

Grow with Montessori Toddler-Eighth Grade

West Side Montessori
Open House

Sunday, January 26, 2014
1 – 3 pm

Toledo and Perrysburg Campus

Grow with Montessori – Toddler through 8th Grade

West Side Montessori Open House ❖ Sunday, Jan. 26, from 1-3 p.m.

Do you have a child preparing to transition to a new level next year? Or have your friends and neighbors ever wondered what happens between the walls of a Montessori school? **This Sunday, Jan. 26, from 1-3 p.m., both the Perrysburg and Toledo Campuses will host an Open House** and it is a great opportunity for you to satisfy your curiosity and share your experiences.

The Open House will take you into our classrooms to meet Montessori teachers; tour our beautiful classrooms and outdoor space; explore Montessori materials; and talk with West Side Montessori students and alums.

At the Toledo Campus, you also will have an opportunity to meet with representatives from various extracurricular activities offered at the school and enjoy an array of performances. Highlights will include a performance by the school's Irish Dance troop, a Karate demonstration, and French plays performed by 5th, 6th, and 7th level students. The younger students will be invited to sing with Risa, our Children's House Music teacher, in a preschool sing-along. And, it just wouldn't be a party without a chance to dig in the dirt. Visitors are invited to stop by the Grow with Montessori Planting Station to make their own take home project.

Come and see for yourself how your child can *Grow with Montessori*.

Performance Schedule

(Toledo Campus Commons)

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1:30 p.m. | Irish Dancing |
| 1:45 p.m. | 5th Level French Play
Les Trois Petits Cochons
<i>(The Three Little Pigs)</i> |
| 2:00 p.m. | Karate Demonstration |
| 2:15 p.m. | 6th/7th Level French Play
Le Garçon Qui Joue des Tours
<i>(The Boy Who Played Tricks)</i> |
| 2:30 p.m. | Sing-a-Long with Risa |

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Jan. 23

- Pizza Day (CH-6)
- Kids on the Block Presentation
9-11 a.m. in Lower Elementary

Friday, Jan. 24

- Cleveland Day Trip for 6th-7th-8th levels (11:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.)
- Perrysburg Kindergarten Field Trip (Toledo Museum of Art)
9:30 a.m.-Noon

Sunday, Jan. 26

WSM Open House (1-3 p.m.)
See page 1 for schedule of events

Friday, Jan. 31

Toledo Kindergarten Field Trip
9:30-11:45 a.m.
(Toledo Museum of Art)

Tuesday, Feb. 4

PACC Meeting
6-7 p.m. (Toledo Campus)

Thursday, Feb. 6

- Pizza Day (CH-6)
- **First Thursday: Montessori on the Brain**
8:45-9:30 a.m.
(Toledo & Perrysburg Campuses)

Friday, Feb. 7

Toledo Kindergarten Field Trip
1-2:30 p.m. (Sylvania Post Office)

Tuesday-Wednesday, Feb. 11-12

Parent Teacher Conferences
4-6 p.m.
(Toledo & Perrysburg Campuses)
See page 3 for details

Thursday, Feb. 13

NO SCHOOL/
Child Care by reservation only
Parent Teacher Conferences
8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
(Toledo & Perrysburg Campuses)

Friday, Feb. 14

NO SCHOOL/NO CHILD CARE

Monday, Feb. 17

NO SCHOOL/NO CHILD CARE



Front Row (l-r): CJ Leonard (8), Benjamin Theis (7), Sean Fernandez (7), and Wyatt Reynolds (8). Second Row: MS Teacher Mary Brandon, Rachel Gorman (7), Hanna Ahmad (7), Libby Stupica (8), Parker Caesar (8), Claire Kohler (8), Maddy Vesoulis (8), Kathryn Rex (7), and Zaynab Lazreq (7).

MS Shines at Power of the Pen

Once Upon a Saturday

by Mary Brandon, Language Arts Teacher

“Since reading the *Book Thief*, I look at the sky differently,” I say, admiring a pink sun as it rises glistening off the white snow and painting the trees with black strokes against a lavender sky. The girls, impressed by the sunrise, attempt to capture its beauty on film; however, we agree that only a painter can truly capture its ethereal quality.

