"The love of ones environment is the secret of social evolution."

- Maria Montessori

Calendar

**Thursday, June 7th:** Last Banking Day

**Tuesday, June 12th:** Paperwork for next year is due back to the office

**Thursday, June 14th:** Last Day of School / Banking Awards / Field Day 10:30 - 1:00

**Friday, June 15th:** End-of-Year Ceremony 9:30 - 11:00 at the MVCMA Tabernacle in Oak Bluffs (all students & families attend)

Calling all Volunteers!
Last Day of School & Field Day - June 14

Field day is on our last day of school, Thursday, June 14! Students who normally leave at 12:00 should plan to stay until 1:00, and we will serve pizza, watermelon, popcorn, and popsicles. Please be sure to apply sunscreen before drop-off and send in a blanket for your child to sit on during lunch.

Can you lend a hand? Volunteers are needed from 10:30 - 1:00 to make field day possible! We will have an obstacle course, rock-climbing wall, bouncy house, an alpaca visit, crafts, face painting, bubbles, music, and lots of FUN! Sign up for a shift in the office.

End-of-Year Ceremony -
June 15

The End-of-Year Ceremony will be held at the Tabernacle on Friday, June 15th. All families attend, and students should be at the Tabernacle by 9:30. The ceremony will start at 10:00, followed by a short reception.

Monday Deadline for Middle School Two-Year Scholarship

VMS is pleased to announce the 2018 Rising Star Scholarship Program! This two-year scholarship is available to students entering 7th grade the fall of 2018. Our Middle School inspires students to pursue their interests while achieving academic and leadership excellence in a safe community setting. Any student entering 7th grade this fall is encouraged to apply for the scholarship, so please share this with your friends. Contact the office for full details and application information by emailing: admin@vineyardmontessori.com or by calling 508-693-4090. Application deadline is this Monday, June 4, 2018.

Annual Fund 2017-2018 Update

As with most independent schools, tuition alone does not cover all of VMS's expenses. Our Annual Fund provides the support needed to close the gap between tuition and costs of educating our students. Your tax-deductible donation to the Annual Fund has an immense and immediate impact on our programming.

Participation is most important! Each gift, no matter the size, makes a significant difference.

Click here to donate and help us fill the pink tower!

Middle School
- Miss Ty

Two members of next years’ middle school, Matthew Coggins and Silas Stanek, met with Miss Debbie to present a project they’ve been working on for a few months. Connor Graves,
another student, has also been helping with this idea. After researching how to write a business plan, they came up with a short, concise plan for a pizza service for the VMS community. Called “A Slice of Washington,” it will be a pizza lunch service for Wednesdays during the school year. Profits from the business will help fund a trip to Washington DC for June of 2019.

First the students had to identify the opportunity, or the problem they would address with the business, and then say how the business would solve the problem. They had to figure out their target market and their competition. After this, they listed all the steps in the execution of their plan. The company will offer a slice of Wolf’s Den pizza, a juice box, and a piece of fruit for $5. Students will advertise, gather the food (with the help of Miss Ty), deliver it, and help serve it on Wednesdays. They will keep track of all the expenses and income, and of course, the profit! Miss Debbie was supportive of this idea and is impressed with the entrepreneurial spirit of these young people! Please stay tuned for order forms next year!!!!

Elementary II Classroom
- Miss Irene

We only have one more week in our current location so the students have been reviewing much of their work from this year. They have been re-organizing, cleaning out lockers, and taking down some of their work from the walls. This has given them a chance to reflect on some of their hard work. I asked them about some of their favorite things that they enjoyed dong this year and their responses are below.

Marysol - I enjoyed the whaling project with Ann and Beth, Science, Spanish, and loved our new location.

Silas - Of course, playing basketball at recess. I think it was fun going to Thatcher Montessori School and getting to hang out with some other Montessori kids. I also enjoyed doing math with Miss Ty.

Gracie - I think that writing our own newspaper and visiting the Tisbury Printer was fun. I liked taking all the trips that we did and studying the Sumerians.

Carly - I loved doing the science experiments and participating in the energy fair in the fall. The animal cell project was fun, too.

Madeleine - I like the Montessori teachers. Building our forts and clearing the paths was enjoyable, and I liked the book Tiger Tiger.

Arin - Recess was awesome, of course, and I loved all of the science. My favorite books were Odysseus and The Golden Goblet.
Connor was out sick this week so we will have to get his input later.

