

SOUTH SHORE MONTESSORI  
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER  
December, 2010  
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**December Calendar**

Dec. 2 Elementary Field Trip  
Dec. 8 Hearing Test  
Dec. 14 Elementary luncheon  
Dec. 16 Infant, Toddler & Preschool  
luncheon  
Dec. 17 Early Release 12:15  
Dec. 20-24 School/closed/care/open  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve  
School/care closed 12:00 p.m.  
Dec. 25 Christmas Day  
Jan. 3 School Resumes

**School Closed/Care Open**

December 20<sup>th</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup> School will be closed/care will be open. December 24<sup>th</sup> school will be closed/care open until 12:00 p.m. after which the normal charge of \$10.00 for every 15 minutes will apply. School will remain closed from Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> 2010. We will be back in school Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011.

**Register for Care**

Monday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> thru Friday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> until 12:00 p.m. school is closed/care is open. Each parent will need to register with the front office no later than Wednesday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. There is no additional charge for full day students, daily tuition rate will be charged to extended day students. All payments must be made on or before care, and all students must be registered for care regardless of what program they are in.

**Brisket Drawing**

A smoked brisket is the drawing prize for families using Tuition Express. All families enrolling during December are eligible (along with currently enrolled Tuition Express families) for a fully cooked, smoked brisket from Sweeny, Texas. Attached is the enrollment form; return it along with a voided check to the office to be eligible.

**Tuition Payment**

To avoid the \$20 late payment fee, you will need to leave a check with the office before you leave for the holidays. We are closed and cannot receive payments from noon on December 24 through Monday, January 3, 2011. All checks will be held until January 1. Families using Tuition Express will be processed as usual.

**South Shore Montessori Anniversary**

This December South Shore Montessori is celebrating our 24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In order to help us observe this special day we are asking that everyone wear their South Shore Montessori t-shirt on Friday.

**Christmas Ornament**

If you haven't had a chance to choose a gift from our tree yet, there is still time. After selecting the item, please give the tag to the front office and they will place the order. When the item is delivered, the office will give it to the teachers for their classroom, along with a gift card from your child. Thank you in advance for these wonderful educational gifts.

**Food Drive**

We are still collecting for our canned food drive through December. If everyone could bring in just one item, it would go a long way for a needy family.

**Pennies for Peace**

We haven't filled the pennies jar yet so we will extend the Pennies for Peace campaign a little longer. Please keep those pennies coming.

**Cooler Weather**

With the cooler weather finally upon us, please remember to replace the clothes in your children's box with warmer clothing. Please label all sweaters and jackets with your child's name. We will be going outside each day that weather permits, so if it is chilly out please make sure your child has a jacket--cool weather is not going to keep us inside! Just remember, if you want it back, label it!

**Holiday Party**

The Elementary Winter luncheon is Tuesday December 14<sup>th</sup>. The Infant, Toddler & Preschool Winter luncheons are Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please check your class clipboard for needed party supplies. Holidays are always a busy and exciting time of year for all of us. Sometimes we even tend to get carried away with the festive side of them: the decorations, the music, and the food (to name a few). Although there are many cute and imaginative ways to create the food and party favors, we do ask that you remember our school nutrition policy. No candy, punch, cakes or cookies. There are many other ways of creating snacks with nutritious foods.

### **I Resign as an Adult**

I am hereby officially tendering my resignation as an adult. I have decided I would like to accept the responsibility of an 8-year-old. I want to go to Mc Donald's and think that it's a four-star restaurant. I want to sail sticks across a fresh mud puddle and make a sidewalk with rocks. I want to think M & M's are better than money because you can eat them. I want to lie under a big oak tree and run a lemonade stand with my friends on a summer's day. I want to return to a time when life was simple; when all you knew were colors, multiplication tables, and nursery rhymes, but that didn't bother you, because you didn't know what you didn't know and you didn't care. All you knew was to be happy because you were blissfully unaware of all the things that should make you worried or upset. I want to believe that anything is possible. I want to be oblivious to the complexities of life and be overly excited by the little things again. I want to live simple again. I want to believe in the power of smiles, hugs, a kind word, truth, justice, peace, dreams, the imagination, humankind and making angels in the snow. So....so here are my checkbook, and my car keys, my credit card bills and my 401K Statements. And if you want to discuss it further, you'll have to catch me first, cause.....

