

Staten Island Montessori News and Information: June, 2010

Dear Parents,

Another year has come to an end -- by the time you read this, the last few days of school will be approaching. We would not be able to do all the activities for and with your children had it not been for you, their concerned and dedicated parents, who give so much time and energy. Please enjoy your summer!

I cannot stress enough the importance of reading to your child and/or your child reading. Please visit your local libraries and enjoy exploring with your imagination. Remember to keep your child's mind sharpened over the summer. Avoid the "Summer Slide" by keeping kids engaged in learning during the summer! It is what happens when young minds idle for two months plus.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the fabulous staff of the Staten Island Montessori School. Your dedication to the education of young children is outstanding and you make a meaningful contribution to the lives you encounter.

Summer Day Care will not be held this summer.

As always, I wish to extend my warmest wishes to our graduates who will be leaving us this year to embark on another adventure. I wish them all the best and I know that they will all do well in their new schools. Your *Montessori* experiences will serve you well in all areas---socially, academically and emotionally. Please remember that you are always a member of our *Montessori Family* and come back and visit whenever you can.

I look forward to the upcoming year with much enthusiasm. Lastly, I would ask that you please refrain from calling the office of our new location as they are still conducting their classes. Please feel free to call us with any questions and allow the time to get our new school ready for you.

Thank you again and enjoy the summer.

Fondly,

Elaine Adamo

Some Info:

1. REREGISTRATION 2010 –11: Deposits are now past due. Do call the office immediately if you are planning to return and have not yet filled out the appropriate forms and contracts.

2. GRADUATION: Middle School will hold its graduation ceremony at Gulino's Buona Pasta in Great Kills on Friday, June 11th beginning 11:30am.

3. LAST DAY OF CLASSES: The last three days of school are half days – June 21st, 22nd, 23rd. The **last day of classes for UPK only** is June 24th

Enjoy the summer



June 14, 2010

Dear Parents,

After much searching I am pleased to announce that I have found a permanent location for the Staten Island Montessori School! Mid Island.....109 New Dorp Plaza. The side property, which is also being renovated with new black top, shrubbery, etc., goes from street to street so our drop off routine will remain the same. I believe this is crucial to the safety of our children.

Previously, the assumption was to move to another building.

Many of our parents expressed their desire to have our own building, our own school.

The paperwork has been signed, the DOH of health has been notified, and there is much to be done. I am confident that we will be settled and opened by early-mid September.

Sometime late August an Open House/Reception is planned and we will either call or email our returning parents to give them this information.

Staff members have also been told that some of our parents had not seen the previous two letters that were sent home with your children. When you receive this letter, if you have any questions please call the office and we will be more than happy to bring you up to date.

I will still have the same great staff we have always had and depending on our enrollment it is our sincere hope that I will continue to be able to offer positions to everyone who has worked so hard to make this a successful school.

Our Montessori philosophy will not change just because our location does.

Again, I want to thank all of our parents who have enough conviction in what we do here to follow us and to those parents who have found it inconvenient to travel or for whatever personal reasons not to come, I wish you all the best wherever your children go. Although we have signed contracts I will not bind anyone to them, but I would appreciate a

phone call informing us that you will not be returning so that we may have an accurate budget for 2010-2011.

I only ask that you be patient as we make this move because it will mean that, hopefully, for a short period of time we will not have internet or phone service.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the parents that have come forward and offered to help with this transition. It is our parents & staff working together that will make the school succeed. This is, indeed, an exciting time for our school and I welcome everyone on board!!

Please feel free to call me with any questions you have. Dolores Sabbatino will update our web site as to the progress of the move. There will be, however, a small frame of time when the computers will not be available. Please be patient. As always, you can always contact the office through email at simontessori@aol.com

Sincerely,
Elaine Adamo & Roe Mann



Gail's News



Hello Parents,

A great big thank you to all who attended and supported the South American Food Festival! The children had a great time and were excited to share the morning with the most beloved of guests -- family and friends. The yummy flavors of banana, coconut, and chocolate, and an assortment of sweet pineapple and many different yet so well prepared rice dishes were a great feast for the eyes as well as for the palate! It was a tremendous effort that came together in a magnificent feast that everyone enjoyed.