Next week on Monday at 1:00pm, our students will be at the Morgan Learning Center answering questions about whaling and reading monologues of their whaling captains. All are welcome!

Elementary I Classroom
- Miss Nora

The Elementary I students began the week with a field trip to the U. S. Coast Guard Station in Menemsha. They got to board the small and large rescue boats and explore all of the caverns and mechanics of the big boat. They checked out all of the controls, and Emily got to blow the horn scaring her and the rest of us. It was really loud! They were reminded about water safety and learned about open water rescue.

After visiting the coast guard station, we headed down to the beach to have a picnic lunch and recess on the beach. When we returned, the students finished prepping the piñatas for our Spanish project with the Primary students.

Our garden is officially full, and the vegetables are growing strong. This week, we planted herbs in a pot and in various places in the garden. We will be harvesting chives, cilantro, dill, and oregano. Wednesday was our food gardening day, and Thursday was our flower gardening day. We planted violas and the children learned how to dead head plants so the blossoms don't turn to seed.

We have been taking advantage of the warm weather as much as possible. Any chance we get, we head outside for lessons, reading, or lunch!
As we near the end of this school year, I like to look back and see how much the children have grown. It is amazing to see that the children have come so far and to realize how each day has been a wonderful learning experience. The children have developed and strengthened in a number of aspects. They are more independent, observant, and expressive, and they are able to verbalize their thoughts and knowledge to their teachers and peers. They are comfortable with the school and the classroom rules. They are practicing positive socialization, making friends, and building lasting relationships. They have grown into thoughtful, critical thinkers and problem solvers capable of making good choices and working in a team as well as independently.
All of our enrichment activities will be ending soon. Music, dance, gardening, and banking have enhanced your child's school experience, and I would like to give a big thank you to Miss Joyce, Miss Jesse, Miss Ava, and Miss Rhiannon. All of these people have shared their time and talent with your child for which we are so grateful.

The children have been checking their work cubbies to find any unfinished work they may have so that they will be able to complete it before school ends. Many children choose to work on an activity for a period of time, but then they may take a break to choose another lesson or have a snack. The beauty of a Montessori classroom is that a child can choose to complete a longer lesson in one sitting or take a few days to re-visit the work for shorter periods of time. There is no adult pressure to get work done in a set amount of time; we let the child work at his own pace.

**Primary 1 Classroom**
- **Miss Cristina and Miss Rebecca**

The caterpillars have all formed chrysalises. The children are watching them carefully and are, of course, anticipating the metamorphosis! It is not as exciting as watching the caterpillars squirming around, but the children are patiently waiting. They are learning that these natural phenomena take time!

This week has been calm but very productive for most of the children. Language, math, geography, and also those wonderful practical life and sensorial exercises have all been used. I am so proud when I see the care and respect each child gives to the materials. Imagine all twenty children moving around the classroom – getting materials, working with friends, eating snacks, and reading books all at the same time. There are periods when the noise and activity level escalates – we call that “false fatigue”, but at most times, it normalizes back to a quiet work period.

"The task of the educator lies in seeing that the child does not confound good with immobility, and evil with activity, as often happens in old-time discipline . . . A room in which all the children move about usefully, intelligently, and voluntarily, without committing any rough or rude act, would seem to me a classroom very well disciplined indeed."

~ Maria Montessori, The Montessori Method
Late Day  
- Miss Weezie

We missed our art class on Monday due to the holiday, but we will resume it next week. In the meantime, we are enjoying the beautiful weather in which to play and explore. Students have formed fast friendships throughout the school year. Activities on our playground demonstrate growth in their self-confidence, joy in their own abilities, and awareness of their bodies in space. Pumping on the swings, climbing on the bars, and carrying heavy blocks all indicate strength and body organization.

Favorite books this week have included Summer Colors, Quick as a Cricket, and Friends. We often sing Make New Friends but Keep the Old. Students used problem-solving skills to talk about how friendships can have difficulties but how we can heal and maintain them peacefully.

Recommended Reading
"There's No Such Thing as the Real World" by Peter Piche in Montessori Parent
Read article here.

Book Corner for Parents
"Robot-Proof: Highler Education in the age of artificial intellegience" by Joseph Aoun

"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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An independent school serving PreK through Grade 8.
Fostering a lifetime love of learning, one child at a time.