

# The Montessorian

AMS Newsletter



April 2011



## Camp Monty at AMS

We are excited to offer our new Summer Camp programs at Camp Monty. Camp begins on Monday, July 4th and will finish up on Friday, August 19th. Camp Monty is a dynamic summer day camp program offering children 18 months to 14 years a broad variety of engaging, experiential activities. Each adventure camp offers a weekly theme, such as Big Top Circus, Safari Adventure, Mad About Science, and more. New this year for our campers 3 years and older, is the Red Cross certified swimming instruction at the nearby Aurora Leisure Centre during 4 focus weeks in July and August. Camp registration forms are available on our website, or pick one up at the office.



## Notable Montessorians

Some famous people who attended Montessori school as children:

Jeff Bezos, financial analyst, founder, AMAZON.COM  
Larry Page and Sergey Brin, Cofounders of GOOGLE.COM  
T. Berry Brazelton, noted pediatrician and author  
Julia Child, famous chef, star of many TV cooking shows and author of numerous cookbooks  
Katherine Graham, owner/editor of the Washington Post  
Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis, editor, former first lady (John F. Kennedy)  
Prince William and Prince Harry, English royal family  
Anne Frank, famous diarist from world war II  
Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Nobel Prize winner for Literature

## Community Involvement

AMS would like to congratulate Mrs. Black's Grade 4 class for raising \$75 during their cookbook sale in March. Each grade 4 student participated by donating a recipe of their choice and compiling these into an original cookbook. The \$75 raised was given to "Welcome Table of Aurora", an organization that helps feed the needy in Aurora. Well done, Grade 4's!

## From The Library

☺ The MS-Read-A-Thon was a success! Close to \$4,000 was raised. Students were rewarded for their reading efforts with various prizes sent by the MS Society. The big prize was more money for MS research!

☺ The Spring Scholastic Book Fair ran from April 11-15. A great big thank you to all the wonderful parent volunteers who helped run the fair. Your continued support is truly appreciated.

☺ All overdue books from last term must be returned. If a book is lost, a replacement book may be purchased or payment can be remitted directly to the library. Please see Mrs. Kadey if you have any questions.

## Upcoming Events

CAT Testing Week: May 9 – 13  
Public Open House: May 10 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Dress Down Day: May 19  
P.A. Day: May 20  
Victoria Day Holiday: May 23  
Tea With The Principals: May 24 9:00 am

## Reminders

Please note that the Elementary after school clubs finish at 4:45 pm. Please plan to pick up your child at that time. The After School rooms are at maximum capacity and it can be difficult to supervise extra students who are picked up late.

Please be sure your child dresses for the weather! Spring showers and wet playgrounds mean that every child should have splash pants and boots, and a change of clothes in their locker.

## Elementary News

### Senior Students' News

The Grade 7/8 classes were very busy this month with speeches, internships, and hosting a "Meet and Greet" with a fellow school.

Each student completed a speech on a topic of their choosing. Topics ranged from Classic Rock, to "The Group of Seven", to the love of family and friends. Mr. Rossiter would like to congratulate all students on their hard work. Well done!

During the week of April 18th, the Grade 7/8 class was busy in internships either on or off campus. The Grade 7's completed their internships in the Toddler and Casa classrooms, while the Grade 8's were off campus at local businesses. These experiences included placements in a veterinary office, a dental practice, a yoga studio, a radio station, a riding stable, and manufacturing companies. All of the Grade 7/8's enjoyed their week and had a wonderful learning experience!

And finally, the Grade 8 class hosted a get-together with the Montessori Country School of Nobleton. These students will be joining our AMS Grade 8's on their graduation trip to Ottawa and Kingston. By all accounts the students from Montessori Country School were very gracious and had a great time here at AMS.

### Earth Day

Earth Day was acknowledged in each classroom through many activities. The Grade 3/4 classrooms created "Earth Rocks", rocks with inspirational and conservation messages, while the 5/6's placed mulch along the path through the forest. Through murals, rocks, and commitment posters, each student took some time to reflect on their impact on the environment and the world as a whole. So many great ideas were discussed, from conserving water in the shower and when we brush our teeth, to alternative ways to travel around the world and here at home.

Students from Room 122 have been learning about such topics as climate change, green energy, water and air pollution. Students worked on collaborating their ideas to come up with posters to help promote and create awareness of the affects that these topics have on our environment. All the students of AMS should be commended for their efforts.

### Math Competition

On April 20th, thirty-one AMS Grade 3/4 students took part in a provincial math competition hosted by Brock University. The Caribou Mathematics Competition is an online contest that is held six times throughout the school year. The contest is open to any student in grades 3-8 in Ontario. The test is broken into grade levels 3/4, 5/6 and 7/8. The questions were quite challenging, but our students persevered and should be extremely proud of themselves. Great effort!

