The adolescent must never be treated as a child, for that is a stage of life that he has surpassed. It is better to treat an adolescent as if she had greater value than she actually shows than as if he had less and let him feel that his merits and self-respect are disregarded.

— Maria Montessori

Calendar

**Thursdays until April at 2:30 pm:** Elementary Game Day: All elementary students are welcome in the Elementary I classroom.

**Saturday, March 24th:** Big Night Out, our largest annual fundraiser! Tickets for sale in the office - **only 1 week away!**

**Thursday, April 5th:** Special Visiting Day - 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Primary 1 Classroom  
- Miss Cristina and Miss Rebecca

On Monday the class took a nature walk down to the beach. We really enjoyed the beautiful day.

After this strong storm and our playground full of snow, the children had a great time playing in it. We do go outside every day that is not raining. Please send your children to school with snow pants, gloves, and hats, as well as their coats and boots during the cold weather. Outside time is essential to all children. After a morning inside with their quiet, concentrated work, it is important for them to have unstructured, physically active play time.

Staying on the subject of winter clothing, we must consider the child’s ability to dress him or herself. Part of the Montessori philosophy is that each child increases their independence and care for themselves. Please support your child by teaching them about the intricacies of putting on boots, gloves, coats, etc. instead of doing it for him or her. This may take a little extra time each morning, but you would be surprised how well each of them does when you are not here. Please try to include clothes for your child that are easy for him or her to maneuver.

Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed.  
- Maria Montessori
Primary 2 Classroom
- Miss Chris and Miss Holly

What a wacky, windy, and wintery week we had this week. Having two days off due to the weather has thrown everyone for a little loop. I hope everyone stayed safe and warm during the blizzard.

The children were very excited to be able to play in the snow during recess and created "snow" games. Many snow cakes and pies were made, sticks were gathered to make a fire in the playhouse for when the power went out, and many trails were created with the shovels for the children to follow.

This week, the skating and baking programs began. The older children in our class had their first ice skating lesson at the MV Arena. They learned how to fall safely, how to get themselves back up, and how to march across the ice. It seemed to me that the children had more fun falling than trying to skate. It looked like so much fun, and everyone really enjoyed themselves. When we returned to school, the children that did not go skating had a delicious treat waiting for us. Miss Holly and the children had baked scrumptious chocolate chip cookies. Each child had a part in measuring out the ingredients, mixing the dough, and spooning the dough onto the baking sheet. The aroma of the freshly baked cookies made our mouths water the minute we walked in the door. I can't wait to see what they will make next week!

The children have been learning the names of pieces of money. On banking days, the children count out their dollars and coins that they bring each week. Many children know the names: penny, nickel, dime, quarter, and dollar. They are beginning to associate the quantity that each coin represents to the actual coin. This is a great math lesson and can be practiced at home before banking days.

Elementary I Classroom
- Miss Nora

This week Elementary I students started
with physical science, learning about the power of the sun’s perpendicular rays and how they are hotter than slanted oblique rays. Our use of AM and PM comes from the position of the sun, known as the meridian. Celebrating famous women in history month we read a book about the amazing Helen Keller, Sacagawea and Harriet Tubman. Last week at our library visit Emery checked out a book on the Revolutionary War. Everyone was interested in the Declaration of Independence. We talked about the origin of the declaration and then watched some School House Rock. We explored the cause of the revolution, the Boston tea party, constitution, preamble, three parts of government, how a bill becomes a law and the electoral college.

Elementary II Classroom
- Miss Irene

This week, a group of us is attending the Montessori Model United Nations (MMUN) Conference in New York City. The MMUN is an educational simulation of the United Nations General Assembly for upper elementary and middle schools around the world. Student "delegates" role-play as ambassadors of UN member states in hopes of resolving real-world conflicts with their own resolutions.

The students have spent the last three months preparing for this event. They researched the country that they are representing at the conference, they wrote position papers on their topics, and worked on 1.5 minute speeches that they are delivering here. They have also written resolutions and prepared display boards about their countries. This has been a wonderful experience for them.
Middle School

- Miss Ty

This has been a quiet week in the Middle School/Upper Elementary classrooms at Camp Jabberwocky, our “Greenwood Campus”. On Monday, five of the eight students were already gone to New York, to get an advance taste of that city before the Montessori Model United Nations began. The three remaining students, Monty, and I used the time to explore our island.

We went to Fulling Mill Brook Land bank property first. This property is a wonderful walk through the woods over a really beautiful babbling brook. There are plenty of hills and rocks to scramble up and many wooden walkways and bridges. One rock looks just like a huge, stone whale rising out of the soil! "Benjamin Skiffe bought one-hundred acres of land along the brook in 1694 to build a mill for fulling cloths; his house was east of the brook, and the mill was not far from his house and could be seen from South Road. Fulling is the process of cleaning the oils and grease from wool with a hydrated aluminum magnesium silicate called Fuller’s Earth in order to clean, shrink, and thicken it: It is then pounded into heavy, water-resistant felt that is cut for cloth.” (Martha’s Vineyard Land Bank Commission.)

While we were up-Island in Chilmark, we decided to go to Lucy Vincent Beach to see the effect of the recent storms on that beautiful beach. The clay cliffs are definitely eroding. The students had a fantastic time examining all the new configurations!

Late Day
- Miss Weezie and Miss Cristina

Our shortened week did not allow for some planned arts and crafts. We did, however, make lucky shamrock necklaces and sang a song called, *I'm a Little Shamrock* (to the tune of *I'm a Little Teapot*).

Emory Fullin read to the group on Monday. Students were very attentive and enjoyed a “Step into Reading” version of *Frozen*. Other book selections this week included *This is Not My Hat* and *The Dog Who Cried Wolf*.

Fun on the snowy playground continues to be a source of delight for our students. One group made a snowman complete with arms and hands!

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**Recommended Reading**
"There's No Such Thing as the Real World" by Peter Piche in Montessori Parent
[Read article here.](#)

**Book Corner for Parents**
"Yardsticks: Children in the Classroom Ages 4-14" by Chip Wood
"The Six Stages of Parenthood" by Ellen Galinsky

**Book Corner for Children**
"What Do You Do With An Idea?" by Kobi Yamada

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*Fostering a lifetime love of learning, one child at a time.*