TOMORROW IS THE BIG NIGHT OUT

See you at 7 PM at the Harbor View Hotel!

A huge thank you to all our sponsors and donors!
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Calendar

**Next Thursday the 29th at 2:30 pm:** The last Elementary Game Day! All elementary students are welcome in the Elementary I classroom.

**It's finally here! Saturday, March 24th:** Big Night Out, our largest annual fundraiser! Tickets for sale at the door.

**Thursday, April 5th:** Special Visiting Day - 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

**Monday, April 16th - Friday, April 20th:** School closed-Spring Recess.

**Saturday, April 28th:** Family Yard Day

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**Primary 1 Classroom**

- **Miss Cristina and Miss Rebecca**

Happy first week of "spring"! Our class cannot wait to have sunny and warmer days. We love and miss working outdoors and walking to the beach.

This week was busy. We had the first skating class on Tuesday, music together was on Wednesday, and gardening on Thursday.

The children were very excited to start skating this week. Thank you so much to our volunteers for driving and also for helping to set up the car seats and tying the skates for the students. We could not do this without volunteers. The children had a great time practicing at the rink. Their first lesson was learning how to get up from the ice when they fall, which is very often for first-time skaters.
skaters! This lesson is done on the rubber mats outside the rink and then the students get to practice on the ice.

When we returned to the school, the entire building smelled like a bakery. Ms. Rebecca and the younger students baked oatmeal cookies with sprinkles. They were so yummy!

This week, I presented the water forms lesson. In Montessori education, land and water forms typically include island and lake, peninsula and gulf, cape and bay, the system of lakes and archipelago, and isthmus and strait. There are pre-formed shapes that can be chosen and then explored with water, plastic forms, and a tiny boat.

I hope I get to see you all at the Big Night Out (our biggest fundraiser of the school year) this Saturday night at 7:00 pm at the Harbor View!

Primary 2 Classroom - Miss Chris and Miss Holly

The children have been creating their watercolor paintings, which will be matted and framed then sold at our fundraiser, The Big Night Out. After the children finished their paintings, we held an art show where each child named their painting and displayed it for the other children to see and comment on. Each child received a round of applause for their hard work. I am looking forward to revealing the finished work on Saturday night. Don't miss the opportunity to purchase your child's work of art at the Big Night Out.
Miss Holly helped the younger children create some delicious banana muffins for a special snack this week while the older children were at skating. The children are learning some new vocabulary in the process, such as sifting, leveling, measuring, and folding ingredients. The aroma of the treats baking fills the school and tempts us as we walk back in from skating.

This week at skating, the children seemed more confident and eager to be on their own on the ice. They practiced falling down and getting back up, marching up and down the ice, and maintaining bubble space around themselves while on the ice.

Miss Ava continued her unit on seeds by having the children make seed necklaces. Each child placed a wet cotton ball and a couple of seeds into a small plastic bag. The children punched a hole at the top and threaded some yarn through to create a necklace. Miss Ava explained to the children that a seed needs moisture and warmth in order to sprout so by wearing the necklace, the seed would get warmth from the child's body.

Elementary I Classroom
- Miss Nora

This week, we finished our work on the Sun and Earth and are moving into the seasons. We looked at perpendicular and oblique rays of the sun and the way they are absorbed by a sphere. The rays must come through layers of air to reach the earth. Some heat is absorbed by this air. The oblique rays have so much air to pass through that by the time they reach Earth, they have lost much of that heat. The vertical rays...
carry more heat because they pass through less air. The regions between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn’s rays will never fall perpendicular so will always remain hot.

Skating this week was fabulous. Good news! Beth has kindly offered us classes through the first week in April. Everyone loves skating day and has made huge improvements.

We planted our starter seeds, which we will put into the greenhouse until the weather breaks. We planted 56 rainbow chard and rainbow beet seeds and two dozen husk cherries.

We shook our math facts up a bit this week by learning the card game 21/Black Jack. This led into some other games. Good sportsmanship is a very important part of life. It is very interesting to see how each student responds to the ups and downs of a game.

Elementary II
Classroom
- Miss Irene

The Upper Elementary students had a great time and worked very hard at the MMUN Conference last week. As we debriefed after our return and recapped the highlights, I asked them what they enjoyed about the conference. As nervous as they were, most of them said that it was giving their speech.
Another highlight was meeting new friends. Students shared contact information to stay in touch. Some even had business cards made up to pass out to new friends. Arin and Connor were excited to be in the actual UN General Assembly, which was new for them this year. Social night with the DJ dance party was beyond words for most, and hearing new solutions to problems was exciting for others. They are looking forward to next year's conference!

Middle School
- Miss Ty

Matthew had a very exciting and successful field experience in New York City at the Montessori Model United Nations (MMUN). MMUN is a four-day event in NYC where students formulate, present, debate, and revise positions on current issues that are affecting people of the world. Matthew's and his partner's issues were the situation in Somalia and threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.

Matthew’s partner was Silas Stanek, a sixth-grader in Miss Irene’s class. The students assumed the perspectives of a UN Ambassador for Uruguay. Using research, creativity, and imagination, they collaboratively created resolutions to these pressing problems. They worked with middle school Montessori students from China, Russia, Brazil, Kazakhstan, and of course, the United States.

The students represented their countries in different UN Committees (based upon the actual UN Agenda Topics for the year) and had to cooperate with all the other students in the definition and drafting of resolutions to their global problems. At the end of the conference, Matthew was chosen to address the
entire assembly at the actual United Nations building. He presented the draft resolution and conducted the vote on turning the draft into an actual resolution.

Late Day
- Miss Weezie and Miss Cristina

We are once again preparing for a storm; however, its arrival appears to be somewhat delayed. Children and staff are still wearing hats, mittens, snow pants, and boots during our New England spring!

Our craft activities this week have focused on enhancing fine motor skills using colored pipe cleaners. Students created a variety of shapes and forms, including flowers, fish, bracelets, headbands, and bunnies. We also used kitchen colanders to weave pipe cleaners and yarn in and out of the holes. We are promoting dexterity and eye/hand co-ordination while enjoying the creative process.

Afternoon snack is followed by story time where students are now able to attend and listen to longer, more involved stories. They particularly enjoyed listening to the story of Philippe Petit who walked across a cable between the twin towers in New York City. The illustrations in this book also captured the students’ imaginations.
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

Vineyard Montessori School
286 Main St, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
vineyardmontessori.com
(508) 693-4090

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