

Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy

News & Views

December 2019

A Better School of Thought



“The child, making use of all that he finds around him, shapes himself for the future.”

-Dr. Maria Montessori

Important Dates

December 1-31 Tinsel Tour Tree Lighting (Clinton River Waterfront)
*Check out our school tree!

December 2: Winter Party Sign-Up Sheets Posted

December 2: Pajama drive ends.

December 4: Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy Mitten Tree Begins

December 12: Ugly Holiday Sweater Day

December 13: Cocoa & Cookies Craft & Vendor Show (6:00 – 8:00pm)

December 13: January Hot Lunch Forms Due

December 19: Preschool Winter Parties

December 20: Preschool – No School

December 20: Elementary Winter Classroom Parties

December 20: Early Dismissal (11:30am) No Daycare available after dismissal.

December 23: No School - Winter Recess Begins through January 5th

December 31: NYE Kids Night at the Museum (More Information call 586-469-4168)

January 6: Classes Resume

Director's News

Dear Friends and Family of MTCMA:

On behalf of the staff at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy I would like to thank all parents who attended our Parent Teacher Conferences in November. As educators we value your commitment to your child's learning. Due to your ongoing and consistent support we enter the holiday season with a deep sense of gratitude for our family and community at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy. Our school community continues to grow as a caring, warm and positive environment where all students are nurtured and challenged to excel.

As a staff, we are very thankful for the gift of being able to be a part of your child's education. Every child takes a different path on their journey, and we enjoy the opportunity to guide the child on that path. A crucial part of that journey is the partnership between the child, teacher and parent. This includes providing opportunities, excellent attendance, and being rested and prepared for the school day. Through this partnership we can help every child achieve success to their furthest potential.

Lastly, we are very excited that our Parent Guild is organizing and hosting a new event "Cocoa & Cookies Craft & Vendor Show on Friday, December 13, 2019 from 6:00pm-8:00pm in the School Gym. Please join us for this fun new event!

Wishing you all the very best of this season and a wonderful and prosperous 2020! Thank you for letting us be a part of your family.

Sincerely,

Casey Rakowski
Principal



Bundle Up and Let It Snow!

The children will be going outside daily weather permitting. Recess for all students will be **outside** as long as the wind-chill is above 10 degrees and the playground is dry. Dress your child in layers of play clothes that may be easily removed if your child gets too warm. Do not forget to send a warm jacket, snow pants, boots, hats, gloves, and a scarf during cold weather. Remember to label all garments of clothing for easier identification. A reminder that a signed note from your child's pediatrician is required for students to remain inside during recess.

Special Thank You...

- ★ To the MTCMA Parent Guild Board and all that attend the monthly meetings. They are working hard to prepare for the upcoming annual school dance and many more exciting events.
- ★ To all of our parents for attending Parent Teacher Conferences. We had an excellent turnout! Great job!
- ★ To all the parents who volunteer to "pop" popcorn every week. The children and teachers enjoy this tasty treat.
- ★ To all of the parents who helped at Fall Parties; attending their child's classroom and participating in activities as well as donating special treats.
- ★ To our Student Council Representatives for organizing the food drive and pajama drive to benefit those less fortunate in our community.
- ★ To many of our families for donating food items and pajamas.
- ★ To Mrs. Gordon for maintaining our school's recycling efforts each week.

Elementary Re-Enrollment

Elementary Re-Enrollment will be upon us in January. Re-Enrollment packets for current students and eligible siblings will be sent home on Friday, **January 13, 2020**. Elementary Re-Enrollment takes place from **January 10th through January 27th**. It is important that the completed **Application and Child Information Record** (Emergency Card) be returned by **January 27th** to secure and guarantee your child's placement at the Academy for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Open Enrollment for students new to our Academy begins on **February 3rd**. We will be hosting an Open House on **Saturday, February 8th** from 10:00am-12:00pm for new families interested in the high quality Montessori education offered at MTCMA.

Preschool Enrollment will take place starting later in March. Information regarding re-enrollment for Preschool will go home in late February.

We are asking for your help in spreading the word about our upcoming Open House and the Open Enrollment period.

Ham & Cheese Winter Crackers – Healthy and Fun Treat

This makes a nice easy recipe for kids to put together themselves too – a fun activity to do on a snowy winter day!

