



Mater Amoris Matters

February 2013



Mater Amoris Montessori School
18501 Mink Hollow Road, PO Box 97
Ashton, MD 20861

301-774-7468
matera001@verizon.net
www.materamoris.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon-Thurs, Feb 4-7

Science Fair

Thurs, Feb 7, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Science Fair Parent Night

Mon, Feb 11, 7-8 p.m.

Mothers' Night – Mrs. A-O

Weds, Feb 13

Kennedy Center trip for lower and upper elementary

Mon-Fri, Feb 18-22

Presidents' Day and Mid-Winter Break NO CLASSES

Tues, Feb 26, 7-8 p.m.

Mothers' Night – Mrs. Poje

Fri, Mar 1, 7-8 p.m.

Fathers' Night, Mrs. Nellis (4, 5 & 6 year olds)

Weds, Mar 6, 7-8 p.m.

Fathers' Night – Mrs. A-O

Fri, Mar 8

Kennedy Center trip for lower and upper elementary

Thurs, Mar 14

Rehearsal for the Spring Musical

Fri, Mar 15

Dress rehearsal for the Musical

Sat, Mar 16, 7 p.m.

Musical performance of "Peter Pan", Historic Olney Theatre

Weds, Mar 20, 7-8 p.m.

Fathers' Night – Mrs. Poje

Thurs, Mar 21

Kennedy Center trip for lower and upper elementary

Sun, Mar 24, 2-4 p.m.

Easter Egg & Scavenger Hunt

Tues, Mar 26

Vision & Hearing Screening

Weds, Mar 27, 7-8 p.m.

Mothers' Night – Mrs. Wallner (4, 5 & 6 year olds)

Thurs, Mar 28, 4-9 p.m.

Mater Amoris Night Out at Café Rio and Yogiberry

Fri, Mar 29

NO CLASSES

Spring Break begins

FROM THE DIRECTRESS

I would like to extend special thanks to Kimberly Morrison and Carrie Weitzman for all of the time and effort they have given toward ensuring the successful completion of our new turf project. We now have a wonderful, safer surface for field hockey practice complete with field markings. There is also new padding between the foundation and the turf which softens any impact when the children are practicing. Many thanks to Gary Kleckner for putting up the net which prevents a lot of hockey balls from rolling off school property. The Upper Elementary students are especially excited to use the new turf as they prepare for their trip to the Cal Cup tournament in late May.

I look forward to seeing you at the many special events over the next few months: Science Fair Parents' Night, our performance of "Peter Pan" at the Olney Theatre and Mothers' and Fathers' Nights. Please save the dates for your child's class listed on the back of the newsletter and on the Special Events calendar recently sent home with the children.



The Science Fair will take place February 4-7, 2013. All Mater Amoris families, Primary and Elementary, parents and children, are invited to come to school and enjoy the Elementary children's science projects on *Thursday, February 7th, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.* Don't miss seeing and experiencing this wonderful and creative work.

KENNEDY CENTER PERFORMANCE

On Wednesday, February 13th, our elementary students and their teachers will be going to the Kennedy Center to see a performance of "Sleeping Beauty Dreams", presented by Marionetas de la Esquina. The puppet theater company from Mexico has been entertaining children and adults since 1975. Their production of "Sleeping Beauty Dreams" takes a contemporary look at the classic tale with humorous storytelling and whimsical puppetry. Bus transportation is generously paid for by the Parent Association.



VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

All of the primary and elementary classes will celebrate Valentine's Day on Thursday, February 14th, with a card exchange party. Please make sure everyone gets a valentine by having your child send enough cards for the entire class. The primary children should sign but not address their cards to allow for easy distribution. The elementary children may sign and address each card if they choose.

Number of children in each class:

Mrs. Wallner: **16**

Mrs. Nellis: **20**

Mrs. Alexander-Ozinskas: **18**

Mrs. Poje: **16**

Mrs. Perez: **24**

PARENT NIGHTS

FATHERS' NIGHT

Primary children ages 4, 5 & 6, and all junior children are welcome to bring their fathers, uncles, or fatherly figures to school to share their classroom work.

We ask that you come with only the child whose class is scheduled for the evening, not with his/her siblings.

Mrs. A-O: Wednesday, March 6th

Mrs. Nellis: Friday, March 1st

Mrs. Perez: Tuesday, January 29th

Mrs. Poje: Wednesday, March 20th

Mrs. Wallner: Wednesday, April 24th

MOTHERS' NIGHT

Primary children ages 4, 5 & 6, and all junior children are welcome to bring their mothers, aunts, or motherly figures to school to share their classroom work.

We ask that you come with only the child whose class is scheduled for the evening, not with his/her siblings.

Mrs. A-O: Monday, February 11th

Mrs. Nellis: Friday, May 17th

Mrs. Perez: Tuesday, April 30th

Mrs. Poje: Tuesday, February 26th

Mrs. Wallner: Wednesday, March 27th

UPDATES FROM THE CLASSES

From Mrs. Wallner: We had a great re-entry to school after the holidays. The children seemed eager to work and to enjoy all of the learning opportunities in our school environment after some time away. I was delighted to see their happiness as they came back and greeted their friends with hugs. The class is a wonderful example of a true community! We are sad to have said farewell to our friends Alex and Matthew but wish them both all the best in their new schools. I am very pleased to see the children working hard and progressing in all areas.

From Mrs. Nellis: Since returning from our holiday break the children have been busy with new lessons: golden beads, the farm, trinomial cube and number rods, to name just a few. We have welcomed Georges Posner and Kirtan Buchwald to our class and are very happy to have them in our number. The afternoon children have been learning about American colonial life in general and about the life of George Washington in particular. In February we will jump in the time machine and learn about Abraham Lincoln!

From Mrs. A-O: It's coming! It's coming! We can hardly believe it's been a whole year since we were gathered together for the wonderful annual science fair. Everyone comes! We have worked so hard individually, on so many different scientific ideas. We'll see you there Thursday evening, February 7th, from 7:00 till 8:30 p.m. And while you are checking your dates, remember to save the date of March 16th for our musical, "Peter Pan". We will perform in the historic Olney Theatre.

From Mrs. Poje: Our class has been busy this month with work on reports and timelines, word study and sentence analysis, fractions and square root, states of matter, and comparisons of body functions of vertebrates. The children have also been enthusiastically learning to knit and have worked on knitting scarves and crocheting long chains that stretch across the classroom. We are all looking forward to the upcoming science fair and we have been enjoying our rehearsals for the spring musical.

From Mrs. Perez: The Upper Elementary class is preparing for a very busy month of February. We start with the Science Fair, February 4-7. During mid-winter break Mrs. Perez is planning a trip to Mexico City which includes a visit to the winter habitat of the Monarch butterflies. On Sunday, February 24th, at 3:22 p.m. our Swedish pen pal and exchange student, Leander Aasmundsengen, will arrive. Leander will be staying with Alex Keth and his family. He will also be a pirate in our spring musical, "Peter Pan". He will be here until Sunday, March 17th. On Tuesday, February 26th, the graduating class will spend the evening at the opera with a trip to the Kennedy Center to see "Manon Lescaut" by Puccini. The opera has become a tradition for the graduating class over the last several years and we are looking forward to this event.



SNOW POLICY

Mater Amoris will follow Montgomery County Schools' Snow Policy for school closings. However, **when Montgomery County schools open one or two hours late, Mater Amoris will open at its regular time. When Montgomery County schools close early, Mater Amoris will close early.** You do not need to call the school – just follow the radio announcements.