Many thanks go to the family of Vincent D'Orio for the Rainforest Crafts and stickers. The children are having a great time with the frogs, toucans, snakes and butterflies.

Over the summer continue to teach your children letters and sounds, and numbers, their address and share stories with them. Discover your neighborhood parks and enjoy any time spent at the pool or beach. Especially enjoy sitting in the wet sand building the sandcastles with your wonderful children.

We thank you for the opportunity and privilege of teaching and learning with them.

Fondly,
Gail, RoseMarie, Debbie and Miss Lisa

Gerry's News

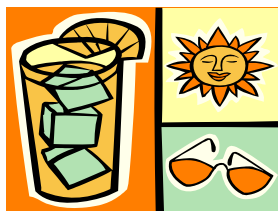


Dear Parents,

Again another year has ended. This has certainly been an eventful year and I wish to thank all for your support and help with the activities our children have worked on. As I reflect back over this year the memories of our children working so hard and playing so hard inspire me when we start to plan for the upcoming school year. Our children have all experienced growth, made new friends, challenged themselves, and are now ready to move onto the next step of their lives. This has been a wonderful learning experience for all. We will be celebrating the end of the year with "Rainforest Flower Picnic." Do come and join us, wear comfortable shoes, and bring your camera!

As I say every year, do take time to spend with your family and put aside those pressing 'work' commitments and PLAY!!! Take time out to enjoy the little experiences that make those special memories. Plan family trips, take long walks, or bike rides, have picnics, visit lots of museums, rent or go to family movies and laugh, laugh, laugh!!! Have a wonderful summer! See you in September!

Fondly,
Gerry, Jessica, & Roe



Greetings from Lower Elementary!

It is hard to believe this is our last newsletter and the school year is coming to an end.

The Art/Science fair was quite a success. The Science projects were wonderful, and we know everyone enjoyed seeing the beautiful artwork the children made. Special thanks go to Elena Korkmaz for her help.

The movement/chorus classes came together at the South American Feast. As you can see the children really enjoyed both Shelby and Doris. We hope you enjoyed the presentation as well.

The second grade completed the Stanford Testing, which will be used for assessment purposes only. Overall the children did well.

Our reading groups in the classroom are ongoing and this really enforces their reading and comprehension skills.

The Rainforest Café was a great trip. The children really had a good time. It is such a nice way to complete the South American Unit.

Although the summer is a time for family enjoyment and relaxation, please continue to read with your child and reinforce their mathematical skills.

Thank you for a great year!

Miss Maria and Miss Kristine

Greetings from Upper Elementary!

As the school year comes to a close, I reflect upon how your children have grown right before my eyes, not only academically, but socially in an environment which was created to meet their individual needs. Thank you for sharing your children with me.



Our move to a new location will be an exciting time for us! This will be a time of growth for us as a school and give us the opportunity to reach new goals. But first and foremost is the education of your child, which has always been and will continue to be a priority.

I was quite impressed by the Science projects and presentations the children gave. They did great! Also special thanks go to Joanna Meltzer and Ingrid Perrigo for all their help in getting my class ready for the Art Show. The children's chorus presentation was really nice, and they enjoyed working with Miss Shelby.

Testing was completed within the week and was mailed the following week. I anxiously await the results. Hopefully they will be back in time for report cards.

We have already finished most of our books and have been doing review work. We are never done learning! The children are looking forward to our 2nd annual Author's Breakfast on June 16th, a time I truly enjoy because I can give thanks to you, my parents, for all you do for me throughout the year.

We all enjoyed the Rainforest Café trip and it was a nice way to close our study of the continent of South America.

Thank you to Catherine, Kelly, Julie and Becky for all their help!

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer! Even though it is a time to have fun in the sun and kick back and enjoy yourselves, please work with your children to keep their skills sharp. It is so important!

It has truly been a great (but quick) year!
Miss Roe

Greetings From Middle School

I can't believe it is June already! It feels like just last week we were getting ready for the holidays and now we're preparing for graduation!

Testing week went smoothly. The results should be in soon and I am confident the children did well as they prepared extensively for their tests.

We had a beautiful Science Fair/Art Auction. Our South American rain sticks looked beautiful and were a lot of fun to make. The batik pictures were a learning experience but in the end they looked beautiful as well.

