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# MCHL NEWS

Montessori Children's House of Loudoun

March 2017

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## PARENTS OF RISING KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN

Please join us on Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, in the MCHL Gym (9:00 or 5:00) for a special presentation regarding our Kindergarten program and its importance in the academic life of your child. We will have a slide presentation to show you some of the work the kindergarten children do in a Montessori setting. In addition, kindergarten teachers will be available for a question and answer session to help you make an informed decision about your child's kindergarten year.

Kindergarten at MCHL is an exciting year for children. Students remain with their mixed-age classmates in the morning hours, 8:30 – 12:00. During this time, each kindergarten child is encouraged to complete an appropriate math and language activity. Kindergarten is the year for the “Montessori explosion”, when children blossom in all academic areas and demonstrate their independence and self-confidence.

After 11:30, the Kindergarten students are combined into two groups, and each group is team taught by two Montessori teachers. These afternoon classes are designed to prepare the children for the transition into First grade. Every day, during MCHL Kindergarten time, the children focus on one educational concept, whether it is in Math, Language, Science, Geography or Social Studies. The teacher presents the lesson and the children then follow up with a related activity. Children work at their own skill level and the teachers monitor to make sure that everyone has understood the lesson. Additional work and individual instruction are part of this process.

MCHL Kindergarten students also work with the specialist teachers every day. They have Music and Spanish twice a week. Art and Computer class are also woven into the curriculum. Kindergartners take three or four field trips throughout the year and have special in-house educational opportunities.

Children who leave MCHL after Kindergarten are confident, well prepared, and ready for the challenges of a new school. Please consider MCHL for your child's Kindergarten year.

## A NOTE FROM MCHL DIRECTORS

Spring is *almost* here. It is March and there is anticipation for sunny days, no coats, and nature's rebirth. Yet, for the teachers at MCHL, it is a bittersweet time. As we look forward to the new faces that will join MCHL, we are faced with saying good-bye to our 33 graduating kindergartners.

All of us at MCHL call this the “Montessori Explosion”. Suddenly, at age 5 or 6, the child's exploration of his Montessori environment, his manipulation of the materials, his interactions with teachers and peers reach fruition. For the kindergartner, there is this moment of “Aha! I know how to do things. I can do things by myself.” Math concepts become clear, letters become words to read, and friendships become important. Children learn to work within a group, sharing information and ideas, and they realize that they are part of a larger community, in a world of similarities, as well as differences. All of this is the magic of your child's kindergarten year at MCHL. Parents, thank you for believing in the Montessori philosophy and allowing your child to complete the cycle.

We are also offering a summer program for the Class of 2017. Please stop by for more information,

MCHL Directors

IMPORTANT DATES	
March 1	Rising Kindergarten Program
March 6	Re-Enrollment Contracts Due
March 21	Kindergarten Field Trip The Kennedy Center “To Sail Around The Sun”
March 23 & 24	Picture Days
March 23	MCHL Spirit Night @Chuck E. Cheese
March 28	KD Puppets
April 24	Kindergarten Field Trip George Mason University “Charlotte's Web”

## OFFICE NEWS



**Our Tax I.D. Number is 54-1748774.** If you need a tuition receipt for tax purposes, please email Hope Luongo at [hope@mchl.org](mailto:hope@mchl.org).



Please update the office with any changes to your email address/home/work/cell phone numbers. It is imperative that we are able to reach you in the event of an emergency.











Thank you for calling the office to report when your child is ill. It is helpful for other families to know what symptoms to look for if their child is not feeling well.



The handicap parking spots should only be used by cars displaying a valid handicap ID.

## SPRING IS IN THE AIR

The first day of Spring is March 20<sup>th</sup>. Here are a few basic reminders:

-  Check the weather report daily.
-  Fresh air is healthy for children.
-  Please "layer" your child's clothing.
-  Update your child's change of clothes in their cubby for the warm spring weather.
-  If your daughter wears a skirt or dress to school, please have them wear shorts underneath.
-  Remember to put your child's name on clothing, lunch bags, etc.
-  Please send your children to school with appropriate and safe shoes. No flip flops, please.
-  Please sanitize your child's lunch box on a regular basis.



## KINDERGARTEN FIELD TRIP



On Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, the MCHL Class of 2017 will visit The Kennedy Center.

The children will attend a National Symphony Orchestra's performance titled **"To Sail Around the Sun"**. Concerts for children introduce young students to musical instruments. They feature small ensembles of National Symphony Orchestra musicians playing short musical pieces.

We are leaving MCHL at 9:00 on a chartered bus, along with parent volunteers and teachers. The children will eat an early snack and have lunch when they return at approximately 12:30.

We would like to sincerely thank and acknowledge the MCHL PTA for making this trip possible for our Kindergartners each year.

## MCHL PTA



Did you know the MCHL PTA offers additional ways to raise money for our school? MCHL participates in "Box Tops for Education". Check your groceries for the label that says "Box Tops for Education". The emblem is displayed above. Please cut them out and send them to school. Each label is worth 10 ¢. Every penny counts!



## KD PUPPETS

On Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, KD Puppets return to MCHL for 2 performances. They will see "No Bones About It" and "Jack and the Beanstalk".



"No Bones About It"



"Jack And The Beanstalk"

# Picture Days

(We will start promptly at 8:30 a.m.!)

## Thursday, March 23

Room 4

Room 8

Kindergarten

(Ms. Nilsa, Ms. Carrie)

Room 9

Room 10

Room 1

Room 2

Class of 2017

## Friday, March 24

Room 12

Room 11

Room 3

Room 6

Room 7

Kindergarten

(Ms. Lindsey, Ms. Silbiger)

MCHL Staff



*Wear your best smile!!!!!!!!!!!!!!*



## PARENT EDUCATION RESOURCES

Parents often ask the teachers at MCHL for a recommendation for parenting classes. One local resource is Family Compass. They offer interactive parenting workshops as well as coaching and consultation. Some of the topics discussed in the parent workshops include positive discipline, calm parenting, sleep issues, self-esteem and potty training. Family Compass will update their website on March 1<sup>st</sup> providing dates/times for workshops. For more information, please visit:

<http://familycompass.com/>

*March winds  
and April showers  
bring forth May flowers.*