

SOUTH SHORE MONTESSORI, INC.
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2011
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February Calendar

Feb. 2- Groundhog Day
Feb. 03- Chinese New Year
Feb. 14- Valentine's Day
Feb. 15- President's Day
Feb. 23- National Dog Biscuit Day
Feb. 24- Go Texan
March 8- Madri Gras

February Fun

We sure had some cold days in January. Now it is time to warm up and enjoy February. We have some wonderful events planned for this month starting with Groundhog Day, followed by, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Go Texan Day, and Madri Gras the first part of March! And as if that isn't enough we have exciting Montessori lessons planned for your children. Parents, please remember how important it is that your child arrives on time to school each and every day. When your child is late, he or she misses the morning community meeting and may also miss out on taking part in the wonderful lesson planned for that day. Your child doesn't want to miss out on any of the excitement happening this month!

Running shoes

At South Shore Montessori your child must wear running shoes because we care about them. None of our teachers like to see any of the children get hurt and wearing the proper foot wear will go a long way in preventing falls. You will hear us repeat **running shoes** if you want to play outside. Running shoes are tennis or athletic shoes with a non slip tread. Tie shoes with a tongue is preferred. Thank you for helping us with this.

Valentine's Day

The children will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Monday, February 14th. We will not be having parties, but we will be exchanging Valentine cards. The infant, toddler, and preschool children need to bring enough Valentines for everyone in their class. Do not put names on the envelopes, but do let your child sign them. **Do not send candy** or balloons with cards. Preschool teachers are asking that your child send in a decorated shoe box, cereal box, oatmeal box, or anything else you can think of to

store your child's Valentine cards. Have fun with this Valentine's homework.

Mardi Gras

We will be celebrating Mardi Gras on Tuesday March 8th. The teachers love this day. They get to stand on the big toy and throw Mardi Gras beads to the children. If everyone would send in twenty Mardi Gras beads to throw it would be greatly appreciated.

Go Texan Day

We will be celebrating "Go Texan Day" on Thursday, February 24th. Those of you who are new to this tradition, this is the day for everyone to dress in their best Western attire...Be creative, get geared up with your kids for the Rodeo! You do not have to spend a lot of money...a bandana and jeans are just fine. Please parents, this is the one day your children may wear cowboy boots, but they may **not** bring their guns. If your child wears boots they will need to bring a pair of **running shoes** for outside. We will also have our annual Chili Cook off. Please check the clipboard for items you can provide for your classroom.

Class Pictures

J. Pamela Photography will once again be taking our class pictures. Please watch for the date. All children are included in the class picture, so please dress appropriately. The pictures are then processed and will be on display in our office for purchase.

Tuition Express

Does getting your tuition payment in on time every month give you a headache? Well, do we have a cure for you! When you sign up for Tuition Express your child's tuition will automatically be taken out of your account on the first of each month. You will never have to think about it again. We are attaching a Tuition Express form which you can turn in with the office. Peace of mind is just around the corner.

Science Fair

It is time for everyone who is in Kindergarten and older to start planning their projects for the Science Fair. The Annual Science Fair will be announced at a later time. All families are

welcome to attend this event. More information will be sent home soon.

If your child is a Kindergartener please see Ms Harris for information on entering the elementary class.

Adopt a Panda Bear

As part of the pre-school study of Asia and the animals of these regions, we would like to adopt a Panda Bear through the National Wildlife Federation. (www.nwf.org). Panda Bears have been added to the Endangered Species Act. With a class donation we will receive a certificate of Adoption and poster for our classroom. We see this as a valuable learning experience for our students, showing them early on they can make a difference in their world. We are asking for a \$2 donation from each student. Thank you.

Randalls

Thank you for remembering our school when you shop! We have received another donation for our school through the Good Neighborhood Program. This program lets a portion of your purchase at any Randalls store be donated to our school. This quarter, the donation was \$49.72. We will be using these funds to add materials to your child's classroom. Our Good Neighborhood Program number is 7403. Thanks again for remembering us when you shop!

Thank you

We would like to thank the Doan family for helping keep all of us healthy. They have been graciously donating the bottle of hand sanitizer for our front counter.