Our trip to the Alpaca farm in New Jersey was a wonderful experience. We were given a very thorough and informative presentation about alpacas. We then got to participate in many activities with the alpacas themselves. They were so beautiful and patient with us! It was a great day!

The South American Food Fest was a great day, and it was enhanced by the lower and upper elementary grades performing their concert as well as lower elementary's movement presentation.

On June 9th, we will be taking our end of the year trip to see our Broadway play and then two short days after that will be graduation!

We have six graduates this year. Graduation signifies the ending of one chapter in these graduate's lives and the beginning of a new one. This new chapter will bring with it many exciting experiences and possibilities. While I am sad to see our graduates leaving, I wish them all the best in all that they do in the future!

For the students who will be returning in September, I look forward to starting a new chapter in the history of the S.I. Montessori School with you. I know that together, we will make it great! The summer folders you will be given will help you maintain the skills you have worked so hard to gain. Don't forget to read, read, read!

In closing, I would like to thank Maria, Mary, and Sally for all their help in making this year so great! Thank you to the Middle School parents who were supportive and were there whenever something was needed. I wish you all a great summer!

Debbie and Maria



A Big Thank You
to all at Montessori
from Mr. Lou the Science Guy



On a Musical Note...

Hello parents,

I write to you as one very proud music teacher! The performances at the Food Fest were absolutely amazing! I have been performing almost all of my life, and I have never been as excited as I was watching your kids. They did their best, but most of all they had fun. The progression from where we started last fall to now is miraculous.

We are finishing out the school year just having fun with music; it is time to kick back and express ourselves creatively. Now that I know what your kids are capable of, I have so much in store for next year. SIMS music students are only just beginning!

Some of you I will continue to see and study with over the summer. Everyone else, keep singing!

Have a wonderful break,
Shelby



Staten Island Montessori School Fundraising News

FUNdraising is an important part of our school. All funds raised go directly for books, computers, learning software, supplies for the classrooms and keeping the school and the grounds safe for all. Thanks to your hard work, our students are learning music and are enjoying movement classes. We do our best to make FUNdraising an enjoyable experience. We thank you for being part of our team and for your support.

Plant Sale Update -- A special thank you to all who have helped make this sale a huge success. We had a beautiful day and sold all the flowers and plants. We raised \$475 for the school, and now you have a beautiful garden of flowers and vegetables which is the envy of the neighborhood! Thank you once again for your support.



BOXTOPS – Our next collection is Wednesday, June 11, 2010.

This will be the final collection for the 2009-2010 school year. Please bring your boxtops in Ziplocs or glued on the collection sheets (maximum 25 boxtops on each collection sheet please).

Get your family and friends to help with the collection. It's really fun to see how quickly they all add up. Thanks to all who made this program a success. An ice cream party awaits the winners....

Capri Sun Drink Pouch Collection -- We are now at 3,100 drink pouches and still counting! Terracycle reimburses the school 1 to 2 cents per drink pouch depending on the brand. Please remove straws and empty the drink pouches completely before turning them in. We help keep our earth clean while making a few dollars for our school.

Advantage Cartridge. Please turn in empty computer ink cartridges and cell phones with battery (and charger if possible). Advantage Cartridge recycles these items and pays the school for each item received.

Target REDcard: If you have a Target credit card, you can register that card to benefit the Staten Island Montessori School. The school will receive a percentage of your purchases at Target Stores at no additional cost to you.

Attention: INTERNET SHOPPERS - When you shop on the Internet, please go to www.onecause.com. This is a wonderful website which has been helping schools raise money by people shopping at their favorite online stores. Simply go to www.onecause.com, register to support Staten Island Montessori School and then

click on the link to your favorite store. One Cause will give a portion of your eligible shopping bill to the school at no additional cost to you. There are many advantages to shopping through One Cause. You are eligible for extra discounts, free shipping and in some instances no sales tax. You only need to register the first time, but must enter the One Cause website and then click on the link to your store from the One Cause website for the school to get credit. It's painless, it's fun, you can shop at any time of day or night, you save on gas and don't have to look for parking! It's a great way to shop.

To all of our Montessori Families, thank you for your participation in our fundraisers, supporting our students, and helping our school.



