

# FMS Newsletter

## February, 2017



FLOSSMOOR  
MONTESSORI SCHOOL

### March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28 Elementary Black History Month Celebration 10-11 AM	1	2 Conference time preference requests are due	3	4
5 <b>Art show and Auction 2:00-4:00 PM</b>	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Day Light Saving Time	13	14 Earth Day	15 Spring Camp Registration is Due for lunch to be included	16 <b>Dismissal at 11:30 AM</b>  Parent- Directress Conferences 1:00-7:00	17 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>  Parent- Directress Conferences 8:00-2:00	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Spring Camp 8:30-4:00	28 Spring Camp 8:30-4:00	29 Spring Camp 8:30-4:00	30 Spring Camp 8:30-4:00	31 Spring Camp 8:30-4:00	

**We appreciate grandparents and special persons for visiting us last week.**

## Spring Camp at FMS

FMS Spring Camp 2017 is offered from March 27 – 31. Ms. Renee will be working with Primary and Elementary children, Mrs. Johnson and Ms. Lisa will be working with children younger than 3 years of age. Children will learn more about nature and create arts and crafts using natural materials.

**Child should attend minimum 3 days of the week. Lunch will be included for all children if signed up by Wednesday March 15, 2017.**

Half Day – 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM **\$175 per week**

Full Day – 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM **\$225 per week**

Please RSVP for Spring Camp using [ClassNotes](#) if your child is attending or email at [flossmoormontessorischool@yahoo.com](mailto:flossmoormontessorischool@yahoo.com)



## FMS Art Show and Auction

Sunday, March 5 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM



The Art Show is coming up on **Sunday March 5, 2017**. This will be a chance for you to bid on and purchase your child's art projects, as well as participate in art projects that day. We are also looking for donations of auction items. We have some music classes and gift baskets available. If you have any art, crafts, or local gift certificates or gift baskets to donate, we would be very appreciative.

Ms. Lauren and many parent volunteers have been working on planning the event. Please call the office or email to make your contribution of art supplies, gift certificates or services.



Guitar donated by Dynamic music and Mr. Dominic our guitar teacher



Children's art

## Young Toddlers News

Lessons of Grace and Courtesy start at very young age. Children have been learning about helping each other and waiting for their turn. Being away from home itself is a big task that they are mastering!

Maya joined us last week after she turned 15 months. Now we have two younger siblings of Primary children. They sure take pride in being older sister checking on the younger ones. This week we have one more sibling coming to visit our room and may join our group from next week.

This group will not have Parent-directress conference on March 16 & 17 like other parents. I will contact each parent to discuss time to visit with your child and spend time in their environment. – Bansari Modi

## News From The 2s

February flew by in our class. We all enjoyed making Valentines to send home. The children had their feet painted and got a foot bath, it was a wonderful sensory experience while creating art. Thank you to those who were able to make it to Parent's Night, the children really enjoyed showing off their classroom and their skills. Thank you also to the Grandparents for coming and joining us for the morning on Grandparents day. We also sent Chandler off in style for her Bridging Ceremony to the Primary Classroom, we will all miss her!

We have been enjoying the warmer weather and have been able to spend more time outside. We now have a bird feeder outside the window and the children enjoy watching the squirrels, who have taken to it more than the birds.

Happy Early Spring! - Ms. Lauren

## Primary News

Welcome to our new student Chandler. She bridged from Pre-Primary to Primary Level on Grandparents Day after visiting our classroom for several days. We look forward to taking her on to the next level of her learning, socializing and exploring.

Math, language and geography "big work" is all over the classroom now. Big addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are teamwork pursuits and part of the "golden bead" (decimal system) set of lessons. Those who are doing it are learning the functions with 4 category numbers which is then refined in materials that move from concrete to abstract on the shelves of the advanced math area.

Now that we have so many good readers in the classroom the teachers hardly ever must help with reading a puzzling word or guiding a child who is struggling with identifying a language card in one of the many categories. It is a joy to experience the children guiding each other and taking responsibility for the activities in their environment. Language work will now take a turn into grammar, and for the very advanced child, spelling. Grammar is fun after all and just keeps advancing in the Elementary Level.

