

**The Montessori
Elementary School**
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www.tmesnm.com

Mary Jane Besante

Principal

Stan Albrycht

Business Manager

**Collaborative
Council**

Daniel Bailet

Cornell Crayton

Joanne Li

Spencer Visconti



Ms. Evonne is always ready to help students and their families.

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Welcome Back!

I am excited to welcome our new families, as well as our wonderful returning families. Please feel free to stop by and say hello!

The faculty and staff at TMES are dedicated to giving our students the opportunity to learn within classrooms that are respectful, nurturing, inviting, and safe.

At TMES we are proud to offer a comprehensive Montessori curriculum, with a fine arts program that includes instruction in art, general music, and Suzuki violin.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime via e-mail at mbesante@tmesnm.com, call me at the school at 796-0149, or stop by the office. I look forward to working with you this school year!

Sincerely,

Mary Jane Besante, Principal



Mr. John's 6-9 class begins every day with a little exercise on the playground.

Presidential Volunteer Service Awards

For the 2005-2006 school year, TMES participated in the Presidential Volunteer Service Award Program. We would like to congratulate the following families and individuals who participated: **The Fleming Family** - Bronze Family Award; **Monica Noce** - Silver Individual Award; and **The Sandoval Family** - Silver Family Award. The Montessori Elementary School also received the Gold Group Award for logging in over 1000 volunteer hours!

TMES will be participating in the PVSA program again for the 2006-2007 school year. If you have volunteered, or are planning to volunteer at the school we would love to have you participate! If you are interested, please contact **Ms. Melissa** for more information.



The 9-12 students enjoyed a rock-climbing adventure in the Jemez Mountains earlier this month.

9-12 Classes in Full Swing

This year, the Upper Elementary (9-12) classes are enjoying one large community of 50 students, with “homeroom” teachers. We have started the year with studies in Biology, Earth Sciences, Grammar, Geometry, Math, Creative Writing, Editing, and Literature Circles.

We are so excited about our Fine Arts Program this year. Art and Music are an invaluable part of the students’ education, and the Upper Elementary class enjoys three hours of Fine Arts weekly. In addition to these specials, we are also working on healthy bodies. The students run one mile every Monday and Friday mornings, they work on PE skills through community games, and they are participating in a core-strength Pilates program. All of this exercise goes hand in hand with proper nutrition, so the students are working on bringing only healthy foods to school.

The 9-12 Hummingbird Trip was held on September 7-8. The students traveled to the beautiful Jemez Mountains for an overnight trip and took part in team-building community work. They were also surprised by their teachers with a rock-climbing adventure. A big thanks to the 9-12 parents who made these extras possible. This trip was invaluable to building friendships and helping our classroom community grow in positive ways. What a great way to begin the year!

Notes from Ms. Susan’s Class

Ms. Susan’s class is off to a great start! We have expanded our classroom family to include three hermit crabs and we are learning how to take care of them (ask your students how we happened to get three).

We have used the scientific method to discover that sugar contains carbon, liquids are not always the same, and we will continue to explore the states of matter.

Parents please stop by and see our classroom family tree and beautiful work that is posted in the hallway. Thank you to the families who donated items from the classroom wish list.

School Calendar

Tuesday

September 19

9-12 Coffee Concert and Student Art Exhibit

3:30 pm, at the school

Ms. Kari's 9-12 students to perform. Everyone is welcome!

Thursday

September 21

TMES Collaborative Council Meeting

6:00 pm, at the school

Friday

September 22

Teacher In-Service

No School

Tuesday

September 26

Montessori Education Foundation Board Meeting

6 pm, at the school. Everyone welcome!

