

Montessori School of Lemont

Since 1972

Save the Date!

- September 1
Tuition Due
- September 3
Labor Day, No School
- September 10-14
Specials Begin
- September 13
Picture Day
- September 20
Picture Retakes
6:30^{pm} Parent Meeting
- September 29, 8:30^{am}
Color Fun Run at
Bambrick Park

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Volume 25, Issue 2

September 2018

Fall Curriculum Crawl!

Join us on Thursday, September 20th for our interactive demonstration of the Montessori multiplication materials.

The primary staff will start us off with the introductory math lessons and we'll progress from room to room through the classrooms of the lower elementary, upper elementary and adolescent levels where each teacher will give presentations and invite parents to work with the beautiful Montessori math manipulatives.

Friends and family who are interested in Montessori are welcome to attend!



Walk, Jog, Run!

Join us on Saturday, September 29 for our 10th Annual *Walk, Jog, Run!* at Bambrick Park in Lemont. This year it will be a color fun run so register early to get your t-shirt! Check-in begins at 8:30^{am} and the run will start at 9:00^{am}.

We are looking for sponsors for this event so please check with your favorite

business or consider a family sponsorship! Registration and pledge forms are available [online](#).

Whether you walk, jog or run bring family and friends and have a great time for a great cause, the continued development of our Natural Playground and PE programs!





Hannah's first day of school in the Orange Room (above) and Maria's first day in the Purple Room!



[On the first day of school:]

**“Can I do
fractions?
I LOVE
fractions!
-D.M., Age 9**



Lara's first day of school in the Adolescent class!

Happy New Year!

The back to school picnic officially kicks-off the new school year and it was great to be back together as a community!

Thank you those who helped with set up and clean up and to everyone who shared delicious food at our pot luck picnic.

-Therese Colby

The staff and Parents' Association are excited for the upcoming year and lots of fun community events planned. Our next event will be on Tuesday, September 4, at 8:30^{am} when the PA will host **Coffee in the Courtyard.**

We hope to see all MSOL parents there!



Discipline

“Let us remember that inner discipline is something to come, and not something already present. Our task is to show the way to discipline” (The Absorbent Mind, 26, pg. 240). Discipline in the Montessori setting should be regarded as a point of arrival for the child. Rather than equating discipline to the breaking of the will, our goal is to assist in the development and strengthening of the child's will and sense of self. A Montessori classroom offers numerous opportunities for the child to develop his will, and therefore, facilitate the emergence of discipline. A key component to this concept is the role of the teacher. Through careful observation, she is able to determine which lessons to present to each child. Once the child has been presented lessons, he will then be able to make choices within the classroom. These choices in turn, ultimately lead the child to self-discipline and the development of the will.

Montessori indicated that there are three distinct Stages of Discipline, or Levels of Obedience referring to them as The Call, Apparent Order, and Discipline. Behaviors of disorder manifest themselves in the children during the stage of The Call. Montessori also described this first level of obedience as having impulsive traits. That is, the child is able to obey only because his desires match the adult's direction. Of paramount importance during this phase is the teacher's duty to present herself in a more traditional manner. She therefore, becomes the center of the classroom and not only must care for the total environment but also intervene to prevent disorder. Likewise, this is a time for the teacher's 'call' to the materials. She must present as many lessons as possible in order to assist the children in their choices. Eventually, this will lead to the second stage of discipline.

-Alexandra Wlodkowski, M.Ed.

The Second level of Obedience is also known as a stage of discipline called Apparent Order. The level of discipline attained at this phase is characterized by the child's requirement of needing the presence of an adult in order to maintain discipline. The child is capable of doing all that is asked of him, however, his follow through is not intrinsic. “The appearance of discipline which may be obtained is actually very fragile, and the teacher, who is constantly warding off a disorder which she feels to be ‘in the air,’ is kept in a state of tension” (The Absorbent Mind, 26, pg. 246). A deeper undercurrent of discipline can be attained with the teacher's response of presenting more lessons during the Second Level of Obedience. Furthermore, she must act as a “gatekeeper” and entice the children to the materials so that the child's inner needs will be nourished. The teacher's skills of intervention of disturbing activities must also remain in the forefront as children progress through this stage of discipline. This will eventually lead the way to the emergence of the final phase of discipline.

Montessori's observations and recordings gave evidence to the fact that discipline is achieved when the child was intellectually nourished. The normal state of childhood is therefore the third stage of discipline, when Montessori coined the term, “Normalized Child.” Montessori referred to this term to describe the characteristics of the third level of obedience, that is, the true nature of childhood. She maintained that children whose needs are met and are able to develop freely, will not exhibit typical patterns of childhood behavior including tantrums, crying, or possessiveness. Rather, the normalized

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Welcome to the World



Congratulations to Yellow Room Teacher, Andrea Fry, and her husband, Andrew on the birth of baby, Alice Paige!

