

The Spencer House Montessori News

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2006

SCHOOL NEWS

School Expansion Update

We have a preliminary meeting with the city this Friday the 17th, and a final appearance before the Planning and Zoning committee on April 4th. At that meeting the city will vote on allowing us to proceed with the project. Unfortunately our side of the road is not yet zoned commercial, so we have to go through a special exception process and deal with other code issues that we would not have to otherwise. Things are looking ok so far, but be ready to march on city hall if need be! :)

We are fully enrolled for next year in the main building, but still have spots on our waiting list for the new building.

Fundraising update

As promised here is what we purchased for the school with the fundraising money:

- One new table and chairs for Preprimary
- A new swing set for the small playground
- A new shelving and storage unit for the Beginners class (coming).
- Three folding tables for Primary

Thank you to all the families that pitched in and helped raise the money!

Mom Is Going to Love This, Part Two!

Just a reminder that we have started the Monday lunches with Harvest Thyme sandwiches. Order forms are available Tuesday through Friday by the sign-out sheets in the classrooms. We are also exploring offering a Wednesday lunch, most likely "Uncrustables" PBJ sandwiches, a side and a drink. We will have details about that very soon.

Our Poor Website!

Our website, often neglected in the past, has been getting a lot of love lately. Check it out for news, past issues of this newsletter, staf-



This was supposed to be a picture of the website, but isn't a cute kid with a bunny much better?

bios, classroom tours, and more.

It will be getting a much needed redesign in the coming months and we will be adding classroom specific areas that parents can access for school calendars and information on class activities. You can visit the site at:

www.spencerhousemontessori.com

CLASS NOTES

Infants

"Babbles from the Babies"

This is the month of LOVE and we love taking care of babies! What fun we're having watching them grow and learn.

Ethan is doing well sitting up and is grasping and holding on to toys. We are so excited to see Easton crawling! He is on the move! Summer is starting to cruise and is sitting at the table eating stars and bananas. Alyssa is fitting right in and enjoying her new friends. She is a happy girl! She'll be cruising soon.

Conner and Molly are very playful these days and are loving the playground. Savannah has taken 5 steps and we are proud! She always has a bright smile to share.

We wish you a good month full of happiness and love. Please read your Daily Sheet and don't forget your monthly box of facial tissue. It's the season...

Ms. Vicki, Ms. Betsy,
and Ms. Tammy

To receive this newsletter by email, or to send comments:
KEVENMAC@HOTMAIL.COM

To contact Office Manager
Cheryl Russell email:
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Preprimary

Beginners

Hi there parents! We'd like to welcome our new friend Riley to our classroom. She has adjusted well to our class and loves our fun schedule. We've been working on singing our ABC's counting to 10, and learning our colors. It seems that this month everyone has been saying a lot of words and really learning talk. Our favorite part of the day other than snack is when we dance. We have even started learning some of the words and we often times hold each other's hands and start to boogey! We have had Tyler with us for a few weeks now and he is really starting to have some fun. His favorite thing is definitely being on the swing outside! Matthew has been very talkative with his new friends and really enjoys playing with the cars and trucks.

Please don't forget to bring in snacks, tissue, and paper towels for the class as we are always running out of these items. We have water days and sand days throughout the month so remember to not dress your children in their good clothes on these days. If you need an extra monthly calendar see us and we will get you one right away.

Ms. Shayna, Ms. Shara,
and Ms. Lindsey



Puppet show fun!

It has been an exciting month in the Preprimary class!

Our 3 and 4 year-olds enjoyed a puppet show with Elvis Otter on water conservation on February 9th by Nancy Kenton "The Puppet Lady".

On February 14th our class celebrated Valentine's Day with special treats, valentine's activities such as heart push pin, painting with pink and red and trays of red shaving cream to play in:) Thank you so much to all of you for your participation. The children had so much fun!

On February 16th we took our second field trip to the Alachua Library for story hour which was a huge success. Thanks so much to Carol Schooler for helping to chaperone our walk to the Library.

Next week we are going to begin to send home a basket for the children to collect "letter of the week objects" at home. The basket will be sent home on a Friday and should come back on the following Monday for circle time discussion.

We are also going to be sending home our class "Dora" doll each Friday for one family to journal their "adventures" each weekend.

As always, thank you so much for your continued support!

Ms. Rebecca, Ms. Radha, Ms. Monica, Ms. Sarah, and Ms. Kathleen

Primary

The Primary class has finished their weather unit. The class recorded the temperatures daily. The K-1 students learned how to graph their observations. We also studied, observed, and discussed the different types of clouds. The VPK made a cloud poster of the three main types. We are now studying nutrition and the food pyramid, and will be talking about dental health as well. We hope to follow our nutrition unit with field trip to Hitchcock's grocery store where we will go on a scavenger hunt and observe the produce and deli departments. We will be using healthy clues to find items in the pyramid, the five-a-day three veggies and two fruits.

Last month the students enjoyed a puppet show presented by Nancy Kenton and Alachua County Waste Management. The main topic was Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

Parents, please check around your homes for any school folders. Several students have not returned theirs and we are in very short supply right now. Ms. Carol needs the K-1 students to be at school by 8:30 and we ask that parents who wish to visit observe their child's class please check-in with the office prior to signing their child in.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the turtle vet bill which reached \$190. They are all better now!

Ms. Roberta, Ms. Alice,
and Ms. Carol

Important Dates

Monday, February 20th

President's Day - No School

Tuesday, February 21st

Picture Day!

April 3rd - April 7

Spring Break and Spring Break Camp