Thursday/Friday

October 5-6

Fall Break

No School

Monday

October 9

Columbus Day

No School

Wednesday/Thursday

October 11-12

Picture Day

Friday

October 13

Newsletter deadline

Send items to Jill at riesterr@msn.com or 281-1337

Friday

October 20

Teacher In-Service

No School

Wednesday

October 25

International Children's Day

Thursday/Friday

October 26-27

Parent Conferences



Parent Reminders

Please **be sure to call the school before 9 am if your child will be absent. Ms. Evonne** will need to know the child's name, the child's teacher, who is calling in, the reason for the child's absence, and the date of return, if known. **Ms. Evonne** will relay the information to your child's teacher. Please be reminded that if the school doesn't receive a call, the absence is considered unexcused.

Please use the **back lot for drop off and pick up**. The front lot is for handicapped parking and teachers. Please drive carefully and slowly during pick up and drop off times, and be sure to follow the one-way traffic pattern. Thanks for helping TMES keep the parking lot safe for our children!

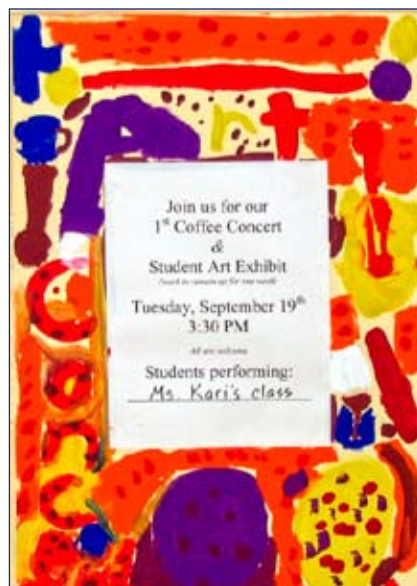
Kudos

. . . to **Ann Salopek** for gardening help and donating mats for the hallway.
. . . to **Mr. Boldt** for his very hard work cleaning the playground.
. . . to **Mr. Newkirk, Spencer Visconti, Steve Jarrett, Joanne and Alan Li, Lisa Houston, Michelle Dickey, The Caalin Family,** and **The Venturi Family** for their help in getting the school ready for the new year.
. . . to **Larry Alei** and **Allen Luetngen** for help with the school computers.
. . . to **Roberta Sanchez** and **Polly Ann Martinez** for their help with registration.
. . . to all the parents who chaperoned the Hummingbird trip for the 9-12 students.
. . . to **Stephanie Catasca (CPA)** and **Robert Singer (Attorney)** for volunteering their time to help the Montessori Education Foundation (see p. 5) with filing all the necessary paperwork to get started. Their assistance was absolutely invaluable!

Fine Arts off to a Great Start

Thank you to the 68 parents and grandparents who attended Fine Art Night last month. We appreciate your interest and support! If you could not make it to the August events, we have several informal Coffee Concerts scheduled after school and another Fine Art Night planned for later in the year. Some suggestions that were made during the question and answer session: Add **another Coffee Concert** to the one-per-month already planned, or, **offer two concerts on the same day** after school e.g. first concert 3:30 to 4:15 and second concert 4:30 to 5:15. Another suggestion was to **post photos or video clip of the violin teacher giving a lesson** (see below) on the website so that parents can better help their children with practicing. Also, parents asked that **music and art schedules** be posted (see below and p. 5).

Thank you for your input and financial support. Keep those \$5.00 music and art fees coming in!



Be sure to check out the great artwork students made for the Coffee Concert posters.

Ms. Canice demonstrates the proper stance for playing the violin.



Violin Information Online

Ms. Canice has been hard at work putting together photos to illustrate bow and violin holds for students and parents. The photos will be on the school's website, www.tmesnm.com, sometime next week. You will also be able to see the music progress reports, reading list, the music schedule, parts of the violin, etc.

