

Mater Amoris Matters

February 2017

Mater Amoris Montessori School
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Weds, Feb 1, 9:30-11 a.m.

Open House for prospective parents

Weds, Feb 8, 1-4 p.m.

Rehearsal for the musical Olney Theatre

Thurs, Feb 9, 1-4 p.m.

Dress rehearsal for the musical Olney Theatre

Fri, Feb 10, 7 p.m.

Musical performance of "The Sound of Music"

Thurs, Feb 16, 7-8 p.m.

Fathers' Night, Mrs. A-O

Mon-Fri, Feb 20-24

Presidents' Day and Mid-Winter Break

NO CLASSES

Mon, Feb 27, 5-8 p.m.

Mater Amoris Restaurant Night at Chipotle in Maple Lawn

Weds, Mar 1, 9:30-11 a.m.

Open House for prospective parents

Mon-Thurs, Mar 6-9

Science Fair

Mon, Mar 6

Kennedy Center Field Trip for all Elementary students

Tues, Mar 7

Vision & Hearing Screening

Thurs, Mar 9, 7-8:30 p.m.

Science Fair Parent Night

Weds, Mar 15, 7-8 p.m.

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

Weds, Mar 22, 7-8 p.m.

Mothers' Night, Mrs. A-O

Fri, Mar 24

Silent Auction

Weds, Mar 29, 7-8 p.m.

Mothers' Night, Mrs. Tremblay (4,5,6 year olds)



FROM THE DIRECTRESS

I am pleased to announce that we have a new student in Mrs. Tremblay's class. Jashan Surampudi joined us in January when we returned from the holiday break. We are very happy to welcome Jashan and his parents, Jagannath and Varsha Surampudi, into the Mater Amoris family.

I look forward to seeing you at our many special events over the next few months: our musical performance of "The Sound of Music" on February 10th at the Olney Theatre, Science Fair Parent Night in March, and Mothers' and Fathers' Nights throughout the spring. We continue to host open houses for prospective parents on the first Wednesday of each month from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Please feel free to invite any friends or neighbors who may be looking for a school for their children in the fall.

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

The Sound of Music

Friday, February 10, 7:00 PM

Historic Olney Theatre

2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road

Olney, MD 20832

All Mater Amoris parents, children, friends, neighbors and relatives are invited to this year's presentation of "The Sound of Music". Advance tickets are available through the school office. We encourage you to purchase your tickets now to alleviate congestion at the door on the night of the performance. There is good seating for everyone in the Olney Theatre. We hope to see you there!



VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Our Primary and Elementary classes will celebrate Valentine's Day on Tuesday, 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. Tremblay: 17

Mrs. A-O: 14

Mrs. Perez: 21



VISION AND HEARING SCREENING

On Tuesday, March 7th, Vision & Hearing Screening Service will be at Mater Amoris for optional testing of the children. Notes and payment envelopes will be sent home soon and should be returned to school by Monday, March 6th, if you wish to take advantage of this service. The screening fee is \$25 per child.

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. Perez: Wednesday, April 12th
Mrs. A-O: Thursday, February 16th
Mrs. Tremblay: Wednesday, March 15th

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. Perez: Wednesday, April 26th
Mrs. A-O: Wednesday, March 22nd
Mrs. Tremblay: Wednesday, March 29th

UPDATES FROM THE CLASSES

From Mrs. Tremblay: Most mornings the classroom is filled with the aroma of ground coffee and freshly baked bread. We have a simple recipe for bread that calls for flour, yeast, salt, and water. The children enjoy eating the bread and serving it allows us the opportunity to practice how to gracefully accept or decline something that is offered. We have been singing "A Bushel and a Peck" and "Mail Myself to You" in preparation for Valentine's day. We are looking forward to our Valentine's card exchange on the 14th.

From Mrs. A-O: How timely that the last parent-teacher education meeting covered "Montessori Language in the Classrooms" as my class sits here today and discusses all the important readings we've done as a group. We were wondering what to write for this newsletter when one student said "Tell them about Marie Tharp, the scientist who officially mapped the ENTIRE ocean floor!" Again, as mentioned at the meeting, a huge reminder to all parents that reading is absolutely crucial to better writing skills, to stimulate creativity, to expand knowledge and awareness, to engage the imagination, to inspire curiosity, to improve the quality of conversations and to encourage life goals and analytical thinking. It has also been proven that reading enhances focus and concentration! So here goes – a small list of topics (and some titles) of some of our readings during the first semester: Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine, Stealing Home (Jackie Robinson against all odds), Winnie (the true story of Winnie the Pooh), Myron Uhlberg's many stories of his deaf mother and father, the engineering feats of the Golden Gate Bridge, Ada's Violin (and the recycled orchestra), Cora Frear (a 19th century pioneer girl on a prairie) and Mary Lemist Titcomb with the first traveling book wagon library right here in Hagerstown, Maryland!

From Mrs. Perez: The Upper Elementary class has started the new year with a busy schedule full of math, language, history, poetry, reports and stories. The "halls are alive with the sounds of music" as the students are learning their songs and dances and memorizing their lines. Thanks to the help of parents, students and staff, costumes are coming together and everyone is looking forward to the musical on February 10th.

MATER AMORIS RESTAURANT NIGHT

The next restaurant night event will be held on Monday, February 27th, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Chipotle in Maple Lawn (11811 West Market Place, Fulton). All Mater Amoris families are invited to join us to take part in this fundraiser and to enjoy the good food and great company. The flyer about the event has been sent home with the children.



SNOW POLICY

Mater Amoris will follow Montgomery County Public Schools' Snow Policy for school closings and delays.

When Montgomery County schools close early, Mater Amoris will close early.

You do not need to call the school – just follow the radio announcements.

