



Monarch Minutes

March 2016

Upcoming Events

- 3 PTSO Community Meeting, 6:30-7:30pm; presentation on MOY student achievement data
- 10 Primary Parent Education Night, "Solving the Mystery of Math," 6-7:30pm
- 14 Pi Day
- 15 Elementary Parent Information Night, 6-7:30pm
- March 28–April 1**
Spring Break; students return to school on April 4

Fuel Free Fridays

As the weather (hopefully) starts to warm in March and we head into spring, this is a reminder that every Friday is Fuel Free Friday!

CHM@L started Fuel Free Fridays to encourage families to walk, bike, stroll, take the Metro, or carpool to school every Friday. Please participate!

Fuel Free Fridays is great way to start your day by getting some exercise and help the environment and our community by reducing the amount of air pollutants emitted by cars.

Have fun getting to and from school this spring!



Ms. Pilette

—Written by Hannah Kavanaugh, Kennadi Jackson, Khamani Brown, Brenden Maboney, and Paris Al-Fatab

In Ms. Jackie's class we have 13 first graders, 7 second graders, and 8 third graders. We also have 16 plants. We do a lot of measuring using measuring cups and other measuring materials.



Students measure different volumes of liquid using different units of measurement

Ms. Jackie also puts boards up, one of them is spelling words, another is word problems and the last one, well, it tells you the meaning of the math operations. We interviewed some of our friends about the class:

Q: What do you like to do in the classroom?

A: Sophia said that she likes to do research. Jahi said that he likes to have lessons.

Q: What do you like about the classroom?

A: Kate said she likes to read. Telena

Classroom Updates

said she likes math. Josh said he likes lessons.

Q: What kind of lessons do you like to get?

A: Trinity said she likes to get math lessons.

Q: What do you know about history?

A: Clara knows a little bit.

Ms. Sanchez

When posed with the question of what we have been doing in our class, the children decided they wanted to talk about snack time in our room. So here is our appropriately titled tale:

How We Do Snack

By the kids in Ms. Sanchez' Class

(Athena) Everybody needs to do work before they eat snack. (Keila) For snack, we eat different foods every day. (David) Snack helpers cut paper towels. (Riley) Once I cut the bananas. (Alex) We throw banana peels in the trash.

(Jinger) First we need to wash our hands. (Riley) Then we pick up snack at the table. (Calder) Next we sit down at the table and eat. (Sasha) Today's snack was popcorn and grapes. (Ryan) After we eat, we put the plates in the bucket. (Owen) Don't forget to clean the table with crumbers and sponges. (Carrington) We sweep the floor with a floor sweeper. (Noelle) We wash and we rinse and we dry the dishes.

(Tayler) After snack we go back to work. (Owen) The next day we will do it all over again! (All) The End.



Students clean up after snack in Ms. Sanchez' room

PTSO News & Notes

Our annual CHML Online Auction will take place from **April 11th to April 21st**. Now is your opportunity to contribute.

- Do you have or know someone who can donate an item or service to the auction?
- Do you want to or know someone who can sponsor the online auction?
- Would you like to host a themed dinner party at your house for 10-20 CHM@L families?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, please contact Danica Petroschius at dpetroschius@yahoo.com. All items must be collected by **March 30th**. All funds raised will support our primary, elementary, and middle grades programs. The Online Auction is an integral part of our fundraising strategy to ensure success for our school. Thank you all in advance for your support!

Spotlight on Montessori Materials

What is that Primary Montessori Material?

It is the Dressing Frames!

The Dressing Frames are Care of the Person materials in the Practical Life area of the Primary Montessori classroom. As the name implies, Care of the Person exercises show the children how to take care of themselves, which is their ultimate goal as they strive to become independent and gain self-confidence. The Dressing Frames aid in the development of both visual motor coordination and fine motor coordination.

Each Dressing Frame is a 12" x 12" wooden frame that is covered with pieces of fabric and one type of fastening, for example, five buckles are found on the Buckles Frame and one zipper on the Zipper Frame. There are twelve frames in all: Snaps, Large Buttons, Small Buttons, Hooks and Eyes, Velcro, Buckles, Zipper, Bows, Shoe Laces, Safety Pins, Boot Laces, and Shoe Buttons with a shoe button hook; the last one giving an historic nod to what the children were wearing when Maria Montessori opened her first classroom more than one hundred years ago.