Community Events

June 2010

Historic Richmond Town
441 Clarke Avenue, SI, NY 10306
(718) 351-1611

Book Club for Adults

Tuesday, June 1, 7:30PM – 9PM

Venue: Bennett Cafe

Book selection, “Founding Mothers”, by Cokie Roberts

English Country Dance

Every Wednesday in June, 7:30PM – 9PM

\$5 per person. Call 718-351-1611, Ext. 281 for information

Story Museum

Every Thursday in June, 11:30AM – 12:30PM

Stories, crafts, music, dancing and singing

Preschool children up to age 5

\$3/Child, Adult/Free

Call (718) 351-1611 x 280 to make a reservation

Following Our Forefathers’ Footsteps

Sunday, June 20, 1PM – 5PM

Try your hand at splitting wood with wooden wedges, using a froe and mallet, and starting fire with flint and steel. Learn to write with a quill pen and test your strength against the crank of an ice-cream churn. Meet the blacksmith and tour the mill and the Historical Museum to view what other early American Dads did.



Staten Island Zoo

614 Broadway, SI, NY 10310

(718) 442-3100

What Makes A Good Pet -- Saturday, June 12, 1:30PM – 3:30PM

Come and talk to the educators at the zoo to find out what pets are illegal in NY and what pet would make sense in your household.

Free with Zoo admission

Kids and Critters -- Saturday, June 12, 10:00AM – 11:30AM

Meet and learn about animals and their unique adaptations, enjoy snacks, take special tours and make crafts. This is a drop-off program.

\$13 non-members; \$10 members

Gone Fishing

Sunday, June 13, 10AM – 1PM

Step-by-step you will learn about our local fish, the art of fishing, the places to fish legally and local fishing laws. This series will culminate with a fishing trip to one of the local parks. Purchasing fishing equipment will be the responsibility of the participants. This program is geared to 6 and older accompanied by an adult. Free with regular Zoo admission. Pre-registration Required.

Father’s Day

Sunday, June 20, 10AM – 4:45PM

Dads are free with a paid child. Special animal encounters and crafts for the children.

Enrichment Day

Saturday, June 26, 10:30Am – 3:30PM

Come to the Staten Island Zoo and watch your favorite animal get their favorite toy. You will be able to see these magnificent animals use their natural instincts and curiosities. Special animal encounters, keeper talks, and crafts for the children. Free with Zoo admission.

Good Grade Week

Sunday, June 27 – Saturday, July 3, 10AM – 4:45PM

Did you get an “A” or “4” on your report card? Bring your “A” or “4” to the zoo and get in for free with parent admission.

Staten Island Children's Museum
1000 Richmond Terrace, SI, NY 10301
(718) 273-2060

Tot's Time Plus

Tuesday, June 1, 11AM – 1PM

Preschoolers create artwork, sing-a-long, listen to stories & visit exhibits.

Admission + \$5 for child

Clay Day

Every Wednesday, 1:30PM - 4:30PM

Paint Day

Every Thursday, 1:30PM - 4:30PM (except on June 10)

Kidz Cook

Every Friday, 2PM, 3PM, & 4PM

Northfield Bank Foundation - Cool School Holiday

Thursday, June 10, 10AM – 5PM

FREE ADMISSION

Home Sweet Hive

Saturday, June 5 & 19, & Sunday June 20, 3PM

Learn all about Bees

The Life of an Ant

Saturday, June 12 & 26, & Sunday, June 13 & 27, 1PM, 2PM, & 3PM

Learn all about the jobs ants have

Father's Day

Sunday, June 20, 1PM, 2PM, & 3PM

Make a Bee Card

The Zoo Too!

Saturday, June 26, 2PM

Welcome some friends from the Staten Island Zoo

Fleet Week Returns!

Fleet Week is scheduled for May 26 through June 2 in New York City. Residents of New York City and the tri-state area will be welcoming the U.S. Navy and Marines into the New York Harbor. Fleet Week offers families lots of free tours and demonstrations.

Ricky's Candy

\$.99 cent Cones ALL DAY Every Tuesday

Father's Day Gift Crafts

Saturday, June 5, 5PM – 7PM

\$7/child

Meet Ricky

Saturday, June 12, & Sunday June 6, 20 & 27, 6PM

Family Night

Monday, June 14, 6PM – 8PM

Paint Your Own Flip Flop Sun Catcher and Photo Frame

Wednesday, June 16, 6PM – 7:30PM

\$8/Child with Pizza and Ice Cream

“School's Out” Luau Party

Monday, June 28, 6PM – 7:30PM

\$8/Child with Pizza and Ice Cream

Space is limited. Call to sign up.