## Casa News

### Spring Concert

Congratulations to all of the Casa students for their memorable performances! Each class presented excerpts from their "Favourite Family Musicals". It was fantastic. All the weeks of practice, preparing costumes and creating dance routines have paid off! The children were so excited and proud to share these accomplishments with family and friends! A huge thank you to the staff, parents and senior elementary students who dedicated so much of their time and efforts into making this such a successful event!

### Grade Seven Internship

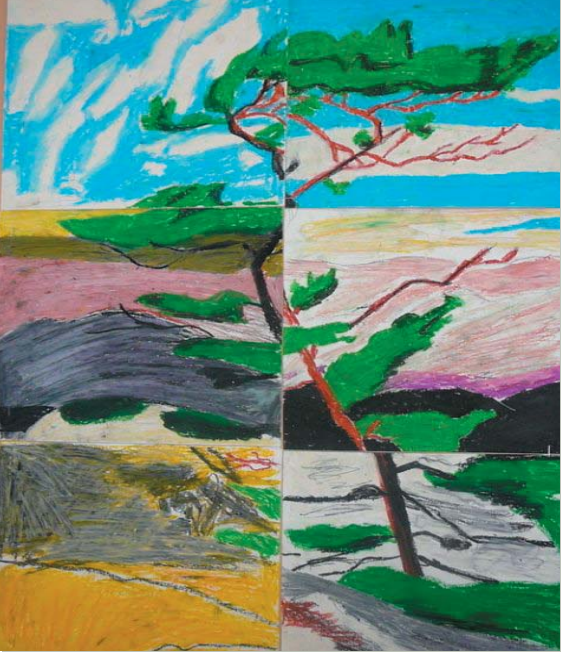
The Casa classes were happy to have a Grade 7 student become full-time assistants for a week. They participated in circle activities, craft projects, reading and recess fun. It was a great opportunity for the young leaders and we are so thankful for their involvement!

### Trip to the Maple Sugar Bush

On March 30 and 31, the Casa classes visited Willowgrove Farm Outdoor Education Centre for their Maple Syrup Program. The children enjoyed not only the bus ride to the farm, but also a tractor pulled wagon ride through the bush. They learned all about the process of making maple syrup, from tasting the sap dripping from the tree to enjoying a sample of the final product – the sweet maple syrup that we pour on our pancakes. It was a delicious and a very fun-filled morning.

### Spring Has Sprung!

The weather is finally getting a little warmer and we are certainly having lots of April showers! It is time to replace those winter snow boots and pants with some rubber boots and splash pants. Please be sure that all items are labeled.





## Toddler Tales

“Spring has Sprung!”, and the Toddlers have welcomed it with learning, laughter and lots of fresh air. The warmer weather and melting of the snow has uncovered our outdoor environments. The birds have returned and the Toddlers are enjoying their impromptu nature lessons while walking and exploring the beautiful school grounds. Please remember to send appropriate outdoor clothing for recess time. Splash pants and rubber boots help keep our little ones clean and dry even when the ground is wet and muddy, and light layers help with the constantly changing temperatures.

We have been learning about many cultures and celebrations such as April Fool’s Day, Easter, Norooz, Passover and Earth Day. We encourage everyone, even the Toddlers, to do their part in keeping our world clean and trying to not be wasteful. A few things to try at home with your children...

- \* Turn the tap off while brushing your teeth.
- \* Turn the lights off when you leave a room.
- \* Place uneaten food in the compost.
- \* Place empty, clean jars, bottles and boxes in the recycle box.
- \* Place garbage in a proper can, not on the ground.

If we all do our part, we can keep our world beautiful so that all living things may enjoy it. We also continue with our Montessori Lessons, in the Grace and Courtesy, Botany, Zoology, Science, Sensorial, Practical Life, Mathematics, Geometry and Language areas.

A reminder that our world is changing and growing all around us this Spring and so are our children. Please remember to keep checking to be sure that your child’s spare clothes still fit. Happy Spring!

## Aurora Legion Poster and Literary Contest

The Aurora Legion held a Remembrance Day poster and literary contest and several of our students participated. Congratulations to all for some wonderful work. Of special note is: Anna DeJong, who place 3rd in Branch Junior Level, Gabrielle Middleton, who place 1st in the Branch Intermediate Level, and a special recognition to Meghan Torisawa who at the Primary level placed first in Branch, first in Zone, first in District and is now waiting for the final results from the Provincial Level. Congratulations!

## AMS Sports Team Results

The AMS U-14 girls ball hockey team came 2nd to Richmond Hill in a shootout! Congratulations!

On May 3rd, the Badminton U-14 Team, Kevin Kim and Matthew Fong, will compete in the Boys doubles finals.

Emily Perkovic and Kyrie Faderbauer, and Gabby Eekhoff and Jordan Streb also advance to the Badminton doubles finals in their category.

Natasha Ramsinghani will compete in the Badminton singles finals. Good luck to all!

## Montessori is Preparation for Life

A sincere thank you goes to Nicole Middleton, Grade 1–2 teacher at AMS, for producing a wonderful view of students’ life in the Elementary Montessori program. This work can be seen in the main lobby at AMS. Please take a moment to enjoy it!