It can be quite challenging for a young child to button a shirt, snap the waistband on a pair of jeans, or zip up a winter coat when those articles of clothing are being worn by that child. The Dressing Frames give the children the opportunity to practice working with a particular style of fastener while it is laid out flat in front of them on a table. Each dressing frame is presented by the teacher to each child as an individual lesson. The teacher has been trained to analyze the movements needed to open and close the various fastenings and to demonstrate each step in the sequence. Snaps are fairly straightforward, though lining them up to hear that satisfying snapping sound can be challenging at first, but think of how many steps are involved in learning to tie

bows. And even when the child has mastered tying on the Bows Frame, it is yet another leap to master tying one's own shoes!

The teacher will invite the child to bring a particular dressing frame to a table and will demonstrate how to use it. For example, she will show the child how to unsnap the five snaps, one at a time, and how to line up the snaps to snap them closed, one at a time. On another day, she will show the child how to unzip and zip the zipper. As always, she will invite the child to take a turn and to repeat as often as desired during that lesson and at any future time that the child finds the material available on the shelf. The beauty of having five snaps, buttons, bows, etc. in a row is that the teacher can show the same movement five times in a row to make a lasting impression in the child's mind. Once the children have gained these new skills, they are always so happy and excited to be able to help themselves and their classmates when it comes to tying shoelaces before walking down the hall to lunch or zipping up coats for recess on these cold winter days. It is gratifying to watch their determination and perseverance as they work to acquire skills that give them a sense of pride and satisfaction in themselves and their abilities.



What is that Elementary Montessori Material?

It is the Black Strip!

It just might have happened like this:

One hot, dry afternoon in Madras, India in 1939, Maria Montessori was talking with a group of children in the shade of a great, old Banyan tree. A boy, about ten years old, proudly proclaims the wisdom of his Indian civilization, one of the oldest in the world. Perhaps he even wonders out loud how much he can learn from Dr. Montessori and her far less ancient culture.

Later, over afternoon tea, Montessori reflects on the boy's words, wondering how best to respond. She notices telephone workers laying long black cables on the dusty road as she takes another sip of her strong tea. She and Mario have been working for many months on the elementary curriculum; the Great Lessons have recently been shaped. Motivated by the boy's comment, Montessori creates "A Lesson in Humility."



A few weeks later, after enlisting the help of a local seamstress, Montessori invites the boy and his classmates to meet her. Following Dr. Montessori's instructions, two teachers on bicycles position between them a long wooden dowel, upon which is rolled a huge spool of narrow black cloth. Without a word the teachers begin to unroll the black strip of fabric, laying it on the ground, as they slowly ride their bicycles down the street. Montessori and the inquisitive children follow behind and many neighborhood children join the procession, asking, "What is this? What is it for?"

Montessori is very quiet. Perhaps she says "Wait and see." Perhaps she does not say a word until the end, when the long black strip has been completely unwound and now at the very end there appears a surprise: a narrow strip of white cloth.

Montessori finally speaks: "This little white part represents the entire time that human beings have been on Earth. Compare it to the black strip, which represents the age of Earth."

The children gaze back down the street where the black strip has disappeared from sight, and then look again at the tiny strip of white in Dr. Montessori's hand. Perhaps Montessori smiles at the boy who inspired her to create this lesson.

Today teachers use a black strip with a narrow red strip at the end. The lesson is generally given towards the beginning of the year. It is meant to inspire and awe as well as give students an idea of the short period of time that humans have been around. It helps students gain a greater appreciation of their place in the universe.

Taken from: <http://www.montessoriservices.com/ideas-insights/the-long-black-strip>

Getting to Know Ms. Cole

1. What is your favorite Montessori material and why?

I love all of the Montessori materials that is one of the reasons I became a trained guide, but my all time favorite is the Multiplication Bead Bars. They portray the concept clearly and concretely. I hated the way I learned my multiplication facts as a child.

2. Where did you grow up and how long have you been in the DC area?

I grew up in Northwest, DC. I lived in the same house my whole life. My parents bought the house two years before I was born.

3. What made you interested in the Montessori Method?

I became interested in the Montessori Method 17 years ago when my son attended Gloucester Montessori School in Gloucester, Virginia. I have only recently been trained in the method. I couldn't figure out how to take time away from my traveling family (my husband at the time was in the military) to complete the training. Three years ago I simply did it.

4. What is your favorite children's book?

My favorite children's book is *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* by Dr. Seuss.

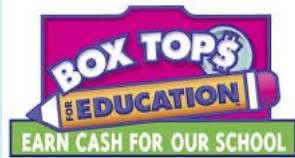
5. What do you like to do when you're not at school?

I like to do anything that has to do with water. I like to sail, scuba dive, and swim. All of these things take me to new and exciting places.



March 2016

Many thanks to all of the families who submitted Box Tops by the February deadline. We will receive another check this Spring. Please continue to bring in Box Tops regularly. All proceeds go directly to supporting our school's library. We'll continue to send home monthly collection sheets and will collect Box Tops through the end of the school year.



