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"WHERE EDUCATION IS EXCITING"

the *CMS* voice

Important Dates:

MARCH

- 1st—12pm-Elementary Birthday Lunch
- 6th—1:30pm-Open House
- 7th—Elementary-Alice in Wonderland
- 8th—9am-Senior Elementary-Tri-Arts
- 14th—10am-All Elementary-Tri Arts
- 15th—12pm-CCC Pizza Lunch
1pm-Elementary Book Share
- 18th-22nd—SPRING BREAK
(No School/No Childcare)
- 27th—9am-Critterkeeper

APRIL

- 5th—12pm-Elementary Birthday Lunch
- 8th -12th—Elementary MAP testing 3rd-6th year students
- 15th-18th—Elementary Stanford testing 2nd-6th year students
- 19th—Earth Day Plant Sale & 12pm CCC Pizza Lunch
- 24th—9:30am-All Elementary Tri Arts
- 26th—1pm-Elementary Book Share

Directress' Notes

Thanks to all of our families who "shared the love" by donating books to the children at Helping Hands during Valentine's week. After school, several of the teachers joined me in dropping the books off at the Helping Hands Foster Home and Emergency Shelter and in taking a tour of the facility. I was surprised to learn that it has been there since 1984 and since opening, 8000 children have come through their doors. On the day of our visit, 24 children from six months to sixth grade were living there; the house has the capacity to care for 54 children from birth through age 12. The volunteers and staff were thankful for a Valentine's surprise



Clemson Montessori School

for the children, and the children eagerly awaited opening the books after dinner. During the tour, I learned that every child who arrives gets a stuffed animal and a blanket. I also learned that they would really like to provide the children with duffel bags or suitcases in which to take their belongings when they leave the shelter. That's certainly

CMS OPEN HOUSE

I encourage you to join us for our CMS Open House the following week. The Peanut and Elementary classrooms will be open for afternoon tours Wednesday, March 6th. You'll be able to observe children engaged with Montessori materials and students and staff will be on hand to answer any questions you have about our programs. It happens to be that some students are typically in the library, some are

drumming, and some are in Latin lessons Wednesday afternoons, so you'll catch a glimpse of those special treats as well. Plan to end your tour with refreshments in the library. Please feel free to spread the word and bring anyone you know who's curious about Montessori! Sign up for the Open House afternoon in the office, or by emailing ellen@clemsonmontessori.com.

Natalie McSharry

something I wouldn't have thought of! As you are spring cleaning, please keep Helping Hands in Mind. They would appreciate donations of duffel bags or suitcases, and all donations you make to Helping Hands Thrift Store in Central help fund the shelter. They also share a list of current needs on their website, www.helpinghandsofclemson.org

WINTER PLAY IN THE SPRING

In her newsletter article Kelly aptly refers to our upcoming play as the Winter-Play-In-the-Spring! It's official, the school wide performance of "The Quilt maker's Gift" is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, May 7th (7pm) at the Clemson Little Theater/Pendleton Playhouse. Mark your calendars!



Pre-Primary

Trish & Sam



All of the children in Pre-Primary love looking at books and “reading” them, which made donating books to Helping Hands for Valentine’s gifts so special and meaningful to us. The children were involved in every part of the process, from donating the books to mak-

ing the wrapping paper and heart collages for decoration. Thank you, parents, for helping get the books to us.

We are still cooking every Monday. Some of our recent creations include cranberry bread, blueberry crunch and apple salad. The children are becoming excellent choppers and mixers.

The pictures to the left show some of the new work we’ve added to the classroom. Susan loaned us the continent map/animal matching that Elza completed, and Lizah has just made a rainbow using all of the knobless cylinder boxes. The children are really challenging themselves!

“Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed”

Maria Montessori



Primary I

Marjory & Judy

Spring is just around the corner. Amazing! Seems like we just got back from winter break. When we returned we were greeted by our new pet, Pricilla, the bearded dragon. The kids love to spend time each day watching her as she paces back and forth. She loves to eat live mealworms. Those mealworms love to escape, so we’ve found them in some unexpected places!

Other new pets are on the way. We have an aquarium set up just waiting for some fish. What will they be? Another habitat is in the making. It will soon be home to Fire Bellied Toads. That makes a reptile, fish, and amphibian, leaving bird and mammal to complete the classes of vertebrates. Hmmm! Any ideas? We would also like to add a Tarantula to our collection.

Anyone have a good source?

We have been feeding, watching and identifying birds from our window. Many of the children can identify quite a few of them. After the winter tea in December, we hung out our pine cone decorations. The birds love them. It is fun to watch their antics as they cling desperately to the cone, trying their best to get all the seeds and peanut butter!

Our study of where we live continues. We live on the continent of North America (The orange one). Next stop...United States of America.

While the children work in all areas of the classroom, their favorite work is probably art. Cutting, gluing and painting activities are there for them to choose.

Sewing is also very popular,

students have completed many pillows. Whittaker and Katelyn F. are in the process of finishing quilts!

