

Montessori Matters

Week of February 6, 2017 • www.msasc.org • (864) 226-5344



Dates to Remember :

Feb. 9

Talent Show at 6:30 PM at the Anderson County Library

Feb. 11

Archery Tournament

Feb. 13-17

Jump Rope for Heart

Feb. 14

Grandparent/Special Persons Day

Feb. 16

UEL Poetry Night

Feb. 18

Mock Trial Regional Competition

Feb. 20

Presidents Day Holiday Extended Day Available

Feb. 23

PSAT for 10th Grade

Feb. 24-25

HS presents Bocon at Clemson Little Theatre

From the Head of School

Stuff your eyes with wonder. See the world. It's more fantastic than any dream made or paid for in factories.
-Ray Bradbury

One of the joys of my work here at MSA is telling our story to anyone who will listen, because I believe that the Montessori method is transformative not only for our students, but also for those of us who work with them!

This week's edition of *Montessori Matters* features students from across our campus engaging in personally transformative experiences that emanate from the classroom. In past issues, I've written about how crucial "Pedagogy of Place" and "Going Out" field experiences are to the academic and social development of the 'Whole Child'.

In truth, "Going Out" and exploring the environment outside the Montessori classroom is an opportunity that many Montessorians take for granted. With budget cuts and teachers worried about time away from the classroom, which can impact their ability to fulfill state-mandated curriculum goals, many public schools aren't organizing field trips any more – a very, very sad reality, indeed.

Here at MSA, we view these experiences through the eyes of the child. It's our duty to make sure that they can experience all there is while they are still full of awe and wonder. Going Out activities are an important part of children in the second and third planes of development, especially. These experiences might involve taking a one-day trip to an art gallery (my personal favorite when I taught high school English here!), attending an afternoon concert by a local symphony, spending the day doing volunteer work, or going on a multi-day camping trip.

When you're perusing these photographs, know that these experiences are as valuable to the kids as what they are encountering in their classrooms – learning happens everywhere!



Our group of happy 6th grade volunteers poses with Miss Delores, food line supervisor, at Meals on Wheels.

Yours in Montessori Education,
Vance

MSA High School Students participate in Harvard Model UN

Our HS students participated in the Harvard Model United Nations Conference in Boston. They spent the first few days experiencing the rich history and culture with a walk on the Freedom Trail, The Boston Symphony, lunch at the Union Oyster House (the oldest continuously operating restaurant in the United States), the Holocaust Exhibit and, of course, a Boston Celtics game. They also had the opportunity to visit the campuses of MIT and Harvard.

Then our students participated with about 2,000 students from thirty countries at Harvard University's Model United Nations Conference. This event, organized by Harvard Students, is one of the most prestigious Model UN conferences in the world. Students represented various countries and served on various committees to imitate the actual workings of the United Nations. They struggled with issues like women's rights, the colonization of space, terrorism and the environment. They wrote position papers and proposals, they negotiated and made alliances. They made friends who will probably someday be world leaders - It was an incredible experience and our students rose to the occasion.



DNA Lab at Clemson University

The 9th and 10th grade Biology class went to the Clemson DNA Learning Center, where they had the opportunity to isolate their own DNA using cheek cells and analyzed whether they had a gene to taste a bitter substance.



High School College Tours

While 15 of our students were in Boston - the others were traveling around the southeast visiting various colleges. Ms. Kelly put together this summary of their exciting week:

Seven colleges and universities, four days, two states, and over 15 miles of walking made for an awesome week! We toured Clemson University, Southern Wesleyan University, Presbyterian College, Newberry College, Davidson College, Winthrop University, and Furman University. At each school, students had the opportunity to meet admissions counselors and receive guided tours from current students. Our students had the opportunity to discover the "must haves" and "deal breakers" they were looking for in a college, as they explored a variety of campuses throughout the week.

"This opportunity has alleviated the stresses of college for me. The trip supplied me with a great base for starting my college hunt. Not only did we learn a lot about colleges, we learned about each other; our interests and our worries. On this tour to our future, we were able to become closer than before." -Lydia, 9th Grade

"This trip challenged me to look wider as to what college was truly for me." -Aaron, 10th Grade

"Being able to experience college life so early in the searching process really opened my eyes to things I didn't realize I wanted in a college until now. Being exposed to campus life really gave us insight on what college will be like in a couple years. I think it is crucial that all kids planning to college get a head start and begin touring now. It really does broaden your options." -Julia, 10th Grade

"Over the week I gained a lot of knowledge about college and what to expect when applying."
-Keegan, 11th Grade



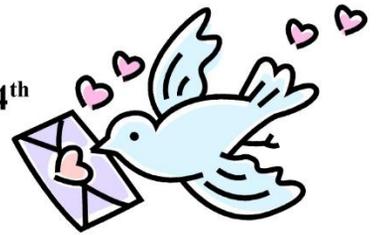
Community Service

Fourth graders gather to make valentines for a community service project! What a creative and enthusiastic group of students!



Fourth graders visit Morningside Assisted Living to decorate their windows for Valentines Day. They greeted the residents with smiles, grace and courtesy. They had a great time and look forward to another visit soon!

Order Today!!!
Singing Valentines
To be delivered on Tuesday, February 14th
 Fundraiser for the Drama Department



Package 1 – LOVE

- Song “L-O-V-E” (Nat King Cole)
- Poem
- Valentine Candy
- Valentine Card

Package 2 – You Are My Sunshine

- Song “You Are My Sunshine”
- Poem
- Valentine Candy
- Valentine Card

Package 3 – Sunshine

- Song “Sunshine, Rainbows & Lollipops”
- Poem
- Valentine Candy
- Valentine Card

Package 4 – Falling In Love

- Song “Can’t Help Falling in Love”
- Poem
- Valentine Candy
- Valentine Card

Package 5 – Eight Days A Week

- Song “Eight Days A Week”
- Poem
- Valentine Candy
- Valentine Card

Perfect for...

- your child or grandchild
 - a friend or sweetheart at work
 - grandparents
- a special teacher
 - a classmate
 - a neighbor

Personalized Packages

- you may personalize your package by adding a personal sentiment to be read out loud or delivered in a sealed envelope (see order form for instructions)

Order Form (deadline to order is Sunday, February 12th)

To: _____

From _____ **Phone # of Sender:** _____

Delivery address: _____

Package number: _____

Personal Sentiment: Yes No Please include sentiment below or in an attached sealed envelope

To: _____

From _____ Phone # of Sender: _____

Delivery address: _____

Package number: _____

Personal Sentiment: Yes No Please include sentiment below or in an attached sealed envelope

To: _____

From _____ Phone # of Sender: _____

Delivery address: _____

Package number: _____

Personal Sentiment: Yes No Please include sentiment below or in an attached sealed envelope

To: _____

From _____ Phone # of Sender: _____

Delivery address: _____

Package number: _____

Personal Sentiment: Yes No Please include sentiment below or in an attached sealed envelope

On campus delivery (\$5.00)

Off campus delivery (\$15.00)

(Within 15 mile radius)

Number ordered: _____ Total: _____

Number ordered: _____ Total: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: Montessori School of Anderson