



The Grasshopper Gazette- 2016

Volume 16 Issue 4

December 1, 2016



*Warmest Holiday Wishes
To All of Our Montessori Families!*



- MS. ROHINI'S CORNER: It has been a tremendous first-half of the school year! The children have done wonderfully well in their classes and I want to congratulate them all on their very hard work. I hope you join us for our Children's Music Program. You will simply love it! This is our last newsletter of 2016! We wish everyone the merriest of holidays filled with family and friends! With Love, Your Montessori Teachers. After the Winter Break, we will see our sweet children back on Tuesday, **Jan 3rd, 2017!** Season's blessings to you!

• MUSIC TO OUR EARS: Bring a camera to capture the Children's Music Program!

Dec 15th Children wear their "Sunday Best" and must arrive by 8:30 a.m.

Concert Begins Promptly at 9:30 a.m. Pictures with Santa start at 8 a.m.



- TREMENDOUS TRIKE RESULTS!: Our 11th Annual Trike-A-Thon was such an incredible success! So many families turned out to cheer on our little riders. The air was filled with joy and graciousness. We were thrilled to be riding and sharing our hearts together with Retired Colonel, Mr. Ronald Dyches. Three cheers for **Mr. Jeff Dean** for providing our merry music and to **YOU**, our incredible families! Our children, families and friends donated an **awesome \$2,865** for our School Relay for Life Team and the American Cancer Society. Our Brandon, Riverview and SouthShore Montessori families are simply the best! A heartfelt "Thank you" from our school team.



- THIS GRAND LAND: We are studying Native America and our country's rich history. We are also learning about the earliest inhabitants of our vast world from Native American tribes to the Aztec civilization. Did you know that we have learned about Native Americans through archeologists and from stories and traditions passed down within the tribes from generation to generation?
- THE GIVING SEASON: Our Schools' Hope Lodge & Military Deployed Supply Drive is a tremendous success! Your donations of items will be delivered Dec 5th for cancer patients and their families! Children will help pack the boxes for shipping overseas to our deployed parents! The children made beautiful cards to spread some holiday cheer. 'Tis the season to give from the heart!



- IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Dec 9th - Silly Sock Day



Dec 15th - Children's Concert and Pictures with Santa





The Brandon Montessori School at River Hills

Dec 16th - Pajama Party! (Wear festive pj's! No slippers please!)

Dec 19th - Jan 2nd - School Closed

Jan 16th - School is Closed for the MLK holiday.



- GREAT AMERICAN TEACH-IN: We have had a great variety of topics shared with our inquisitive children! Parents and grandparents visited to share their talents and interests with us! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for enriching our children's lives in this way! 😊
- LESSONS ON GRATITUDE: Children have been reflecting on and expressing their thoughts of gratitude in various forms. We have been writing letters of thanks, creating gratitude journals and even made cute thankful turkeys with brilliant feathers. Let's all give thanks!
- LITERARY NEWS!: Our Schools' Book Fairs were a tremendous success. Thanks to all for supporting our children's reading through delightful new books! We earned over **\$1,500 of free Scholastic books** for our classrooms! "A book is a gift you can open again and again!" ~ Garrison Keillor 
- LITERACY LESSONS: Children are reading with such enthusiasm with their buddies! Teachers are so very proud of the great effort by all of the children on their reading skills. Kindergarten and Elementary students have developed such strong skills: vocabulary and oral language in their Morning Meeting time and group studies; comprehension through interactive read-alouds and small group instruction; and writing in their daily Writing Workshop lessons! Fantastic work children! 
- OFFICE NOTES: Please label jackets, sweaters, hats and Show & Tell items. Thanks!
- ART CLASS: Our little elves' gorgeous handcrafted gifts were prepared with care! **Our Mr. Charley and Ms. Barbara could not accomplish it by themselves for all three schools' 300 students!** Thank you to our dear parent and grandparent volunteers for your time and love helping with the children's Art Classes! 
- SCHOOL NEWS: Our Executive Staff are busy planning and preparing for the upcoming year. We are working again with the American Montessori Society on our three Schools' reaccreditation. Also, the upcoming enrollment season soon will begin. Watch for some exciting news for early enrolling families for next school year. Last but not least, we are pleased to continue offering VPK at all three campus locations for next year. Look for details regarding eligibility and enrollment.
- CUBBY ITEMS: Be sure to empty your child's cubby items and **bring fresh items back on Jan 3rd**.
- JAN THEMES & DATES: We will study Time Lines, South America, Dr. Martin Luther King, Famous Scientists, Art Theme: Henri Matisse/still life, Composer: Mozart. **School is Closed on Jan 16th for MLK.**

"Don't limit a child to your own learning,

for he was born in another time." Rabindranath Tagore