Ingredients

- 10 small savory crackers (I used Ritz)
- 2 ham slices
- 2 cheddar cheese slices

Instructions

1. Lay out the crackers on a plate or platter.
2. Using a circle cutter the same size or slightly smaller than the crackers, cut out rounds of ham and pop one on top of each cracker. I used the crinkle side of the cutter to make them a little more decorative.
3. Cut shapes from the cheese using festive themed mini cutters (I used snowflakes, stars, gingerbread men and snowmen) and pop them on top of the ham.
4. Serve immediately and enjoy!



School Closing Information

Please make sure you sign-up for our electronic newsletter and school closing information at www.mtclemensmontessori.com. Please click on "Sign-Up For Newsletters and School Closing Alerts" on the top left side of the homepage.

In addition to those email alerts, you can also check TV Channel 2, 4, and 7 and WJR AM for School Closings. Please look for "Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy" to be listed. Furthermore School Closing announcements and information are posted on the school Facebook page and via the Remind Texting App (text the message @mtclemensm to the number 81010, or text @mtclemensm to (331) 208-5790.).



Brightening the Holidays

Our “Mitten Tree”, an annual holiday event and tradition at MTCMA is sponsored by our Student Council. Each year the holiday festivities are organized by the Student Council and also involve all of the families at MTCMA. The tree will be ready for its decorations beginning December 4. Please bring in a new hat, scarf and/or mittens to help beautify our tree near the Office and contribute to the *Lighthouse Outreach Center*. The Student Council and all of the students at MTCMA are also collecting non-perishable food items which may be placed under the **Mitten Tree**.

Also, a special “thank you” to all of our families and students for their contributions to the Student Council food drive held in November. Our school collected a large amount of food that was donated to the *Fraser Goodfellows* for distribution to less fortunate families in our County. Our Student Council and their leader’s Ms. Fickert and Mrs. McNeil did a tremendous job in organizing and implementing the food drive. Thank you to Ms. Beth for distributing the collected food items to the location selected.

Our thanks once again to Ms. Fickert and Mrs. McNeil for taking the time out of their busy day to help organize these Student Council activities. The passion and caring attitude towards the community which both teachers share with all of us serves as a role model for our students and staff.

Holiday Fun In Metro Detroit

- **December 7:** Noel Night, Detroit Cultural Center
- **December 8:** Downtown Rochester, Christmas Parade (2:00pm-5:00pm)
- **December 14:** Ferndale Holiday Ice Festival, Downtown Ferndale
- **Throughout the month:** Detroit Zoo Wild Lights, every evening *advance tickets required*. (5:30pm-9:00pm)
- **December 22:** Menorah In The D, Campus Martius Park, Downtown Detroit (5:00pm)
- **Throughout the month:** Wayne County Lightfest, Hines Drive in Westland off Merriman Road.
- **Throughout the winter:** Warren City Square Ice Skating Rink; *fees apply*.
- **Throughout the winter:** Detroit Campus Martius Park Ice Skating, Downtown Detroit; *fees apply*.
- **Throughout the month:** Greenfield Village Holiday Nights

Winter Snow Day Activities

Make some fun snow paint with the kids using only 2 ingredients!! The kids have a blast making designs and decorating the snow in the winter time.

- Liquid food coloring
- Cold water
- Squeeze bottles



Directions:

1. Take the lids off your squeeze bottles and squeeze several drops of each food coloring in a different bottle.
2. Carefully fill up with cold water, not too fast it will bubble over.
3. Tightly place the lids back on and wipe down the bottles.
4. Carefully take the tops off and use to paint in the snow.

Lost and Found

Please make sure to label all of your child’s winter clothing. This helps to make sure that any missing items can be returned.

Furthermore, please check the lost and found table outside the Music Room to make sure your child is not missing any of their items.



Parent Guild

Bridget Goudelock
President

Vacant
Vice President

Stephanie Dinco
Secretary

Laura Warren
Treasurer

Nicole Renaud
Communications

Visit the Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy
Parent Guild **Facebook Page** to connect with
MTCMA families.



A Better School of Thought.

1070 Hampton • Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Phone
(586) 465-5545

Fax
(586) 465-2283

E-mail
school@mtclemensmontessori.com

Website
www.mtclemensmontessori.com