Planting seeds will be a continuing work for the next few week. That will lead to much transplanting. We are getting ready for the Save the Rainforest; Plant Sale. We sure do keep busy!



Primary 2



Chinese students from Clemson University

The New Year has brought lots of excitement to the classroom.

We welcomed two new friends to our class, Indhu and Henry.

We began our study of Asia with a focus, so far, on China, India and Japan. We are learning about the customs, clothing, flags, etc. of some of these countries.

Alexander brought two Chinese students from Clemson University to share the traditions of Chinese New Year with us. We learned that

2013 is the year of the snake, among other interesting facts.

We are also learning about our muscles and the food that is important to help them grow. Peanut cracking, and eating has been an especially popular part of this lesson.

“Free the child’s potential, and you will transform him into the world”
Maria Montessori



Peanuts

Peanuts are back in full swing and working hard. They have chosen to research the Solar System and each Peanut has chosen a planet or something about space. Their research work will be done in class, not at home this time. We are trying to set up a field trip to the Clemson University Planetarium during the week of March 4-8;

when these dates are set we will send out an email to inform you of the date chosen. We would like to welcome Annie back to the classroom. We love having her here to help us during Peanut time and to teach Art on Fridays. Everyone really loves our new Peanut “Sunny Mac”!

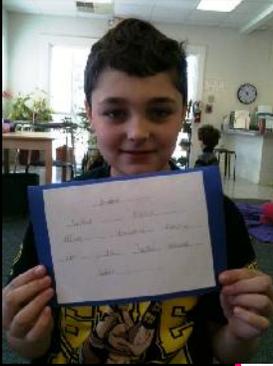
Marjory



Elementary

Natalie/Fran/Endia

Continuing With the Valentine's Day Tradition



Student
Helpful, playful
Riding, tumbling, drawing
Likes to "horse" around
Baker
Answer: Kelly
by Connor

It all started when a teacher wrote every student's name on slips of paper, stuffed them into a glass bowl, and passed around the bowl so the students could pick their secret person. The mission was to write a cinquain about your person to share on Valentine's Day. We also tried to surprise our person with acts of kindness through

the week, like leaving the person little notes or even surprising the person with a gift. When Valentine's Day arrived, everyone in the Elementary sat around our brown line and read our cinquains. Most people were excited to share their work, but some were a little shy. Everyone tried to guess who each cinquain was about. Everyone had clearly taken the

time to write and decorate the cards. Everything was lovely! In the spirit of Valentine's, our whole school also wrapped books to give to kids at Helping Hands. We wanted them to feel special on Valentine's Day too!

Denise



"Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed"
Maria Montessori

Seniors Build an Indestructible Fort

For the past few weeks, most of the Senior girls have been

busy building a shelter on the playground. The girls started with just a barrier to keep away intruders when Julia said, "Look, that could be a hut!" Shelby, Andrea, Abba, Kelly and the two of us quickly started piling sticks

and leaves between two tall trees with branches strung across the space between them. It has taken us almost a whole month to complete and we're still perfecting the structure. Since we're studying Early Humans at school many people have made references to how

much our fort looks like the shelters that Early Humans built. We also planted a garden next to it by transplanting plants we found. We hope maybe some of them will flower this spring. Come by and see it anytime!

Julia and Maria



Elementary Poetry Corner

"Hot Chocolate"

Sweet
 calming
 nice and warm
 when you drink it
 you slurp
 a lot

by Owen

"Chocolate"

Flows
 through you
 like a water fall
 and
 makes
 you

CRAZY

by Shelbi

"Water Colors"

Water colors
 dripping
 on
 the
 page
 like
 rain
 falling
 from
 the
 Sky

by Skyler

Elementary Art Gallery

Water Color Crayon Resist



By Andrea



By Abigail



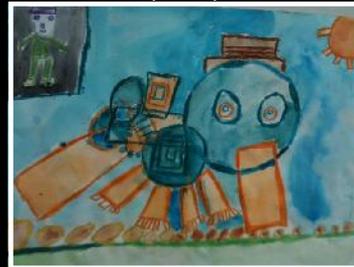
By Shelby



By Julian



By Reese



By Dane

Bead Mosaic



By Andrea



By Abigail



By Shelby

*“Free the child’s potential, and you will transform him into the world”
Maria Montessori*

Fun Art Projects

We worked on a crayon resist water color project. To get started, we got a big piece of white paper and a pencil. The directions were to make circles and rectangles and to fill up the whole page. When we finished the shapes, we went over them with crayon, making dark thick lines. Then we painted inside with water colors. I painted lots

of shades of colors. Even though we just used rectangles and circles, classmates said mine ended up looking like a water park or an amusement park. A few other people turned their rectangles and circles into a cow, a goat and a barn, a sea serpent, and even Perry the Platypus.

Shelby

YOUTH ART MONTH

CMS student art work will be displayed at the Anderson Arts Center in celebration of Youth Art Month. CMS families can see student art work throughout the month of March; check it out!



Zentangle by Anson

