

Mission Statement: "To create a community environment that fosters children's social, ethical and intellectual development."

DECEMBER 2009

It's that time of year again. After such a busy fall flu season it's hard to think that things can get busier but they are!

We certainly are fortunate to be involved in such a community of learning & caring. Where people come together to get through the lean times as well as celebrate the good times. We are very thankful that Miss Bonnie is back with us after a rather sudden and lengthy medical leave - we sure missed her.

We thank you, our families, for your continued support and we wish you the best for this holiday season. Enjoy your time with your children and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.



BOARD BUSINESS

The next meeting of the board will be December 7th at 7pm all parents are encouraged to attend!

*Your child - Your choice -
Your school - Your voice!*

If you wish to contact the board directly email:

board@meadowmontessori.ca

The virtue for December is JOYFULNESS

Joyfulness is being filled with happiness. It is a peaceful sense of well being. It comes from an appreciation for the gifts each day brings. Joy is the inner sense that can carry us through the hard times even when we are feeling very sad.

Why practice joyfulness?

Without inner joy, all our feelings are determined by what is happening to us. Without joyfulness, when the fun stops, our happiness stops. If we are joyful, down deep we stay calm and serene.

How do you practice it?

Joyfulness is looking forward to your day, knowing it will be good. Whatever you are doing, do it with a joyful heart. When sad things happen, let the sadness come and then let it go. Find the gift in what is happening - is this a way to become stronger? Enjoy your life!

(Reference: The Virtues Project Educators Guide, Linda K. Popov)

"Joy is an inside job."

~Don Blanding



All fundraisers and book forms (see inside) due
Friday December 11th

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Christmas Concert &
Last day of school
before holidays:
Friday, December 18th

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Christmas Break
December 21st -
January 1st, 2010

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First Day of Classes
2010
MONDAY, January 4th



Happy Birthday!

Greetings for December

Preschool - Atticus, Kaitlyn
& Daphne

Elementary - Jessica
Please Remember...



Our school is a
NUT-FREE ZONE

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Preschool Update

The excitement is building for the winter concert as the children have been practising their singing. During the next couple of weeks we will be exploring another festival of lights the Jewish celebration of *Hanukkah*. We are also continuing to learn all about our senses in the classroom.

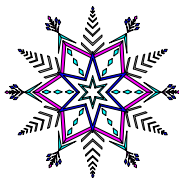


Thank you to Kim & Jeannine for cooking with the kids this past month - the brownies were delectable!

Friendly Reminders...

Please dress the children in *layers*. Teachers often take advantage of good weather to enjoy the fresh air at the local park. Also, remember our classroom is in an older heritage building - not the warmest! Often a t-shirt just isn't enough for the little ones.

NEW! The teachers can be reached directly via email at:
teacher@meadowmontessori.ca



Elementary Update

Busy as little elves the children have been creating gifts to give and decorations for our Christmas tree in downtown Maple Ridge. Check out our tree in front of the Act when you're in the area shopping or seeing Santa at the parade on Friday!

The Elementary students and teachers would like to extend a warm thank you to Jill, our Board secretary AKA



Summer's mom, for teaching gym class over the past few weeks. Thank you for volunteering your time it was a great help.



The **sign-up sheet** for concert goodies is posted on the bulletin board. Sandwiches, Samosas and other types of finger food are very popular - almost as much as the sweets! This year we have a small committee from the board who have volunteered to set-up and clean up. Please contact Kristine in the office if you would like to be added to the list of helpers.



Our WINTER CONCERT



will be held on:

Friday, December 18th

The **Elementary & Kindergarten** children will be performing in **BOTH** morning and afternoon concerts - you are encouraged to attend either one or even both!

Bring your camera!

ALL MORNING
PRESCHOOL AND
ALL ELEMENTARY &
KINDERGARTEN

CHILDREN should arrive at **9:45 AM**

The morning concert begins at 10:00 AM and will finish approximately at 11:00 AM, please stay awhile to enjoy goodies and visiting in the gymnasium.

The Elementary children will stay for lunch.

The **AFTERNOON**
PRESCHOOL CHILDREN should arrive at **12:45 PM.**

The **afternoon concert** begins at 1:00 pm and will finish approximately at 2:00 pm, at which time **ALL** children will be dismissed for their Christmas Holidays. Please stay awhile to enjoy goodies and visiting in the gymnasium.

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For this holiday season we have **2** fundraisers...



Holiday Meat & Appetizer Fundraiser

Forms are coming home and need to be back by **Friday December 11th**. Items need to be picked up at the store **Wednesday December 16th between noon & 7 PM.**

Picture Cookbook

Our other fundraiser makes a wonderful gift for young & old alike. The **Picture Cookbook** is the only Cookbook on the market with detailed step-by-step picture

instructions for each recipe. Please



see the attached form and return to the school with your payment by **December 11th** so we can place our order. **We need to sell 28 books in order to participate in the fundraiser.** Once we reach 28 orders we will pick up the books and have them ready to go home before Christmas.



Purdy's this year was record-breaking! Thank you for participating, we raised over \$400!

Items will be delivered December 4th; we should have it all sorted and ready to go home on Monday December 7th.

Thank you Thank you Thank you!

Remember, we are a Non-Profit Society and your support positively affects our classrooms.

We appreciate your participation in our fundraising initiatives.



We are sending home the December's **Scholastic** order forms. Please remember to make cheques payable to Scholastic.

Orders are DUE Friday December 11th



SNOW POLICY

If School District #42 is closed, Meadow Montessori is closed also.

Listen to CKNW or News 1130 in the morning, the decision is usually made by about 7 AM.



Important Bulletin

Last year we surveyed parents regarding changing to a balanced calendar and we had quite a positive response. Before we move forward with this, we wanted to *ensure* we have input from *every* family attending our school this year. **In order to make sure there is a complete understanding of the balanced calendar year we are holding a parent information meeting on Monday, Dec 14th at 7:00 PM at the school.** As well a very important information package & survey will be sent out next week so you have the information prior to the meeting. It is *crucial* that we have input from *every* family so that the board can make a decision for the whole school. **Please ensure your survey is returned before the winter break.**