Thanks for supporting our school and the Box Tops for Books program! For more information go to: <http://www.BTFE.com>

Montessori Child @ Home

DC by Foot (walking tours)

Various dates, times, and locations

Pay what you like. All ages.

DC by Foot "offer(s) tours that will give you a fuller appreciation of this great capital city. Our signature Washington DC tour is our National Mall Tour, a roughly two hour tour that covers the most highlights, including the magnificent Lincoln Memorial, or how about continuing on with us around the Tidal Basin to cover all of Washington, DC's famous memorials and monuments on our All-in-One Tour? Or learn about the tragic events on our Lincoln Assassination walking tour. Learn more about DC politics on our bi-partisan Capitol Hill Tour. Join us as we cross over the Potomac River to honor America's military men and woman on our Arlington Cemetery Tour. Immerse yourself in Washington's scandal-filled diplomatic core on our Dark Side of Dupont & Embassy Row Tour. We don't stop there. We also offer a historic walk of a real Washington DC neighborhoods on our Historic Georgetown Tour, or our food tours of: Eastern Market Dessert and U Street Food Tour."

<http://www.freetoursbyfoot.com/washington-dc-tours#sthash.UHlfT7Yw.dpuf>

National Cherry Blossom Festival

March 20–April 17, 2016

Most events are free. All ages.

Each year, the National Cherry Blossom Festival celebrates spring in Washington, DC, the gift of the cherry blossom trees, and the enduring friendship between the people of the United States and Japan. The Festival produces and coordinates daily events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Events include opening ceremony (3/26), kite festival (4/2), fireworks (4/9), parade (4/16), and Anacostia River Festival (4/17).

<http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/category/events>

Logan History Club

The Logan Club is learning about the original Logan School and the history of General John A. Logan. The original Logan School is across the street from Capitol Hill Montessori @ Logan.

Here is the Logan Latest and the exciting things members of the Logan Club do!

On February 11, 2016, the Logan Club received Field Guide notebooks to take notes when they go on outings. During club sessions, the members are getting a closer look at primary sources and portraits of John Alexander Logan, and gaining information about the time period while looking at background and foreground.

Because the Logan School is named after General John A. Logan, we are investigating why he is important. We discovered that there were no schools in a big area of this neighborhood for colored children. The schools children went to were overcrowded. This past meeting, the Logan Club received four key words that were somehow related to colored children, schools, and General John A. Logan. We need to find out the connection. Look for our publication in next month's edition of Monarch Minutes.

Can you figure out John A. Logan's middle name? I put it in the text.

—Written by: Zuri Gunthrope

CHM@L Spelling Bee

The 3rd Annual CHM@L Spelling Bee was held on Thursday, January 21. Elsa Boehm, a third grader in Ms. Godsoe's class, won first place. Madeleine Horowitz, a fourth grader in Ms. Kimboko's class, won second place. Jubei Brown-Weaver, a sixth grader from Ms. Kimboko's class, won third place.

The 34th Annual District of Columbia Spelling Bee Cluster Competitions are for students in 4th-8th grades. The CHM@L spelling bee is open to students in the 3rd grade and up so that younger students have the opportunity to practice. CHM@L winner Elsa Boehm is in the 3rd grade but that did not stop her from continuing to compete!

After Elsa was informed that she could not participate in the Spelling Bee Cluster Competition, Elsa lobbied Principal Eatman to let her participate. Fully understanding her point of view and her eagerness to participate but unable to make the decision, Principal Eatman suggested Elsa write a letter to the DCPS spelling bee coordinator. Elsa wrote a note and DCPS made an exception to allow Elsa to participate in the competition on February 23-26.

Elsa won second place in the Spelling Bee Cluster Competition on February 23 by correctly spelling some extremely hard words, and she will now advance to the city-wide spelling bee. Congratulations Elsa!

Congratulations to the three top finishers at CHM@L and to all of the students who participated in the spelling bee. Thank you to Ms. Warrick for organizing the spelling bee at CHM@L.



Pictured: Lesa Warrick—resource teacher, Principal Eatman, Jubei Brown-Weaver, Elsa Boehm, Madeleine Horowitz, and Assistant Principal Yolanda Nashid



Fulcrum

PROPERTIES GROUP

Visit fulcrumpg.com/giving to learn more.

ok: B Eatman

www.fulcrumpg.com

Fulcrum Properties Group
1328 G Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

main: (202) 573-8552
broker: (202) 243-7700
agent@fulcrumpg.com



kw
CAPITAL PROPERTIES

