



— EST. 1979 —

MAPLETON MONTESSORI SCHOOL

46th Year, No. 7 • February 2025

SHORT & SWEET!

February 14: Valentine's Day Family Meet-Up 3:00 – 4:00 (see article below)

February 17: Presidents' Day. MMS closed.

Our FEIN: 84-0797756 Please remember to keep your tuition slips; we don't do any year-end tax prep.

THANKS!

On Tuesday we were down four teachers, two of whom were out for the week. With a small staff like ours, and subs few and far between, it could have been a real problem. But, with our awesome staff and two good subs, we made it through the week in good form! I want to thank Helen and Natalie for jumping in to cover different shifts and Linda for helping to keep the whole shifting staffing picture from going off the rails! THANK YOU!

SCREENTIME ARTICLE

Beatrix shared an interesting article from National Geographic: Kids are losing fine motor skills – and screens might be to blame. It states: "Time spent on screens—whether phones, tablets, eBooks, or TV—all adds up to time kids aren't crafting, drawing, and building. While learning math or creating digital art can be educational, it doesn't develop the fine motor control that comes from writing, cutting, or coloring." Also noted was doing fine motor activities helps to develop focus and the ability to follow directions (and, I would add, the development of concentration along with hand-eye coordination.) Of course this is nothing new for Montessorians who have been providing "prepared environments" (Montessori classrooms) filled with fine (and gross) motor activities for 150 years! The article was taken from Apple News (which requires a subscription) but Beatrix was able to copy it into an email which I'll send out.

SUMMER SHIRTS

This summer we'll be adding a great new item for our campers; a long-sleeved MMS rashguard swim shirt which our campers will wear on swim days. In years past, when we went to the YMCA, we usually had the swim area to ourselves. At the Louisville Rec Center there were often other groups of children, and once our campers took off their bright yellow camp tees and jumped in the splash park, they looked like all the other kids! This was especially challenging for new staff members. The new swim shirts will give us a way of being able to quickly identify our students when they're at the pool; these shirts, unlike our bright yellow camp tees, won't come off!

REMINDERS

Teacher Phone Line 303 449 4445: leave any info that your child's teacher needs to know. Messages on the office line don't get delivered to teachers if I'm not there.

Lost & Found should be checked on a fairly regular basis; all things not claimed or labeled will be donated. The next major clean-out/donation will be just before Spring Break.

VALENTINE'S DAY

At MMS we celebrate Valentine's Day with a few of our own traditions. First, instead of sending in a plethora of individual cards, each child will be able to choose a paper heart to take home to decorate and bring back to adorn the classroom! This could be a great family project or your child may want to go it alone. The decorated hearts will hang in the classrooms for all to enjoy! Then on Friday we'll have our Valentine Day Family Meet-Up from 3:00 – 4:00. We'll have hot chocolate and a snack made by each class so BYOM (Bring Your Own Mug) and join us for chocolate & chats! And don't worry if you're in aftercare – we'll have plenty saved for later pick-ups!

HAPPY
Valentine's Day

Let's celebrate Valentine's Day!

Join us for a cup of hot cocoa
and a Valentine treat
made by the children

When: Friday, Feb 14, of course!

Time: 3:00 – 4:00

Where: our playground

BYOM: Bring Your Own Mugs
for you and your child

