

FEBRUARY 2009

Believe it or not, *Spring* is just around the corner! Some flower bulbs are even beginning to peek out of the ground! In the classrooms though, the children have been flowering for quite some time now. The teachers - much like master gardeners - have been tending their lessons and our children have been responding beautifully by learning and growing every day.



BOARD BUSINESS

The next meeting of the board will be February 16th at 7pm. Most meetings end by 9pm; we have non-caffeinated hot tea going and often enjoy a few laughs as well as having true insight and input into the policies of our school. 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



NEWSLETTER

The virtue for February is
RESPECT

Respect is valuing our selves and others. We show respect by speaking and acting with courtesy. Respect includes honouring the rules of our family or school that makes life more orderly and peaceful. Most elders deserve respect because they have lived longer and learned many of life's lessons.

Why practice respect?

Respect helps people to feel valued. Without respect for rules we would have confusion and conflict. Peoples privacy and others rights could be violated.

How do you practice it?

Think of how you would like others to treat you and treat them with the same dignity. When practising respect, speak courteously to everyone and take special care of other people's belongings.

"There is a longing among all people to have a sense of purpose and worth. To satisfy that common longing in all of us, we must respect each other."

~ Chief Dan George

"When we show our respect for other living things, they respond with respect for us."

~ Arapaho Proverb



Pro-D Day / Open House
NO SCHOOL
Monday, February 9th

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Purdy's Orders Due
Thursday, March 5th

Keep reading for more information...

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Happy Birthday!
Greetings for February

Preschool: Chanelle
Dylan
Isabella
Jordyn
Noah
Sarah
Tristan

REMEMBER to SWIPE



SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL!

Preschool Update



A highlight of our study of transportation, traffic and safety this month is an exciting **Field Trip** to our local Fire Hall on:

Thursday, February 26th

Watch for permission and information forms to follow.

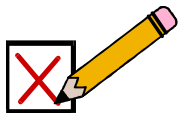


We also celebrate our friendships for Valentine's Day, if your child wishes to participate by sending valentines to school on Friday February 13th, please be sure that there is one for each child in the class. A class list is attached for your convenience.



Remember, if you are printing out the names for your child, please do not use all capital letters as they will be practising matching the names to the mailbags!

KRISTINA



Kristina



The Prepared Environment

The primary components of the Montessori prepared environment are the child, the physical surroundings and the teacher. The child's focus is mastery of his or her self and the environment.

The characteristics of the prepared environment include beauty, order, reality, simplicity and accessibility. The materials are aesthetically pleasing and geared to the child's size, needs and interest. Many of the materials have a built in control of error to allow the child to self-correct. Children enjoy repetition; this is how they perfect a skill. They also love order and when a child knows where everything is he becomes confident and comfortable. The prepared environment meets the developmental needs of the children. It is structured so the child can become more independent from the adult, a place where they can do things for themselves.

Purdy's

Fundraiser

Yes, it's time again to be thinking about helping out the Easter Bunny with his shopping list - **Easter is April 12th!** Check out the attached Purdy's Brochure and get your **orders in by March 5th for fresh delivery on March 25th.** Get the best *Canadian* chocolates and support your school at the same time! Please note: If each family were to spend a minimum of \$15 we would be able to fill an order that will get us a hefty 25% return!



Don't forget about the **Open House on Monday, February 9th!** It is open to all of you, our current parents, as well as the public, so please feel free to bring along friends and/or family. You will have an opportunity to view a special video of preschool and elementary 'moments', as well as projects from both classrooms, which will be displayed in the gym. The students are very proud of their accomplishments and they look forward to showing you their work. You can attend between:

2:00 - 3:30 PM

&

6:30 - 7:30 PM

See you there!

Also...if you are willing to pin up signs advertising this event or have some people that you would like to give a flyer to... pop into the office and pick some up!