And don't forget to attend the first Coffee Concert of the year on **Tuesday, September 19 at 3:30 pm**. Ms. Kari's 9-12 students will perform and students' artwork will be displayed. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Art Schedule

Monday no classes scheduled, make-up classes only

Tuesday **Ms. Kari & Ms. Kim's** Group A 4th graders
Ms. Kari & Ms. Kim's Group C 5th graders
Ms. Monica's class

Wednesday **Ms. Kari & Ms. Kim's** Group B 4th graders
Ms. Kari & Ms. Kim's Group D 6th graders
Mr. John's class

Thursday **Ms. Angie's** class
Ms. Susan's class

Friday **Ms. Melissa's** class
Open Studio



On Friday afternoons the art room is open for students who have permission from their teachers to come in and finish art projects. They may also choose other works from art lessons they have had.

Please send a smock, old shirt or old T-shirt to school with your child. A size bigger than they normally wear will work fine for slipping over their school clothes on art day. Be sure to let **Ms. Phyllis** know if you any questions about the Art Program.

Nonprofit Getting Off the Ground

At TMES we have an opportunity to provide a rich and unique education for our children. As a charter school, we are even more blessed because this education can be available for all families in the community. One of the downsides of being part of the public school system, however, is that funding is often insufficient to provide all the programs, supplies, staff, and equipment the school needs. To help with fundraising goals for TMES, the **Montessori Education Foundation, Inc.**, was formed in April 2006. The Foundation is a separate, not-for-profit organization that can accept grants, donations, in-kind support, and corporate contributions on behalf of TMES.

The Foundation will be working closely with the teachers and administration of TMES, as well as the Collaborative Council, to develop fundraising priorities for the 2006-2007 school year. We all share the goal of providing the best education possible for our children, and you can help by making a donation to the Foundation and/or volunteering your time to help with fundraising projects.

Currently, we are waiting for the IRS to grant official 501(c)(3) status to the Foundation. We want to be very clear that donations to the Foundation will only be tax-deductible for 2006 if we receive the IRS notification **before December 31.**

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, September 26, at 6 pm at the school.** Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Please feel free to contact **Jill Riester** at riesterr@msn.com or 281-1337 if you have any questions about the Foundation.



Ms. Kari and Ms. Kim's 4th graders learn about printmaking in Art Class.



Search the Web and Earn Money for TMES

TMES now has another way to earn money for activities and materials. Every time you use GoodSearch.com to search the internet, money goes to our school. To participate, just visit GoodSearch.com and type in The Montessori Elementary School for your charity. Please click on the "verify" button, and then on our Albuquerque location. The site is powered by Yahoo!, so you'll get the same quality search results that you're used to. What's unique is that they have developed a way to direct money to our school with every click. The more people who use this site, the more money will go to TMES. So please spread the word to your friends and family.

Box Tops 4 Education

Did you know that you can earn cash for our school by shopping for groceries? Box Tops coupons are found on hundreds of Pillsbury, General Mills, Betty Crocker and Ziploc products. Simply clip the coupons, write your child's first and last name on the back and send them to school. Your child can put them in the Box Tops box located by the front desk. The school will have a drawing every month for prizes . . . the first is a gift certificate to Cold Stone Creamery! For every coupon our school turns in, TMES receives ten cents—it doesn't sound like much, but it sure adds up quickly. Proceeds from the collection of Box Tops will go toward special classroom projects and materials.

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- **Next Newsletter Deadline** • • • • •
- The next newsletter will go out on Friday, • • • • •
- October 19. If you have information to be • • • • •
- included, please send it to Jill at • • • • •
- riesterr@msn.com by October 13. • • • • •
- • • • •

Teacher Wish List

Ms. Susan: electric breadmaker (used is fine)

Ms. Canice: small boom box, keyboards for the children, and *Primo Performance* (a book by Robert Frost).

Take Charge of Education

TMES recently **received \$119** because of family and teacher participation in the Target Take Charge of Education Program. Target donates 1% of purchases made with their REDcard (credit card) to schools designated by the purchaser. If you're interested in participating, please visit Target.com/tcoe, stop by a kiosk in a Target store, or call 1/800-316-6142. Be sure to designate TMES when you sign up!