



Denison Montessori

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THEIR TIME AND PLACE

Welcome back, greetings to new students and families, and Happy New Year! Thank you for your involvement and support of your child's education! We have had great turnout and engagement with events like the Winter Concerts, the Denison Talent Show, our December Dialogic Reading Workshop, the 202 Poetry Extravaganza, and parent meetings. We thank you for your support of our school through programs like the Believe Fundraiser, Amazon Smile, Box Tops for Education, King Soopers gift cards, and the For Small Hands promotion. We appreciate your dedication and support! We recently sent home a fundraising update in Friday Folders; this is also on our website.

News

Learn about the Montessori Math Curriculum! Montessori Math Night Tuesday, Jan. 16th, 5:15-7:00

Come and join the Denison community as we share the scope and sequence of the Montessori Math area and unlock some of its mysteries! We will offer pizza from 5:15-6:00 (your children can eat with you) and have presentations and childcare for ages 3-12 from 6:00-7:00. We plan to offer interpretation in Spanish and Vietnamese, based on registration. Please RSVP by Jan. 12. Find more information in Friday Folders, on our website, and on our Facebook page. We hope you can join us!



Student News

Ms. Marybeth's class learned about the Hanukkah tradition by making latkes. Thank you to Siri's family, who also shared the Hanukkah story with **Ms. Hanna's class!**

The Shakespeare Club for 3rd-6th grades has started work on their scenes by the Bard! Thank you, Ms. Tiffany!

Ms. Lisa's class is continuing their tradition of monthly luncheons, with one grade planning, preparing, and serving lunch to the others.

Ms. Christy's class celebrated the beauty of language and oral expression with their Poetry Extravaganza on December 20th.

Ms. Sheila's students wrote holiday messages to people in nursing homes, the military, and in Children's Hospital.

Ms. Rose's class created Timelines of the Alphabet in lovely cursive to illustrate the development of the written word throughout history.

Ms. Jennifer's Art classes have been working on pop art food projects and ocean creature alphabet books. They are beginning work on ocean dioramas and studies of the art of China and Japan.

Community Events

In January, we host a Montessori Math Night for all families and important meetings of the FDM, CSC, and PAC, and we launch our Pennies for Patients Drive. February events include Primary Watch Me Work Night, Parent-Teacher Conferences, and Grandparents' Day. Come and join us!

- Jan. 8-Feb. 9: ACCESS testing for K-6 English language learners
- Tues., Jan. 9, 4:15-6:00: FDM (Families of Denison Montessori)
- Fri., Jan. 12, 9:00-10:00: PAC (Bilingual Families) Meeting: The Future of TNLI / Native Language Instruction at Denison
- Mon., Jan. 15: No School (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
- Tues., Jan. 16, 5:15-7:00: Montessori Math Night (see left)
- Tues., Jan. 23, 5:30-7:30: CSC (Collaborative School Committee)
- Fri., Jan. 26 – Wed., Feb. 14: Pennies for Patients Drive
- Thurs., Feb. 1: 4:30-8:00: Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Fri., Feb. 2: No School for Students: Professional Day
- Tues., Feb. 6, 5:00-6:00: Primary Watch Me Work Night (next page)
- Wed., Feb. 14: Grandparents' Day; Pennies for Patients Drive ends
- Thurs., Feb. 15, 4:30-8:00: Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Mon., Feb 19 No School: Presidents' Day
- Tues., Feb. 20, 8:00-4:00: No School / Parent-Teacher Conferences

Student News, continued

Mr. Tim's Music classes have been studying music from around the world, with instruments like the didgeridoo, sitar, and Native American flute. Music classes still are in need of donations of large wrapping paper tubes to make didgeridoos! Congratulations to Denison students selected to perform with the Colorado Children's Chorale (Nikte'Ha Verde-Arce, Eloise Peters, Lia Rivera, Ksana Balchumas, and Felicia Colahan) and the 2018 Colorado Elementary All-State Honors Choir: Owen Christner and Gus Vita.

Ms. Bami's, Ms. Liz's, and Ms. Maria's classes enjoyed making gingerbread houses. Thank you to all parent volunteers!

Coach V.'s After-School Sports Club starts this month for Upper Elementary students in grades 4th-6th. The club will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-5:15. See Coach for permission slip

Two 4th graders from 203, Cecilia and Nikte'Ha, have taken the lead in organizing our Clothes to Kids drive. Thank you to Kacey, as well, for your help!

6th grade students facilitated and hosted the Denison Talent Show. Denison students shared their passions, from violin to jump rope to comedy to gymnastics. Thank you to all who supported this opportunity!



Parent Liaison News

Remember that our Parent Liaison, Caroline, has Office Hours on Tuesdays, 8:50-9:30, and Wednesdays, 3:00-3:45, and by appointment.

Caroline's office is in 110C in the library; please sign in at the main office first. Stop by if you have questions or if your family needs support.

Congratulations to Ms. Stacy's class for the best attendance rate in December! We also had a number of students in that class with improved attendance. Ms. Stacy's class enjoyed a special lunch in December.

We have a permanent **Clothes to Kids** donation box in the main lobby, by the Two Dorothy's Free Library. Please continue to bring in your gently-used clothing to benefit this organization.

This month, Denison is launching a Pennies for Patients penny drive!

Starting January 29th, students will collect pennies to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The drive will go through February 14th. More information is coming!

DPS's **School Choice window is Feb. 1st-28th, 2018.** Look for information coming for your ECE student. Enrollment is online. Spread the word -- we are recruiting new families!

We also have our **Parent Resource Library in the Denison Library.** New and featured titles include Aline Wolf's *A Parent's Guide to the Montessori Classroom* and *Cómo cultivar el espíritu del niño*, as well as articles in English and Spanish on Grace and Courtesy (social relations in Montessori). Come and check out these resources!



Social-Emotional News

6th grade students participated earlier this year in the SOS (Signs of Suicide) curriculum with Merrilee, our school psychologist. There is a confidential resource available for anyone concerned about personal safety or the safety of others:

Safe2Tell: 1-877-542-7233, or safe2tell.org. If you have questions, contact Merrilee via the school office.

Winter Conferences; Primary Watch Me Work Night

Winter **Parent-Teacher Conferences** will be held Thursday, Feb. 1st and Thursday, Feb. 15th, from 4:30-8:00, and Tuesday, Feb. 20th, from 8:00-4:00.

On Feb. 6th, from 5:00-6:00, come and **visit your Primary (ECE/K) child's classroom** and observe your child doing his/her favorite work. Your child might even give you a Montessori lesson! Look for more information coming soon.

