

SOUTH SHORE MONTESSORI, INC.
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2011
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April Calendar

April 1st	Pajama day
April 20th	Infant/Toddler/Preschool Spring Luncheon
April 21st	Elementary Spring Luncheon
April 22nd	Good Friday (school/care closed)
April 22nd	Earth Day
April 24th	Easter Sunday
May 1st	Summer/Fall Registration Due

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Thursday, April 1st is April Fool's day. We will celebrate by wearing our pajamas to school. Why do we celebrate April fool's Day? Unlike most of the other non foolish holidays, the history of April fool's Day, sometimes called All Fool's Day is not totally clear. There really wasn't a "first April Fool's Day" that can be pinpointed on the calendar. Some believe it sort of evolved simultaneously in several cultures at the same time, from celebrations involving the first day of spring.

CLASS PICTURES

Our Class picture proofs are in! Ms. Pam has done a great job capturing our classes! If you have not yet ordered your photo, please check with the office. The closing date for all orders is Monday, April 4th.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY

School /Care will be closed Friday, April 22nd. We hope you enjoy the day with your family.

REMEMBER TO UPDATE

Addresses and phone numbers change from time to time, and it is easy to forget to tell us. This includes updates to the emergency information as well as, pickup information and phone numbers. Please pick up your child's information sheet and update everything. Return it to the office no later than May 1st.

REGISTRATION FORMS

The Summer/Fall registration forms will be available soon. Please fill out the registration form and return by May 1st in order to assure your child's space in our program.

EGG HUNT

Wednesday, April 20th, the Infant/Toddler/Preschool will celebrate spring with our annual egg hunt. Your child will need to bring 24 trinket-filled plastic eggs to share. Please fill the eggs with age-appropriate items: erasers stickers, raisin boxes, goldfish, etc. Be

creative, but remember **no candy or balloons**. . . Your child will need a basket or container, labeled with his or her name, to hunt for the eggs.

The Elementary class will celebrate on Thursday, April 21st. They will do confetti eggs in lieu of an egg hunt. Please send no more than 2 dozen confetti eggs.

RANDALLS CARD # 7403

Thank you to all of the parents who mention Randall's number when doing their grocery shopping. We raised \$125 towards teacher scholarships last quarter!

WHY MIXED AGE GROUPS?

If classroom equipment is to be challenging enough to provoke a learning response, it must be properly matched to the standard which an individual child has already developed in his past experience. This experience is so varied that only the child himself can usually make the most satisfying choice. The Montessori classroom offers him the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of graded materials. The child can grow as his interests lead from one level of complexity to another. Having children ages three through six together permits the younger children a graded series of models for imitation, and the older ones an opportunity to reinforce their own knowledge by helping the younger ones.

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Teacher Appreciation week is being held the week of May 3rd-7th. This is a wonderful way to let all of the teachers know how much you appreciate everything that they do for your child.

SCHOLASTIC ORDERS

Did you know that we get books every time you order from the monthly Catalog? We have already sent out the April Catalog. Take just a moment to look it over. You will find great books at a great price. You can even order on line as a parent by going to www.scholastic.com/bookclubs. Sign in as a parent, give our code H69p6 and our school will get credit for your order.

News from the Classroom of

101:

This month we will talk about Earth Day, recycling and respect. During art we will be participating in animal painting. We would like to welcome Sirenedy Estrda & Laila Walsh to our class.

102:

This month will be focusing on respect of our environment. We will celebrate Earth Day and learn about the importance of recycling. We will discuss Africa, oceans and seashells. We will be reading books by Bill Martin Jr. and listening to music by Mozart and of course we will be doing plenty of art based on Monet, Earth, Africa and Oceans! Also we will be watching our cup of grass grow.

103:

This month we will be talking about the Earth and Earth Day. To go along with our Earth Day topic we will discuss recycling. Spring is here, we will be learning about the plant life cycle. We will be learning about parts of a plant and about the life cycle of a butterfly. On pajama day, April 1st, you may wear slippers, however bring along running shoes for outside play. Our spring fling is April 20th. Please send in 24 filled plastic eggs. No Candy. 1 labeled basket for gathering eggs. See the front clipboard for needed items. And last but not least please sign up for a conference with your teacher; see the front clipboard for times.

104:

We will continue our study of spring, learning about the parts of the plant and flower in life science; also we will hatch live butterflies and learn the parts of a butterfly; we will germinate seeds and plant them in our garden. Please send in 24 plastic eggs filled with trinkets, stamps, etc. (**No Candy!**) and one basket labeled with child's name for our egg hunt which will be Wednesday, April 20th.

105:

We will have a Pajama Day on April 1st. Yes, you may come to school in your pajamas. Remember to bring running shoes for outside play. We are finishing the Iowa Basic Skills test early this month. Please make sure your children are getting enough rest and a nutritious breakfast before coming to school each morning. Conference scheduling will begin soon after testing ends. The sign up sheet is in the front office. Our Spring Party will be Thursday April 21st. We will do confetti eggs in lieu of an egg hunt. Please send no more than 2 dozen confetti eggs.

April Birthdays**102:**

4/01-Kamron Kibbe
4/10- Diya Mattamana
4/17-Christian Jensen
4/18- Andres Rodriguez
4/20- Alyssa Rollins

103:

4/28 Macy Gonzalez

104:

4/02-Meredith Paulson
4/17-Tanya Morgan
4/23-Gabriel Cabral

105:

4/1 Mariana Rodriguez
4/25 Vijay Chaudahari

Staff:

4/15- Mrs. Howe

Theme:	Earth Day/Recycling
Virtue:	Respect for the Environment
Continent:	Africa
Author:	Bill Martin Jr. & Shell Silverstein
Artist:	Monet
Composer:	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Misc.:	Poetry Month

National TV-Turn off Week

Before entering Kindergarten the average youth has spent 5000-8000 hours staring at a television set. For three-to-five year old children, this huge amount of inactivity occurs during the height of their brain's critical period for cognitive and language development, potentially hindering vital learning abilities such as paying attention and communicating. During the week of April 23-29, millions of Americans will voluntarily turn off their TV sets for seven days and rediscover that life can be more constructive, rewarding, and healthy-even relaxing with more time and less TV.

Interesting facts about TV

- Number of 30-second commercials seen in a year by an average child: 20,000
- Number of minutes per week that parents spend in meaningful conversation with their children: 38.5
- Percentage of day care centers that use TV during a typical day: 70
- Hours per year the average American youth spends in school: 900 hours
- Hours per year the average American youth watches television: 1500
- Percentage of Americans that regularly watch television while eating dinner: 66