*Alice Paige Fry
August 29th, 9:12^{am}
6 pounds, 5 ounces
20 inches*



Asiya's first day of Kindergarten in the Yellow Room (above) and Mason's first day of Kindergarten in the Blue Room!



[On the first day of school, during Who I Am activity:]

“My greatest accomplishment is being in the Adolescent Classroom!”
C.M., Age 12

After School “Specials”

Montessori School of Lemont welcomes our Specialists back for another great year! Specials start the week of September 10th and the registration form available on line at <http://www.lemontmontessori.com/specials.html>

Chess Club—K-8th Grade

Learn problem solving and other vital critical thinking skills such as forward thinking, evaluating consequences analyzing and completing ideas, recognizing patterns, and how to develop and implement a strategy.

Cooking Up Fun—1st-8th Grade

Join us to eat, cook, and learn safety in the kitchen and culinary arts skills. Students will learn about nutrition, food additives and regulations, food safety and product development.

Rock Band—3rd-8th Grade

Feel like to be a rock star! Students will have the opportunity to learn guitar, bass, drums, keyboard, and vocals from a professional musician. Students will get the studio experience by recording their original music and work together as team to write, record and perform popular music. No musical experience required.

Girl Power —3rd-8th Grade

Early interactive program planting seeds at an early age. “Focus on loving yourselves first.”

Let’s Build It! - 1st-6th Grade

Allows students to directly engage with basic engineering concepts through a variety of fun and educational activities.

Arts & Crafts—1st-8th Grade

Fun projects each week! Painting and drawing techniques, candle making, jewelry making, basket weaving, pottery, sewing, jewelry making and more.

The Yoga Way—Preschool-2nd Grade

Cooperation, concentration, coordination, appreciation, sensation, relaxation, meditation...Strong Body, strong mind, strong heart!"

Soccer Shots- 1st-3rd Grade/Preschool-K

Students work on balance, coordination and agility while practicing teamwork, cooperation and respect.



Malia's first day of Kindergarten in the Green Room!

...for all the little reasons

The Montessori School of Lemont is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been educating children ages 3 through 8th grade for over 40 years based on the methods and philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. The school was established in 1972 by teachers dedicated to offering families an individualized educational approach for their children. The school relocated to Lemont in 1990. In 2001, the school moved to its permanent location after the construction of a new campus on 7.5 acres of donated land. In 2010, a new building was constructed to accommodate our growing enrollment and in 2011, a “natural” playground with an organic community garden and chicken coop were created. Funds are currently being raised to improve and grow our campus.

MSOL does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation or national or ethnic origin.

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Coffee, Anyone?

Are you interested in learning more about Montessori? Join us for our next monthly “Coffee.” Prospective parents will tour the campus, observe classes, and speak with current parents, students, and staff. Please call or email if you would like to attend.

info@lemontmontessori.com.

- * Philosophy & Curriculum
- * Classroom Observation
- * Parent Mentors
- * Student Ambassadors
- * Admissions Process



**Join us for coffee and
stay for a few years!**

Discipline (cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

child will show a love of work and order, a love of silence and working alone. He will also show tendencies to work well in a group with a sense of community and be able to show profound concentration, independence, and obedience. Furthermore, a child who shows the true nature of childhood is rooted with an attachment to reality. Likewise, he submits to the possessive will because he now knows about the world around him. Most importantly, if the “child’s true personality is allowed to construct itself normally,” we find he is filled with a sense of joy, and only then, will we see the child for who he truly is.

Throughout all levels of discipline, the teacher must also keep to the principle of freedom within limits. The children are free to choose the materials with which they want to work for as long as they

wish, as long as they have had a lesson. The children must also respect the work of others and cannot disrupt others in deep concentration. It is the teacher’s responsibility to assure that this idea manifests itself in the classroom. Likewise, the teacher should be versed in the art of knowing when to intervene and when not to intervene. If a child is concentrating on a task and is not bothering others or not using the materials inappropriately, the teacher should not intervene. If, however, the teacher observes incidents which are dangerous, destructive, or disrespectful, she must intervene at once. Once the teacher identifies the level of obedience within her children, she will then be able to respond in the appropriate manner. Undoubtedly, this will facilitate our single, most important task as Montessori educators – the emergence of the Normalized Child.



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School of Lemont