

# The Spencer House Montessori News

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Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2006

## SCHOOL NEWS

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### Important Dates

Welcome to the New Year! This is a very busy time of year here at the school, and we need to remind you about some very important dates. Early enrollment for the 2006-2007 school year ends January 31st. Beginning February 1st we will open enrollment to the public. With the new building coming, there will be a lot of new families signing up, so please don't put off getting your child enrolled and lose your spot at the school! Also, the deadline for enrolling for Spring Camp (April 3rd-April 7th) is Friday, February 24th. The deadline for enrolling in Summer Camp (May 31st-August 4th) is Friday, March 31st. You should find enrollment forms for both camps in your child's folder.

### A Big Year!

If all goes as planned, 2006 is going to be a big year in our school's history. The new building is proceeding on schedule with no major roadblocks from the city or the bank (knock on wood!). The two-story building is scheduled to receive a new roof in late February, at which time we intend to start fixing up the exterior as well. One of Mr. Keven's pet projects is to fence the entire campus

with a nice ornamental fence. Besides the obvious increase in security, it will greatly enhance the appearance of the school. Look for this to happen after the new building is in.

In the last newsletter, we mistakenly reported that we had raised \$1400 with the fundraising. That was the actual amount of sales, of which the school will get to keep \$700 to spend on furniture. We will be getting that new furniture ordered in the next couple of weeks and will give an update on it in the next newsletter.

### Mom Is Going to Love This!

One of the most common requests we receive from parents is to add more food days like our Pizza Fridays to the week. We are happy to announce that we will soon be able to offer a nutritious lunch on Mondays from Harvest Time Cafe here in Alachua. There will be four different sandwich choices, including a vegetarian option, that will come with a choice of pasta or chips. Parents will need to fill out a supplied order form each week and return it with payment no later than the preceding Friday. We will begin this on Monday, February 6th. Information and order forms will be placed in the children's folders next week. If this is a success, we will look to add more food days in the near future.

## CLASS NOTES

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### Infants

*"Babbles from the Babies"*

The holidays are over and we are in a brand new year! We hope all of you had a wonderful holiday and are ready for good things to come.

Ethan is sitting by himself now but topples over and just starts rolling...he's a happy boy! Easton is sitting well and is starting to crawl. He is so excited when he can reach out and get what he wants for himself. He loves to be "standing up!" Summer is now standing but the trick is "getting down." She has alot to say and big smiles for all of us.

Conner and Molly have been experimenting with new foods for lunch. They both love bananas so we try and keep them on hand. Savannah is catching up fast and is standing by herself. She'll be taking off soon.

We welcomed Alyssa McKnight to our group and she's doing well. She is standing and starting to "cruise." She's even colored a pretty picture and its hanging on the wall.

We ask you please to check your Daily Sheet each day to see if your child needs something for the next day. Thank you! As always it's our pleasure taking care of your children!

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

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To receive this newsletter by email, drop us a line at  
[KEVENMAC@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:KEVENMAC@HOTMAIL.COM)

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## Pre-Primary

## Primary

### Beginners

Welcome to the New Year here in the Beginners class at the Spencer House! I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our new friends Zach and Matt. Zach has quickly made the adjustment to school and always brings his Buzz Lightyear to play with us. Matt has enjoyed playing with us on the playground, focusing most of his time on the slide and the cars.

At the beginning of each month you will receive a calendar which shows you what we will work on each day. We do a lot of art projects, including painting and coloring. This is a fun way of developing motor skills. We take time to dance each day and go over our ABC's and 123's. We will start planning on "water days" where we will get to play with boats and bubbles in water and "sand days" where we will get to play in the sand and build things. We will mark this in the calendar so you will know not to dress your child in their nice clothes that day.

I'd also like to thank the parents for pitching in and bringing snacks, tissues, and paper towels. This helps us tremendously.

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



*Lunch time is the best time –  
for making a mess!*

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful winter break.

During December we enjoyed our first trip to the Alachua Branch Library for story hour. We would like to thank Nikko's parents for coming along and helping us get to the library safely.

We are excited about our new pet turtle "Boots". All of the children are helping to feed and care for both our turtle and our fish named "Goldie".

By now you should have all received your child's first semester progress reports. If you have not yet received a copy or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the office to arrange a conference.

We would like to welcome Weston and Colin to our 2 year old group this semester. They both have settled into the routine nicely in the "big kid" class. We would also like to wish Meredith a happy transition into the Primary class this month. We will miss her contributions to our morning circle but we will look forward to seeing her on the playground!

Thanks to you all for your continued support!

Ms. Rebecca, Ms. Radha, Ms. Monica

During December we enjoyed many art activities as we prepared for our holiday celebrations. We especially liked our trip to the Alachua Library for a special holiday music sing-a-long.

This past week we have enjoyed learning about Martin Luther King Jr. and are learning a poem named "Rainbow Song" that was written in his honor.

We have also been studying the weather and are recording daily temperatures and reading stories such as "The Hurricane" during circle time. We are planning to go to the library on Thursday, February 10th from 10:15 to 11:30. If any parent would like to volunteer, please let us know.

We have started a Turtle Fund collection for our class turtles. The male has a bad case of pneumonia and has to have an antibiotic shot every 2 days for 5 to 10 visits at \$25 a shot. He has had 2 shots and is showing signs of improvement. The children enjoy watching them and are concerned about their health.

Thanks for all your help and participation. It is greatly appreciated.

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

## Important Dates

Tuesday, January 31st	2006-2007 early enrollment deadline
Monday, February 6th	Spring class and individual portraits
Friday, February 10th	Valentine's Sleepover - (sign-up in office)
Monday, February 20th	President's Day - No School
Friday, February 24th	Spring Break Camp enrollment deadline
April 3rd - April 7	Spring Break and Spring Break Camp