

# KMS NEWS

Newsletter of Keene Montessori School  
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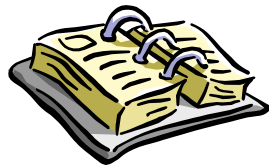


**"Help me to do it myself." - Maria Montessori**



**April 2008**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING!



*Kindergartners to Colonial Theatre*  
-April 16  
*Spring Vacation*  
-April 21-25  
*Public Safety Day*  
-May 3  
*Mothers' Tea*  
-May 9  
*Yard Sale*  
-May 17  
*Kindergarten Lunch*  
-May 21  
*Memorial Day – no school*  
-May 26

## Public Safety Day

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Public Safety Day will take place on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 10 am to 3 pm. We are working with the Keene Police Officers' Association to present this community event. There will be many safety demonstrations and activities, a bicycle rodeo and safety clinic, and a play area offering a lot of fun for children.

We need help to make this a successful community event. If you are able to help, please sign-up on the sheet by our front door. Thank you!

## Summer Camp

We are filling-up for KMS Summer Camp already. We only take 20 children per week and have 5 weeks that are already full. The children really enjoy the themed weeks, so sign-up soon!



## Referrals

So many of you have referred new families to us – thank you so much! We appreciate your confidence in us and your willingness to let others know about us.

## Fall Enrollment

We are continuing to see an increase in our registrations for the fall. Please submit your child's registration form if you have not already done so to avoid being disappointed.

## To Ponder...

“Every adult needs a child to teach; it's the way adults learn.” – Frank A. Clark

“In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure.” – Bill Cosby

“Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer, but wish we didn't.” – Erica Jong

## Mothers' Tea

Our Annual Mothers' Tea will be held on Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, from 11 to noon. Moms, please bring a teacup for your tea!

## Lost and (hopefully) Found

There are a number of items that are looking for an owner underneath the sign-in table. Please check to see if any of the items belong to your child. Thanks!

## Kindergarten Korner

The kindergarteners will be going to The Colonial Theatre on April 16<sup>th</sup> to see a performance of Monkey See, Monkey Do. It is a puppet opera based on the book, Caps for Sale.

They are learning about the solar system and telling time. In a few weeks a store will be set up in the Blue Room to help the Kindergartners learn about money.



## Kartidges for Kidz

Just a reminder that we collect empty inkjet and laser print cartridges and old cell phones. Kartridges for Kidz will purchase our empty cartridges for .50 to \$14.00 depending on the model. All you have to do is to deposit them into the collection box on the sign-in table. Thanks!

## **For Fun...**

On a sunny day, paint a letter or simple word on a sidewalk or driveway using a paintbrush and water. Have your child tell you what it is before it disappears.

Give your child clues about an object you see. Example: "I see something blue. It has wheels." Ask your child to name the object you're describing. Next, ask your child to give you a clue.

## **Crocs**

We have noticed that many of our younger children have trouble when wearing crocs. They seem to trip and fall more frequently when wearing them. Please consider other shoes for your child's safety.

## **About Montessori...**

Several parents have asked about ways to bring Montessori into their homes. Below are ideas from The Montessori Foundation on "Making Room for Children in Your Home...and in Your Life."

"We must give the child an environment that he can utilize by himself; a little washstand of his own, a bureau with drawers he can open, objects of common use that he can operate, a small bed in which he can sleep at night with an attractive blanket he can fold and spread by himself. We must give him an environment in which he can live and play; and then we will see him work all

day with his hands and wait impatiently to undress himself and lay himself down to bed."

-Maria Montessori

Even though, on their own, children may tend to create chaos, young children have a tremendous need and love an orderly environment. Everything should have its own place and be organized to help the child maintain a neat, well-organized atmosphere.

Mount a small coat rack low on one wall where your child can reach it easily.

Decorate the walls with quality prints hung at the child's eye level.

Don't use a toy box. Imagine the chaos in your kitchen or workshop if you threw your tools or utensils into a chest. Instead use low shelves to display books and toys.

Store Legos in a large colorful and sturdy bag with handles. Add strips of Velcro to keep the bag closed. This not only serves as a storage bag, but also to take along when traveling.

Have flower vases available for your child to collect flowers for her room.

Make room in your kitchen for your young cook.

Have a shelf, drawer or cabinet where he can get his own utensils, dishes, napkins, etc.

Set aside a bottom shelf in your refrigerator for prepared items, which are available to your child.

Have music and art readily available for your child. Give your child her own broom or feather duster.

Provide a hamper for your child's dirty clothes. Ask her to carry it to wherever you do your laundry.

Folding towels and napkins is a good activity to teach a young child.

Here are additional activities that you can structure and help with in your home: Consider clean up as much a part of playing as the actual activity. Show your child how so that she can repeat each step after you are finished.

polishing shoes

preparing soil for planting, sowing seeds, transplanting

weeding

sweeping, mopping, dusting

polishing glass, metal

setting the table

sorting cereal, buttons, nuts & bolts

thinking of words that rhyme

stringing beads

hammering nails into boards – in a pattern (triangle, circle, square)

tightening and loosening screws

Limit television. Plan carefully and select a few shows your child may watch. Give her choices whenever possible.

These activities will help foster a sense of confidence and independence in your child.

“From the very beginning of his education, the child should experience the joy of discovery.”

-Alfred North Whitehead