.1201

Editor: Lucinda Sinclair
Publisher: Mike Mahoney

Comments, questions, suggestions or topics of interest may be emailed to:
editor@
whitemountainmontessori.org

We're on the Web!
whitemountainmontessori.org

Dates to Remember

Parent Workday
August 22

Back to School Picnic
August 15

White Mountain Montessori is now on Ebay!

You can help by selling your items through the school's store, buying items, or donating your items

As a SELLER:

Wouldn't it be great to:

* Stand out from the crowd with a charity ribbon icon in search results
* Attract new buyers and make current buyers even more loyal
* Inspire buyers to bid up the price
* Receive a tax-deductible receipt for your donations
* Get a pro-rated fee credit when your item sells
* Help WMMS by donating 10% to 100% of your final sales price to our school!

There are several options available for joining in our Ebay fundraising as a seller. It is really very easy and satisfying.

To Make DONATIONS:

We also need a steady supply of great donations to keep our sales going strong. Things that sell well are nice toys and games (complete and working), vintage toys (like older Fisher Price Little People), collectibles, electronics (working), camera memory sticks, foreign language materials, homeschool materials, baby items (in great condition) and educational toys/games. Think of it as a year-long yard sale!

Please contact Sarah Davies (Emma, Ian & Mary Ferguson's Mom) for more information. She would be happy to help you get started! Sarah: 369-2404, shd3@cableone.net

NOTE: You don't have to donate every time you sell, just when you want to.

As a BUYER:

If you like to shop on Ebay, be sure to bookmark our White Mountain Montessori School Ebay page: http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=31055

Please be sure to add us to your Favorite Sellers list and check back often to see what we have

Stop by often because we always try to have a wide variety of nice things on hand. Plus, you won't pay shipping because we can hand deliver your item to you! How's that for a deal?

You can also get to our sales page very easily by clicking the Ebay link on the home page of the WMMS website:
www.whitemountainmontessori.org

If you have something you'd like to donate, please contact Sarah Davies (Emma, Ian & Mary Ferguson's Mom). 369-2404, shd3@cableone.net.