“It looks like something out of a fairy tale,” Parker says in hushed tones. And so begins our fairy tale on Saturday, Jan. 17, at Power of the Pen.

Around 150 students milled around Tiffin Middle School anxious to begin their first round of writing. They’ve been practicing for this creative writing competition for months, and they are ready. Students armed with only pens, prepare for battle — a battle of words — played out in ink upon a blank page. Room assignments are handed out, directions given, good wishes passed around, and with a final look at their teammates they are off!

A classroom, a board, and soon a prompt. The 7th grade students are given their first writing prompt: *Discarded, you are an item at a yard sale remembering those days when you were loved by your owner.* The 8th graders are given a different prompt. Their writing prompt for Round 1 was: *Once upon a _____ (use any word to fill in the blank except TIME).*

All students hear the same directions and the same last words, “You have 40 minutes; you may begin writing.”

After three rounds of writing, smiling students rejoin their teammates for lunch and finally, after what seems like an eternity, the awards. After the welcome is complete the awards begin — “We had a hard time choosing the best of round winner for 7th level — our honorable mention goes to Benjamin Theis from West Side Montessori! The fairy tale day continues...”

The top 15 students in each grade level are recognized on stage: three 7th level and four 8th level students are called up from West Side!

Continued on page 4

Call Today to Schedule February Conferences

The February Parent/Teacher Conferences will held from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 11 and Wednesday, Feb. 12, and from 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 13. Parents may call and request specific times for their conferences until Tuesday, Jan. 28, after which time conference times will be assigned.

NOTE: There will be no school or child care on Friday, Feb. 14, and Monday, Feb. 17, at Toledo and Perrysburg campuses.

Toledo Campus

To schedule a Toledo campus conference, contact Linda Juhasz at (419) 866-1931. The Toledo Campus will provide regular child care until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 11, and Wednesday, Feb. 12, in addition to drop-in child care during your conference.

On Thursday, Feb. 13, there will be **no regular school** at the Toledo campus for Little House through 8th grade, although child care is available

for children who regularly attend child care. If you know that you will need child care, *please call the Toledo campus to make a reservation.*

Perrysburg Campus

Perrysburg families should contact Laurie Groff or Carol Arnold at (419) 874-9385 to schedule a conference time. Regular child care will be provided until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 11, and Wednesday, Feb. 12, in addition to drop-in child care during your conference time.

There will be **no regular school** on Thursday, Feb. 13, for Little House and Children's House classes at the Perrysburg campus. Limited child care will be available for both levels. *Please call the Perrysburg office to make a reservation for child care.*

Student Services

The Student Services team is available for conferences. Call Linda at (419) 866-1931 to schedule a conference with a member of the Student Services team.

Child Care Options for Thursday, Feb. 13

There will be **no regular school on Thursday, Feb. 13** at either Perrysburg or Toledo campus. Child care is available by reservation to your campus office. The standard child care rate of \$5 per hour applies for children who attend child care on that day.

Free drop-in child care during conferences also is available on Thursday, Feb. 13.



Stay up-to-date with all the news about WSM's annual Spring Fundraiser at wsmcpringfundraiser.com

What Does Montessori Mean to You? Submit Entry This Week

Montessori Education Week is Feb. 24-28

Attention all Montessori students! Again this year West Side Montessori is offering a special T-shirt to celebrate Montessori Education Week, and you can help design it!

Submit a design showing what Montessori education means to you. It will be displayed and appreciated on campus for one week. One design will be selected for this year's T-shirt. All designs should be



submitted on an 8 1/2 x 11 piece of white printer paper and done in a black Sharpie marker.

Submissions will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 24. Please drop your design off in either campus office. T-shirts will be available for purchase in February.

Children, families, and friends can work together or alone. Tell us what "Montessori" means to you!