The sensorial work has expanded into labeling now. Words like parallelogram, triangular pyramid, quadrilateral, and quatrefoil are seen as younger children walk about the environment. This shape work becomes part of volume and fraction work later. Other words in the environment include words like sweet, sour, bitter, salty, loud, soft, primary colors,



secondary colors, dark, light, shading, warm, cool etc. as rotated sensorial materials introduce concepts associated with the 5 senses.

Thank you to all for your participation in Parent Night and Grandparents Day. It was a delight to see you, meet family members and watch the children glow as they shared their accomplishments.

As the weather turns nicer some physical restlessness will set in so we hope all of our children can play outside at home as well as at school! The more time spent in nature (and off technology) at this age the better. This helps focus and concentration when and where it is needed. Snow pant season may be over! They have been sent home and we won't need them again unless we get a snowstorm or two! Boot season may be over soon as well. One never knows for sure in February so we will keep them around for a while yet.

Remember to come visit any time you can spare to sit for a bit and see the workings of our classroom. It is so interesting and full of Montessori Moments at this time of year.

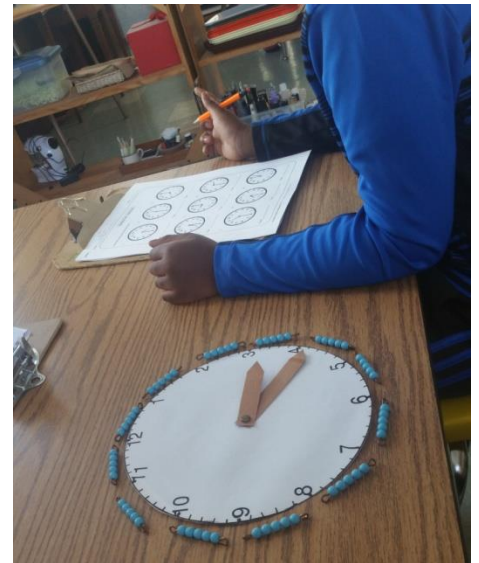
See you at the Art Show.

## Elementary News

It's almost March, and we're officially getting into the groove of things. Our students are now largely independent, and need lesser adult intervention.

Our older children are working on leadership skills, grace and courtesy and making steps in academic progress. Our younger children are finding ways to challenge themselves.

In the month of February, our older children went on a trip to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. It was a fascinating experience; we marveled at the décor and the music.



We learned to appreciate Beethoven, Stravinsky and other courageous composers of their time. We also learned about “Klangfarbenmelodie”, a German word meaning sound-color-melody. It refers to a technique in which a melodic line is passed around various instruments or combinations over the course of its duration. It sounds magical!

We're hoping to make more field trips to the city. Chicago has so much to offer, and I'm constantly on the lookout for more such opportunities. Our next big trip is to the Art Institute, which will be sometime in March. Dates TBD.



We're also fortunate to have had Dr. Hung from Prairie State College come to our class and talk about compost, and showed us real annelid specimens. We're also looking forward to meeting Dr. Cotch, who will be joining us on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to talk about "Dreams", a poem by Langdon Hughes. I thank Mr. Andy Schott for creating a channel of between FMS and Prairie State, and giving us a chance to meet awesome professors like that.



Join us for presentation on Black History Month by our Elementary children on Tuesday, February 28 from 10:00 to 11:00 am.

## News from Our Spanish Instructor

Our Spanish students have moved on to learning verbs! It has quickly become a favorite as they can often act out the words.

The pre-primary class continues to work on learning new songs and exploring money.

The primary students have added 3 more Spanish songs to their ever growing repertoire. They have also started lessons on currency and counting.

The Elementary students are now conjugating verbs ending in ER sounds. Also they have enjoyed lessons on currency which are now including adding and subtracting using real life scenarios. We are also working on counting to \$100 and memorizing patterns to make it easier to remember.

-Doña Alexandra

We will be going on a field trip to Shedd Aquarium in April and planning to have a Spirit week as it was very popular amongst children and staff. Please use the order form to order FMS paraphernalia, orders are due by March 17.

