

SOUTH SHORE MONTESSORI, INC.
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2010
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March Calendar

March 2	Dr. Seuss Birthday
March 10	Class Pictures
March 11	Elementary Field Trip
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 14	Daylight Savings
March 14-20 Spring Break	
March 22-26 Elementary:	
	Iowa Basic Skills Testing
March 29	Science Fair
March 31	Egg Hunt

A Note from the Director

March is going to be a very special month here at South Shore Montessori. 2010 marks two wonderful anniversaries: the 23rd anniversary of South Shore Montessori and the 103rd anniversary of Montessori education.

A peaceful world requires a timeless, peaceful education, customized and precise for each individual. Maria Montessori, the founder of Montessori education once said, "It is true that we cannot make a genius; we can only give to each child the chance to fulfill his potential possibilities".

As I think about our journey over these past 23 years, it brings a smile to my face when I think about the number of times we have given children the opportunity to fulfill their full potential. This is something that we will continue to strive to do for each and every child coming through our doors. What an amazing journey this has been!

Tuition Express

For those who have not yet signed up for Tuition Express here is the link.
<http://www.tuitionexpress.com/>

Class Pictures

J. Pamela Photography will be taking our class pictures on Wednesday, March 10. Children must be at school no later than 8:30 a.m. in order to be in the picture. 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.

Spring Break

Spring Break is March 14-20. School will be closed/care will be open. Every child attending that week must register with the front office. There is a fee for the extended day program.

Please see Ms. Twyla or Ms. Marissa for the charge.

Science Fair

Science Fair is fast approaching. All Kindergarten and Elementary students will be required to submit a science project by the morning of Monday, March 29th. During this time the children will present all science projects to the class. We would like to invite everyone to stop by that evening from 6-7 p.m. to see all the student projects.

Dr. Seuss

Born March 2nd 1904, Theodore Seuss Geisel, "Dr. Seuss" has entertained children and adults alike with his rhyming text, wacky story lines and made-up word for more than 100 years! To celebrate his life and literary contribution, we will be reading aloud the old favorites "Hop on Pop", "The Cat in the Hat" and "Green Eggs and Ham". We encourage you to do this with your child at home, as well as have your child bring in his or her favorite to share with the class.

Spring Forward

Daylight Savings time begins on March 14th. Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.

St. Patrick's Day

Wear green or you might get pinched on March 17! Why? Because it's St. Patrick's Day, of course! March 17, 390 A.D., is the birthday of St. Patrick of Scotland. According to the legend, St. Patrick charmed the snakes of Ireland into the sea and used the shamrock as a symbol of the Trinity when he preached. Tell your children to be on the look out for leprechauns, rainbows and four-leaf clovers...and don't forget to wear green!

Egg Hunt

Wednesday, March 31, we will celebrate spring with our annual Egg Hunt. Your child will need to bring 24 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 to hunt for the eggs.

Garage Sale

This April, we will again be holding our annual garage sale. Make sure to be saving your items for donation. In addition to the items for sale we will also need: wire hangers, grocery sacks, boxes, masking tape, hanging poles to hang clothes on, tables, and unbroken little toys. There will be more information as the date grows near.

ShelterBox

The ShelterBox project was a wonderful success thanks to all of your generous donations! We reached our goal to purchase a shelter box to be sent to Haiti because of you and your tremendous support. Mrs. Howe and Ms. Tracia attended the local chapter Rotary club meeting this week to share a slideshow about our service project. They discussed the priceless life lessons and virtues taught to the children by this important exercise in sharing with others.

Thank you Ms. Tracia for all of the hard work you put into this project.

Thanks

Thanks to all of the parents who contributed to our Chinese New Year, Mardi Gras, and Go Texan Day. These events are very special, and you helped to make them memorable for the children!

Thank you Mrs. Olalde for all of the recycled paper you have donated to our school. We all have benefited from the extra paper.

Sixth-Graders Excel at Younger Campuses

Sixth-graders are more successful in an elementary school than they are in middle schools, according to a new study by researchers at Duke University and the University of California, Berkeley.

The bulk of the country's sixth-graders, including most in the Houston area, have been moved into middle schools over the last three decades. This new report shows that students are scoring lower on the standardized test and that the ill effects of grouping sixth-graders with older students last until at least these students reach the ninth grade.

"These findings cast serious doubt on the wisdom of the historic nationwide shift to the grades 6-8 middle school format," Philip Cook, Duke professor of public policy and economics and an author of the paper, said in a prepared statement. "As it turns out, moving sixth grade out of elementary schools appears to have had substantial costs."

News from the classroom of

101:

This coming month we are going to be talking about life cycles of plants and animals. For art we will look at different kind of birds, butterflies, and fish. We will be reading Dr. Seuss books and talking about the virtue of honesty.

102:

This month we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday. We will be focusing our story time and art work on his books. If your child has a favorite Dr. Seuss book, they are welcome to share it with the classroom. We are also going to be growing our own plants in the classroom as we learn about life cycles with plants and animas. Some art will be in the form of Frank Lloyd Wright's work (our artist of the month).

Please send in seeds and soil to help us with our plant growing. If any one could donate one potted plant (Ivy) for plant polishing it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

103:

Spring has sprung. This month we will begin learning about a plant life cycle. We will be sprouting several types of beans & hypothesizing about which bean will sprout first. We will also be having our annual egg hunt and our Kindergarteners will be visiting 105 with their Science Fair Projects. Fun, fun, fun! We are asking for each child to bring in 24 filled eggs for our egg hunt. Please remember **No Candy** allowed. We recommend stickers, erasers, rings or small toys. We also will be cooking green eggs for Dr. Seuss' birthday. Please have your child bring in their favorite Dr. Seuss book to share with friends. Please stop by 105 on science fair night to root on our Kindergartners.

104:

This month we will germinate a seed as part of our botany lessons and learn about "parts of the plant" and the plant life cycle. We will begin sowing seeds in our spring garden behind our classroom. In geography we will be studying Australia and learning all about marsupials such as kangaroos and wombats too! As part of our celebration of Dr. Seuss, we will cook green eggs and ham and spell "Seuss" words with our movable alphabets. Our Kindergarten students will be participating in Science Fair, Monday, March 29. Wednesday, March 31 is our annual egg hunt, more information to follow.

105:

March is a very busy month for elementary students. We will continue our studies of the Sun and its Family, Simple Machines and Weather. We are working hard on our Science Fair Projects to present on Monday, March 29. Our annual Iowa Basic Skills Testing begins Monday March 21st. Please make sure your student arrives on time after having a nutritious breakfast.

Elementary Dates to Remember:

March 10- Class Pictures

March 11- Field Trip

March 14 -20- Spring Break

March 22 -26- Iowa Basic Skills Testing

March 29-Science Fair

March Birthdays**102:**

3/1 Elizabeth Zhou

3/8 Grayson Howard

103:

3/4 Stuart Adams

3/7 James Roth

3/28 Ethan Polsen

104:

3/20 Vee Atkinson

3/28 Julia Lee

3/28 Colin Williamson

105:

3/8 Stephanie Kasperick

3/16 Brandon Doan

Staff:

3/17 Ms Lacey Baptiste

Themes: Life Cycles of plants & animals

Author: Dr. Seuss

(El: Shel Silverstein)

Artist: Frank Lloyd Wright

Composer: Sergei Prokofiev

Peacemaker: Jimmy Carter, Habitat

Continent: Australia

Character: Honesty