Box Tops

The last submission date for box tops for the current school year is March 1st so please send in as many as possible! We currently have collected about \$50 worth but we would like to make that amount at least \$100. Thank you to everyone who has contributed and made this year a success!

News from the classroom of

101:

During the month of February we will be talking about the Solar System, the Sun and the Planets. We will be enjoying Louis Armstrong's music during lunch and naptime. For art we will be sharing C.M. Russell's art pieces with the children. This month we will be celebrating Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, Mardi Gras and Go Texan Day. As you can see it will be a

busy and exciting month. We would like to welcome Chiara and Siena Finto who joined us last month. We are so happy to have them with in our class. Please send in enough Valentine Cards to share with your 6 classmates.

102:

January was great fun as we learned all about different animals of the world. We studied penguins, lions and polar bears, just to name a few. February is going to be very busy. We will observe Groundhog Day, Chinese New year and Valentines Day. We will also be talking about the Solar System, Asia, listening to Louis Armstrong, drawing like C.M. Russell, and reading stories by Faith Ringgold. We have many fun activities planned for this month, so please mark your calendars. We will have an exchange of Valentine Cards on Monday February 14th. This is a card exchange only. **No Candy!** Remember our nutrition policy when sending in treats. We are asking for Mardi Gras beads for our celebration of Mardi Gras, and please check the clip board for items that will be needed for our Chili cook-off for "Go Texan Day" Thank you.

103:

February is a wonderful month for celebrations. We will have an exchange of Valentine Cards on Monday February 14th. This is a card exchange only. **No Candy!** Remember our nutrition policy when sending in treats. Chinese New Year will be celebrated with fried rice and our annual Dragon parade. We are asking for Mardi Gras beads for our celebration of Mardi Gras, we would like to see at least 20 beads per child. Please check the clip board for items that will be needed for our Chili cook-off for "Go Texan Day", which will be Thursday Feb. 24th. Thank you.

104:

The New Year is off to a great start. We "traveled" to the continent Antarctica with the help of many books and learned many interesting facts about penguins. During the month of February we will study the continent of Asia. We will celebrate the Chinese New Year and have a tissue paper lion for our annual Dragon parade. In addition, we will study the Solar System and the Kindergarten students will make oil pastels of the Planets. We will have an exchange of Valentine Cards on Monday, February 14th. This is a card exchange only. **No Candy!** Remember our nutrition policy when

sending in treats. We are asking for Mardi Gras beads for our celebration of Mardi Gras, we would like to see at least 20 beads per child. Please check the clip board for items that will be needed for our Chili cook-off for “Go Texan Day” Thank you.

105:

It’s hard to believe it’s February already! This month will be filled with challenging work and exciting new lessons. We will focus on the continent of Asia, Texas History and the Scientific Method, as well as the Son and it’s Family. Of course we will celebrate Valentine’s Day, Mardi Gras, and Go Texan Day. Watch for info on March Field Trips, Science Fair and IBS Testing this Spring.

Elementary Dates to Remember:

March 1st -Field trip to see Wizard of Oz

March 14th.-20th. Spring Break

March 21nd.-25th. Iowa Basic Skills Testing
Science Fair: TBA

February Birthdays

101:

2/9 Chiara Finto

2/9 Siena Finto

104:

2/3 Dylan Burchfield

February

Theme: The Solar System

Virtue: Pride

Continent: Asia

Author: Faith Ringgold El: Graeme Base

Artist: C. M. Russell & Pablo Picasso

Composer: Louis Armstrong

Peacemaker: Mandela

Misc.: Black History Month/Go Texan/Mardi Gras/Chinese New Year.

Movement

It takes work on the part of the adult to withstand the temptation to let the child spend hours in front of the television or the computer, but it is well worth the effort to support the natural development of the child. Television accustoms the child to be a passive receiver of information rather than an active questioner or researcher. And the intelligence of computers does not hold a candle to the kind of creativity inborn in the human being. The child needs large muscle movement and gradually more and more refined large and small muscles—legs, trunk, arms, hands, to the pincer movement of thumb and fingers.

Reprinted from: Child of the World, Michael Olaf's Essential Montessori for 3-12+years. www.michaelolaf.net