WEST SIDE MONTESSORI

Better Method. Amazing Outcomes.*

Sept. 16, 2013

Upcoming Events

Extracurricular activities begin this week. Check the **online calendar** for dates and times.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Picture Day

Toledo Campus Little House Monday-Tuesday

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Picture Day

Toledo Campus Little House Wednesday-Friday

Sixth Level Parents
 Camp Storer Meeting
 3:30-4:30 p.m. (UE Classroom)

Thursday, Sept. 19

- Pizza Day (CH-6)
- Coffee & Conversation 8:45 a.m. (Toledo Campus)

Friday, Sept. 20

- UE Monarch Field Trip 9:45-11:15 a.m. (Kitty Todd Nature Preserve)
- UE Karner Blue Field Trip 12:30-2 p.m. (Kitty Todd Nature Preserve)

Friday, Sept. 27

Toledo Kindergarten Field Trip 1-3 p.m. (MacQueen's Apple Orchard)

Toledo Campus Coffee & Conversation

Please join fellow parents on **Thursday, Sept. 19**, at 8:45 a.m. Look for the gathering outside, weather-permitting, or join us inside near the Central Park area for a chance to mingle, get to know some new families, and catch-up with old friends.

Sweet September Sundae

A Dunking-Fun Day For Everyone

Thanks to all of the families and friends that came to West Side Montessori's annual fall celebration at the Toledo Campus on Sunday, Sept. 15. Everyone enjoyed the delicious ice cream while mingling with fellow families - both current and past - playing games, dunking middle school students, and using the kids' inflatables. A very special thanks to the Parents' Association Coordinating Committee (PACC) special events committee and the many parent and staff volunteers who worked hard to make the day possible. Pictures from this special day are posted on the school's **website** and **Facebook**.



Annual Enhancement Fund Update

Puzzles, Chairs, & Shelves...Oh My!

The warmth and generosity of West Side Montessori families is seen everywhere on campus! The library shelves purchased with last year's **Annual Enhancement Fund** (AEF) are being put to good use by readers of all ages. Like all non-profit private

schools, WSM uses the **Annual Enhancement Fund** towards the extras <u>not</u> covered by tuition and operating costs.

AEF helps to purchase items for children of all levels on both campuses, including science materials in Tree House, snack chairs for the Maple Room, outdoor equipment for the Lower Elementary playgrounds, and

puzzle sets for the Opal and Pearl Rooms. The staff and students want to thank you for the many ways families and friends contribute to West Side Montessori. Investing in our school is an investment in your child's future.



Children's House First Thursday Program Starts In October

education program presented by the Children's House teachers from 8:45 - 9:30 a.m. at both the Toledo and Perrysburg campuses. The first program will be held Thursday, Oct. 3. This month's topic is "A Window into Our World: Observing and Volunteering in Your Child's Classroom."

Any family is welcome to attend any or all programs, including families currently at other levels.

First Thursday is a monthly parent First Thursdays are opportunities for parents and friends (both WSM and the community) to learn more about Montessori through the eyes of children, teachers, and other Montessori parents.

> Make plans to come, meet other parents, and learn more about the Montessori method of learning. Tours will be available following the program.

Peanut/Tree Nut Allergy Policy

The increasing incidence of children with life-threatening food allergies, especially peanuts and tree nuts, is a national concern and West Side Montessori is not exempt from the impact. Therefore, the school has developed the following pro-active policy addressing peanuts and tree nuts that strives to protect children, encourages increasing personal responsibility as children mature, and educates children and families. Other food items may follow as needed to address additional life-threatening allergies.

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West Side Montessori



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

All children with life-threatening food allergies are to provide an emergency action plan, provide the proper medications as prescribed by their doctors, wear allergy IDs, and eat only the food provided by their parents unless the school has specific permission allowing the child to eat certain other foods. The action plans and medications must be provided by the first day of school. A new plan is required each year or more often if changes are made.

All classrooms, co-curriculars, child-care, and extracurricular programs provide appropriate safeguards when food is served including re-grouping of children if advisable, hand washing, and clean-up processes and procedures. Children may not share or trade food items. An exception may be made when the parent specifically approves a special treat or tasting experience provided by teachers or other parents.

Parents are informed children with food allergies are in their children's classrooms and are asked to support the food allergy policy. Families are provided suggestions for safe food substitutes.

Please be sure to read the entire the policy in the 2013-14 Parent Handbook on page 65.

WSM Volunteers at 17th Annual **Clean Streams Event**

West Side Montessori Middle School's first science cycle theme is Make an Impact! Students are learning about the importance of our local waterways and watershed. They will be completing labs in class, participating in field studies outside the classroom, and have an opportunity to interact with three guest speakers that work daily to make a positive impact on the environment.



As part of the unit, a total of 24 WSM students, alumni, friends, and family have registered to participate in this weekend's 17th annual Clean Your Streams. The group will form two teams and work in the Olander area to help make a visible impact on our local waterways by getting down and dirty for river conservation.

UE Student Tops Age Group In Triathlon

Congratulations to Alicia Reichelt, who finished first at the Portage Lakes Kidz Triathlon in the 10-year-old girls division and 15th overall (boys & girls ages 10 and under). A fifth level student in Monarch, Alicia finished with a time of 23:04. The event was held at Portage Lake State Park in Akron on Saturday, Sept. 14. The kids triathlon included a 100-yard swim, a 5K bike ride, and 1/2 mile run.

"Before the race I was nervous," said Alicia. "But when it started all I thought was go, go, go!"

Make Plans to Join Us

AN INTRODUCTION TO POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

Presented by Chip DeLorenzo Thursday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m.



Come and learn about the basic principles of *Positive Discipline* and effective tools for encouraging cooperation and mutual respect with children.

Positive Discipline is a program developed from the work of Alfred Adler and Rudolf Dreikurs and designed to teach young people to become responsible, respectful, and resourceful members of their communities. Based on the best-selling *Positive Discipline* books by Dr. Jane Nelsen, it teaches important social and life skills that are encouraging for both children and adults. *Positive Discipline* teaches adults to employ kindness and firmness at the same time.

The tools and concepts of Positive Discipline include:

- Mutual respect. Adults model firmness by respecting themselves and the needs of the situation and kindness by respecting the needs of the child.
- Identifying the belief behind the behavior. Effective discipline recognizes the reasons kids do what they do and works to change those beliefs, rather than merely attempting to change behavior.
- Effective communication and problem solving skills.
- Discipline that teaches and is neither permissive nor punitive.
- Focusing on solutions instead of punishment.
- Encouragement (instead of praise). Encouragement notices effort and improvement, not just success, and builds long-term self-esteem and empowerment.

Reminder: There is NO SCHOOL and NO CHILD CARE on Friday, Oct. 18. WSM teachers and staff will be attending Positive Discipline Classroom Management workshops for the 2013-2014 teacher in-service day.