Special Events

Meals on Wheels of Staten Island Celebrity Day

Friday, June 4, 9:00AM

The Staaten, 697 Forest Ave.

Breakfast at 9AM. Depart at 10:15AM to deliver meals. Ride with one of our regular volunteer drivers to experience first-hand the joy and sometimes sadness when you deliver much needed meals to Staten Island's homebound elderly.

For more information please call Dawn Rinelli at (718) 727-4435



Family Fun Page



Go Boating

1. Take a flat piece of rectangular Styrofoam and cut off two corners to form a point on one end that will serve as the bow.
2. You can then propel your craft by taping a balloon to the long end of a bendable drinking straw. Packing tape works quite well for this task. Place your balloon propulsion unit on the surface of the boat with the bendable piece centered at the rear edge and the shorter end hanging over the stern. Use a 3-inch piece of packing tape to secure the straw to the boat right above the bend.
3. You are now ready to decorate and there are no limits. Use magic markers, paint, glue on accessories, whatever "floats your boat", be creative. The brighter the colors the better.
4. When you are ready to launch your boat, you can fill the balloon by blowing air through the straw. Pinch at the base of the straw to keep the air from escaping until the boat is in the water. Then let go and watch it go.

Check out this site:

www.family.go.com/travel/trip-planner/

This site will help you come up with great ideas, and planning tips for your family vacation.



Hear the Monsters Roar

Raceway Park has some of the best monster truck shows around. Check out one of these events:

Night of Thrills - June 19th 5:00 PM - 10:00 pm

Summer Motorsports Spectacular - July 21st 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm

All American Jet Car Nationals & Monster Truck

Meltdown - August 18th 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

<http://racewaypark.com>

All Aboard

Take a full day tour aboard a real steam locomotive. Steamtown National Historic Site in Scranton, PA will be running their Delaware Water Gap Township Excursion on June 26th. This all day adventure departs Steamtown at 9:00 am and returns at approximately 5:30 pm. For more info, see: www.nps.gov/stea/planyourvisit/tour35a.htm

Charleston Farmer's Market

Visit your local farmer's market at these two locations, both are open from 9 AM- 1 PM. This is a great opportunity to teach your kids about fruits, vegetables, and how getting things fresh is best for your body.

Saturdays--Decker Farm in Historic Richmond Town Complex located in the New Springville neighborhood of Staten Island, N.Y.

Sundays--South Shore Commons shopping complex across from Target.





My Best Friend is...

... Jack and Frankie. Me and Jack work together and Frankie is the best player.

Stephanie Barone – Ms. Gail

... my brother Joseph because he always plays with me.

Frank Capone – Ms. Gail

... Alexa Jones.

Andrew Scarantino – Maria's Class

... Madison Haggerty.

Tiara LaFontant – Ms. Maria



Original artwork submitted by Stephanie Barone, Ms Gail's Class

Message Board

A message from Vincent D'Orio

To: All Of My Teachers, Thank you for helping me learn this year! I had a lot of fun!

Birthday Announcements:



Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating a summer birthday!

Other Greetings:



To: Ms. Gail From: Stephanie

Ms. Gail is the best teacher. I've had so much fun this year!

A message from Jake & Ben Kobrak

To: Our Teachers, Our Friends, and everyone at
SIMS
YOU GUYS ROCK!!! Have a great summer!!!

A message from Kristine Ferguson

To: All SIMS Parents

As of July I will be available for tutoring/childcare services that you may need this summer. Some serious fun in the sun guaranteed as well!!! Interested parents please e-mail me @ LunaKris@aol.com

THANK YOU SIMS NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE!

A very special thank you goes to Susanne Casella, Alexa Jones, Cayce LaCorte, Joanna Meltzer, Kimberly Sansevero, and Angelica Tulino for all their hard work in putting the school newsletter together all year. Enjoy the summer! – Marcy Kobrak

To every SIMS student
Have a fabulous & safe summer!
See you in September!