



# WEST SIDE MONTESSORI

Better Method. Amazing Outcomes.®

Dec. 16, 2013

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, Dec. 19

Pizza Day (CH-6)

### Friday, Dec. 20

- Toledo Children's House Holiday Open House 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- Perrysburg Multi-Cultural Celebration – 9-11:30 a.m.
- UE/MS Holiday Concert 9:15-10:15 a.m. (West Commons)
- Ice Skating Party (Levels 4-8) 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- UE/MS Holiday Luncheon 12:30-1:30 p.m.

### Dec. 23-Jan. 3

NO SCHOOL - WINTER BREAK

### Monday, Jan. 6

Classes Resume

**Grow with Montessori  
Toddler-Eighth Grade**

West Side Montessori  
**Open House**  
Sunday, January 26, 2014  
1 - 3 pm

Toledo and Perrysburg Campus

We encourage you to explore West Side Montessori's toddler through eighth grade classrooms at our Open House on Sunday, Jan. 26, from 1-3 p.m. See how we help each child grow to become the best thinker and most capable person he or she can be.



We are excited to announce that West Side Montessori has created an online store with Lands' End to offer you affordable, quality WSM spirit wear shipped right to your home. There is a great selection of items in toddler to adult sizes. All garments are embroidered with our tree logo. Click [here](#) to learn more.

## Unclaimed Lost & Found Donated Friday, Dec. 20

Missing a hat, sock, or coat from your child's backpack? Each campus has a Lost & Found box located in a common area to look for those missing items. All unclaimed items at the end of the day on **Friday, Dec. 20**, will be donated to charity.

## You're Invited

Join us for the Upper Elementary Ensemble and Middle School Band Holiday Concert on Friday, Dec. 20, from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the West Commons on the Toledo Campus.



Come and enjoy the sounds of the season and share in the hard work these students put into their bi-weekly rehearsals.

## Holiday Open House

Toledo Children's House Classrooms  
**8:30-10:30 a.m.**  
**Friday, Dec. 20**

What work does your child choose everyday? Come on in and find out! A snack and classroom crafts for the children to complete with their families will be provided!



**MONTESSORI  
MARCH  
MADNESS**

**PLAYING TO WIN!**

MARCH 8, 2014

FIFTH THIRD CENTER | ONE SEAGATE

Montessori March Madness promises to be an evening of fun, laughter, merriment, and joy, filled with one-of-a-kind art treasures created by our own West Side Montessori students. We guarantee that it will be a night you will not want to miss. Stay up to date on all the event details at [www.wsmcpringfundraiser.com](http://www.wsmcpringfundraiser.com).

Look for information coming home in January regarding how you can help.

Want to get involved? Contact Roberta Handel at (419) 866-1931 or [rhandel@wsmctoledo.org](mailto:rhandel@wsmctoledo.org).

Many thanks to our new **Elite Eight Sponsor**, Harbor Light Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons, Inc.



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# What Does Montessori Education Mean to You?

**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!

## Acorn to Oak – A Learning Playgroup

*Taught by a Montessori-certified Infant & Toddler Teacher*

Winter registration is now open for West Side Montessori's Acorn to Oak Learning Playgroup. The Acorn to Oak class is an eight-week program designed for infants and toddlers, ages 0-40 months, who are not enrolled in a Montessori program. A parent, grandparent, or caregiver is welcome to participate in the class. A complete schedule is available online at [montessoritoledo.org](http://montessoritoledo.org).

This class provides an opportunity for the parent to observe his/her child interacting with the teacher and other children while providing the emotional support the child may need to gain independence. This is a rich learning environment for the child and parent. Children learn through hands-on experiences and the parents will have a group discussion to learn about their children's development, meet other parents, and ask questions.

### School Closing & Delay Information

- **School Closing:**  
Tune in to WTOL Channel 11, WTVG Channel 13 or AM Radio WSPD (1370)
- **One-hour Delay:**  
Childcare begins 8 a.m.  
Carline 9:15 - 9:30 a.m.  
School begins at 9:30 a.m. for all campuses

Information also will be posted on WSM's [Facebook](#) page and [Twitter](#) account.

### CONNECT WITH US



[montessoritoledo.org](http://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

# What's the Buzz About Honey Bees?

By Leen Yassine, WSM 8th grade student

*Note: Each year Middle School students write research papers to learn the process of researching, writing, and presenting a topic. This year, students were asked to research a topic and persuade people to take action. Leen asked to publish her topic in the newsletter to encourage readers to take action on her topic.*

When many people think of honey bees, they imagine annoying insects that sting. Instead of swatting at them, it is time to realize how vital they are to the prosperity of human beings. But as society desires to increase crop production, they are ironically killing the one thing they need to do so: bees.

Honey bees in nearly every state in the country are dying. According to PBS, with the disappearing bees, so will one third of the crops in the United States- which is about one in every three bites of food that people eat! These bee disappearances are caused by a syndrome known as Colony Collapse Disorder, or CCD. In the article, "10 Crops That Would Disappear Without Bees," Fox news writes that the cause of these drastic bee die-offs are monocultures, where a large amount of stress is put on bees. Bees are trucked around to a monoculture, where they spend months pollinating one type of crop, only to repeat the

cycle. Heather Mattila, who studies honey bee behavior and genetics at Wellesley College says that like us, bees need their vitamins, minerals, proteins, fats, and other nutrients to have a well-functioning immune system, and bees receive all of this from the plants they pollinate. When bees are forced to live off of one crop, this is an insufficient diet. Monocultures also use large amounts of pesticides for their crops, damaging nature even more.

Pesticides, which are basically leftovers from chemical warfare, are being used on our produce. When the problem first appeared in France in 1994, systemic pesticides were believed to be the problem (Fox news). Systemic pesticides are a new type of pesticide that spread throughout the entire plant, sometimes getting into the pollen and nectar that bees feed on. As shown in the documentary, Vanishing of the Bees, many countries in Europe, including France, Germany, and Italy, have protested and banned troublesome pesticides. You may be asking yourself why we haven't banned any of these harmful toxins, and it all stems back to the Environmental Protection Agency. It turns out that the EPA relies on the companies who make the pesticides

for their data (Vanishing of the Bees)! So they are relying on the ones who will benefit the most from pesticide use. However, the good news is that even individual citizens can help save the honey bees!

- 1. Buy organic!**  
This is possibly one of the easiest ways to help the bees. Voting with our forks is powerful, as it is like boycotting the pesticides that poison our pollinators.
- 2. Make a bee-friendly garden!**  
Planting bee-friendly flowers, such as lavender and clover, and even planting blue, yellow, or purple flowers is a great way to attract bees. Setting out wood blocks gives bees a home as they feed and thrive off of your plants!
- 3. Sign petitions!**  
Many petitions are online to persuade Congress to make a change. Signing these is something easy you can do from home.  
You can BEE the difference you hope to see!

**Watch WSM's website and Facebook page later this week for a link to view's Leen's research presentation.**

**Enjoy Winter Break**  
**Dec. 23 – Jan. 3**  
**Classes Start Jan. 6**

## Gifts from All Ages

Our Annual Enhancement Fund, *Unrestricted Possibilities!* is growing. Since the start of the school year, we have raised more than \$30,000! Last week, we received our first donation from a student in Children's House. It's amazing that our youngest of children see the value of West Side Montessori and want our school to continue to grow. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support!