

Highlights of the Week

Dear families,

A week full of celebrations has just come to an end! On Tuesday we celebrated Carnevale decorating masks, playing dress up and eating a traditional Italian dessert.

On Valentine's Day the children had a blast preparing cookies, decorating hearts and passing along the valentines to their friends. Thanks for helping your child to prepare the boxes and for bringing to school so many goodies to share.

Finally, on Thursday we attended a very colorful and animated presentation about the Chinese New Year celebration prepared by some of our Chinese families.

And following is an update on some areas of our Montessori curriculum:

Practical life: To foster the children independence and to prepare them to the pre-primary classrooms, this week we have introduced the individual snack. What does it mean? It means that each child will decide when he/she wants to eat the morning snack. We have set up a snack area with a table with a nice tablecloth and decorative flowers; a table with two containers, one for crackers and one for fruit; one bowl for each child. With the initial supervision of the teacher the child will put the food in the plate, will eat and will clean up. What a great thing to do at home, too!

Art: This week the children practiced how to use a glue stick with different materials: they decorated masks with torn paper and they glued small shining hearts on hearts made of foam.

Cooking project: The children helped to make a sugar cookies dough mixing together flour, sugar, butter and some spices. They also waited very patiently until the cookies were ready to be eaten.

Sing language: Valentine's Day.

Dr. Maria Montessori Words:

"The teacher's task is first to nourish and, assist, to watch, encourage, guide, induce, rather than to interfere, prescribe or restrict." M. Montessori

Reminder:

- February 16th Family Ball at Troy Community center 6pm to 7:30pm
- February 19th & 20th Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL

Home/School Connection

February is Children's Dental Health Month. Help your child to keep his/her teeth healthy following these easy rules:

- Visit the dentist twice a year.
- Brush and floss at least twice a day.
- Spend two whole minutes brushing and flossing his/her teeth.
- Limit the consumption of candies and juices.
- Eat healthy foods like apples, pears, vegetables, cheese and yogurt.