

February Newsletter



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST!

Feb 6: School Portraits:

Miss Soumya's +
Miss Evelyn's Class

Feb 7: School Portraits:

Mr. Sanath's Class

Feb 14: St. Valentine's Day Card Exchange:

During morning circle

Feb 15: BCPO Meeting:

5:30-6:30PM

Feb 17: BCMS Closes Early @ 3PM for Staff Meeting

Feb 20: BCMS Closed for Presidents' Day

Feb 22: Onsite Fieldtrip Insect Discovery Lab:

During morning circle

February Healthy Lunch Menu

Monday

Mac n' Cheese served with broccoli

Tuesday

Cheese Quesadilla served with
refried beans and guacamole

Wednesday

Homemade Vegetable Soup

Thursday

Beef & Broccoli Stir Fry
served with rice

Friday

Mini Cheese Pizza served with
pineapple and ham on the side

The Work of the Child

No one can do the child's work for him. He must do it himself in order to become a competent adult. Many adults, who may be wearied and bored by their own labor, feel that young children should not be encouraged to work; they should only play during their earliest years. Those who feel this way do not understand what Montessori means by the child's work.

A child's work is to create the adult he or she will become. Each little task, especially if it is self-chosen, contributes to his development.

This does not mean that a child should never play. Play is a vital part of a child's life. A young child usually doesn't differentiate between play, such as having a doll's tea party, and actually working at such a task as sweeping up

crumbs. Montessori believed that sometimes even more than play, children enjoy challenging tasks that increase their concentration, coordination, competence and ultimately their independence.

The child's interest in work comes about through his tendency to imitate what his parent and older siblings are doing. One often hears the cry, "Let me do it," from a child who scarcely seems old enough to perform the task. You may see little ones trying to push a vacuum cleaner, move furniture or lift a heavy bag. When a child imitates this kind of behavior, it is the ideal time to let her work along with you, particularly in the kitchen, a sensorial haven for children with good things to smell, taste and feel. When you are cooking, doing laundry,

cleaning, gardening, washing the car or other everyday tasks, let your child join in. The habit of cleaning up after any task will be easier to establish if you provide small tools—broom, mop, carpet sweeper, sponge, dustpan and brush—appropriate for your child's size and strength.

"If we were to establish a primary principle, it would be to constantly allow the child's participation in our lives. For he cannot learn to act if he does not join in our actions, just as he cannot learn to speak if he does not hear... To extend to the child this hospitality, to allow him to participate in our work, can be difficult, but it costs nothing. Our time is a far more precious gift than material objects."

~Dr. Maria Montessori

St. Valentine's Day Card Exchange



On **Tuesday, February 14th** we will celebrate **St. Valentine's Day**. If you wish, your child may bring Valentine cards. The children will be passing out their cards to their classmates at morning circle time. To make this go as smoothly as possible, we ask you to do the following:

- Please bring in about **36 cards**.
- Have your child sign **their name only** in the "FROM:" section on the card.
- **PLEASE LEAVE ENVELOPES or "TO:" SECTION BLANK.**

- Put all the cards in a small bag and write your child's name on it in big letters.

- **Give the bag to your child's teacher by Monday, February 13th** (so they are not forgotten!)

Just for fun, we invite the children to come to school that day dressed in Valentine colors, such as red, pink, white and/or purple.