CONNECT WITH US



montessoritoledo.org



West Side Montessori



@WSMontessori

Toledo Campus

7115 W. Bancroft
Toledo, OH 43615
(419) 866-1931

Perrysburg Campus

13587 Roachton Rd.
Perrysburg, OH 43551
(419) 874-9385



**MONTESSORI
MARCH
MADNESS**
PLAYING TO WIN!
MARCH 8, 2014
FIFTH THIRD CENTER | ONE SEAGATE

WSM Tuition Raffle Ticket

Grand Prize – Free WSM Tuition for a year!
Only 100 tickets sold! Need not be present to win!
\$200.00 each

Complete ticket details below and return to school office with payment or purchase online at www.wsmcpringfundraiser.com

Rules and Regulations: If 100 tickets are not sold, drawing becomes a 50/50 raffle with 50% of the profits going to West Side Montessori and the remainder applied to the winning ticket holders' tuition expenses at West Side Montessori. Not redeemable for cash.

News & Notes



Spring Fundraiser Holds Tuition Raffle

West Side Montessori is excited to offer a Tuition Raffle at this year's spring fundraiser — *Montessori March Madness "Playing to Win!"*

Tickets are \$200/each and multiple tickets per person can be purchased, however, only 100 tickets will be sold. You don't have to be a parent of a WSM child to enter the Tuition Raffle. It's a great way for grandparents, family, and friends to contribute and

you need not be present to win. (*Note: Winnings will reduce your tuition and are not redeemable for cash.*)

Don't be the last one out of the gate! The Tuition Raffle drawing will be held at the spring fundraiser event on Saturday, March 8.

Visit the [WSM Spring Fundraiser](http://www.wsmcpringfundraiser.com) website for all the details and to purchase your chance to win your child's tuition for a year!

UE Student Published in AAA

Sixth level student, Emma Morgenstern, wrote a kids' perspective review of her cruise on *Disney Fantasy* in the January/February issue of *AAA Travel Now!* Read Emma's article online [here](#) on page 11. Congratulations Emma!

Congratulations

↪ Congratulations to the Iris Room's **Maaz Ahmed** on the birth of his baby sister. Ayah Usman was born on November 28, weighing 7 lbs., 8 oz.

Middle School Shines at PoP

Continued from page 2

7th Level Individual Awards

- 1st place Sean Fernandez
- 5th place Benjamin Theis
- 9th place Rachel Gorman

8th Level Individual Awards

- 8th place Libby Stupica
- 12th place Wyatt Reynolds
- 13th place Parker Caesar
- 14th place Claire Kohler

The fairy tale Saturday continues. Each writing room has a number one winner; writing professionals from the area are asked to pick the best of the number one stories for each round. WSM 8th graders had two out of three Best of Round Winners.

8th Level Best of Round

- Best of Round 2 Libby Stupica
- Best of Round 3 CJ Leonard

By now you must be thinking WOW! West Side Montessori Middle School students had the best Saturday ever. But wait — there's more!

Congratulations to our awesome writing team!

Team Award Winners

- ❖ WSM 7th grade team placed second in the competition with their collective scores. The team includes: Hanna Ahmad, Sean Fernandez, Rachel Gorman, Zaynab Lazreq, Kathryn Rex, and Benjamin Theis.
- ❖ WSM 8th grade team placed first in the competition. The team includes: Parker Caesar, Claire Kohler, CJ Leonard, Wyatt Reynolds, Libby Stupica, and Maddy Vesoulis.

I climb into the car exhausted but proud. Looking out the window at a slate gray sky, I smile as snowflakes begin to coat the landscape. A winter wonderland complete with deer color our ride home, "Hey Mom! Look!" and I do, and I smile. What fairy tale is complete without a happy ending?

Observation Reminders

As February conferences approach, now is a good time to sign up to observe your child in the classroom. Please remember to check in at your campus office to receive your visitor pass, observations notes, and especially to receive credit for your Parent Partnership Agreement.

Lunch Assistant Needed

Do you have a few extra hours a week to supervise a great group of students? West Side Montessori is seeking a Middle School lunch/recess assistant for three days a week (Monday, Tuesday, and Friday) from 11:30 a.m to 1 p.m.

Interested or know someone who would be a great fit? Contact [Kathy Heckert](#) at the Toledo Campus.