Tag! You're it! Hope ya'll join me!

### **News from the classroom of**

#### **101:**

During December we will talk about our Country. We will show the children a globe and a map of the USA. We will talk about Holiday celebrations and traditions around the world. For art we will make a Holiday tree, stamp paint an ornament and paint a white T-shirt. For sign Language we will practice the sign for colors and share. We are very excited about our Holiday party on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **102:**

Happy Holidays! 102 will be observing Holidays around the world. The children will be making holiday and winter art as well as art based on Van Gogh. Music by Tchaikovsky will be played during nap and we will explore the USA through books and pictures of our country. Colors will be the focus of this month's sign language and sharing will be practiced with our

friends. We hope you all enjoy this holiday season with family and friends. Thank you.

#### **103:**

During class we will be discussing holiday traditions around the world. We will be working on our holiday gift for mom and dad. During our winter party we will have a Book Exchange. Please bring in a wrapped unisex book with the "from" filled out. Check our clip board for party supplies. We also ask that your child bring in an unbreakable, ornament labeled with your child's name to hang our Christmas tree. If you have any items that you could donate to our Europe continent box it would be greatly appreciated. If you haven't had a chance to pick out a gift from our tree in the front office there is still time. The Winter Party is Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **104:**

This month we will be studying the composer Tchaikovsky and the Nutcracker Suite. We will continue our study of Europe as well as a study of holidays around the world. Our winter luncheon and book exchange will be Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please bring in 1 wrapped, unisex book with only the "from" part filled out for the exchange. You may also bring in one unbreakable ornament for our holiday tree. If you would like your ornament back please put your child's name on the ornament. Thank you.

#### **105:**

We will be hard at work on our Cultural Studies this month. We will explore holiday traditions, including Kwanza, Hanukah, and those of India, Mexico, Germany and more. Students may bring pictures, recipes, books, etc. to share. Our December field trip will be to the Clear Lake Ballet's production of the Nutcracker Suite on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our Winter Celebration will be Thursday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>. The students have been working very hard on the wonderful Spanish skits Mrs. Nator has written. She has also supplied us with delicious recipes for our luncheon. Please volunteer to create one of these dishes for your child to share on this day. We will also draw names for our gift exchange. Please help your child choose an appropriate gift (\$15.00 max.) for the friend whose name they've drawn.

### **New Arrivals**

Rohan Mahesh has a new baby sister. Riya Mahesh arrived at 7:56 a.m., November 2<sup>nd</sup> weighing 5 lbs. 4 oz. & 19 inches long. Congratulations Mahesh Family!

### **December Birthdays**

#### **101:**

Halvor Olson is turning 1 year old.

**103:**

12/07 Merle Ohlenkamp is turning 5 years old.

12/08 Douglas Eader is turning 5 years old.

12/08 Ava Mehdizadeh is turning 5 years old.

**105:**

12/17 Krishna Chaudhari is turning 10 years old.

12/23 Luke Sanders is turning 11 years old.

12/28 Victoria Schweitzer is turning 8 years old.

**Staff:**

12/01 Ms. Claudia Ramirez

12/27 Ms. Alicia Prevost

**December**

**Theme:** USA

**Virtue:** Sharing

**Author:** Jan Brett

**Artist:** Louise Nevelson

**Composer:** Tchaikovsky

**Peacemaker:** Gandhi

**Misc.:** Holidays of the World

Smiling is infectious; you catch it like the flu,  
When someone smiled at me today, I started  
smiling too.

I passed around the corner and someone saw my  
grin

When he smiled I realized I'd passed it to him.

I thought about that smile then I realized its  
worth,

A single smile, just like mine, could travel round  
the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it  
undetected

Let's start the epidemic quick and get the world  
infected!

Everyone needs a smile!