

June Newsletter

Dear Parents,

A year ago in June who would ever have imagined we would have a year ahead as we have. Now this June has arrived, and it seems difficult to believe that another school year is once again coming to a close. We are continuing to work hard though, and will until the very end to squeeze all we can out of each day.

This ending-time finds the children excited to move up to new levels, for example in Math, and realize their mastery of Math in varying areas. They are experiencing times when their beloved Montessori materials do not always need to be in their hands because they are able to walk through calculations in their minds, now with full understanding. They have also discovered how math can indeed be immersed in words in math stories, and you can still understand what the adding, subtracting, and multiplying are all about. As one student recently wrote to me, "This is so easy now and fun!" 3rds have added experiences in some completely new areas, like seeing how fractions work. In Language, the children see their Journals coming back to them with my comment "Only a few to fix!" Most importantly for this age group, there is the discovery that the "end days" are so much easier than the beginning ones. That sense of accomplishment is such a valuable part of the learning process.

We do have some big projects started last month which are now coming to their final finish. Our 3-week Botany observation-of-a-plant project is being put together with a summary "reflection" report on how they view the bigger picture of what they saw and drew. Their poetry project is having the final "bits" (literally) put onto an art collage depicting the beautiful words of Christina Rossetti.

Our path ahead in June will have 3rds exploring a new side of fractions. In a very few days they will also be making that long awaited transition to writing only in cursive! (I cannot adequately express to you how excited they get each time they are preparing one of their final sheets of words and a sentence to present to you, showing they have mastered yet another letter!) Thirds will also take a fast plunge into the world of Pronouns. June weeks will be a very busy time. It is also, though, a very sensitive time for the 3rds, as they realize their days, and years, at Montessori Children's House are coming to an end. Do not be surprised when you see them being perhaps a little extra sensitive or emotional these days, and perhaps not acting as they normally do. I see it happen every year. It's a bridge they must cross, and a hand they can hold to cross it may be an important need for them.

A special note to parents of 3rd Years: We are planning to have a small, late afternoon graduation ceremony for the 3rd Yr. class sometime in July when we can be sure it will be safe to be together. It will be held at our MCH site. We will be giving you more details about this in the next couple of weeks.

Amira and I cannot thank all of you parents enough for the energy and effort you have put in from your side during the seemingly never-ending challenges of this school year. We could not have done what we have without the support from all of you. We are so very grateful. For all of you who are returning, we look forward to a new school year ahead when we can all be truly together again. And for those who are moving on to your new schools, we wish your children all the best in their new environments, and a happy and productive new year of learning and discovery. Please stay in touch and come for a visit some time. It always means so much to all of us at MCH to be able to stay connected to our MCH families. May you and all your family have the kind of summer you have been hoping for all these many months!

Most Sincerely,
Mary Anne and Amira

Calendar:

Tues June 2 to Fri June 11

Lands' End Uniform Sale!

Lots to choose from and in great condition

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. M-F (except on Tues 6/8, 9-12 only)

Thurs June 24

Last Day of School

Fri June 25

Materials Return Day

Bring all materials loaned to your child during this year to MCH, Bldg 5, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.