



# Montessori Messenger

October/Nov. 06

Vol. 1, Issue 1

## NMS Upcoming Events

Picture Week Oct. 16-20

Mon. October 16<sup>th</sup> – Diane and Margaret will present a Curriculum Evening for the Parents of their Students from 7-8:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> - Steve's Songs at The Firehouse Center at 9:30a.m. Chaperones needed.

October is Parent Teacher Conference Month. Sign Up Sheets Are Now Posted!

Follow the Child visits are scheduled. Sign Up Now!

Educational Director Sharon Wintner is hosting an "Introduction to Montessori Materials" Discussion in Cindy's Classroom on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 11:00. All are welcome!

Tea and Talk is a lively and informative discussion held every Thursday from 9:15 – 10:00 a.m. in the Staff Room at ISM. All are welcome!

Fri., Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9:30-11:00 at The Firehouse. Bamidele – African Dance and Drumming. Chaperones Needed.

Fri. Nov. 10 School is closed in Observance of Veteran's Day.

November 15<sup>th</sup> – ISM/NMS International Field Day.

## Follow the Child

*"A child's work is to create the man he will become. An adult works to perfect the environment but a child works to perfect himself."*  
----Maria Montessori

A vital aspect of the Montessori philosophy is taking the child's lead when providing and preparing materials and activities for individual learning.

Montessori said children intuitively know what they need at each step of their learning process. The teacher acts as a guide as he or she observes the child's interest in and readiness for materials and activities. With this in mind we would like to invite you



to 'follow your child' for a half hour time period in your child's classroom. Each classroom has scheduled its own Follow the Child Visit. Check the sign up sheets for your particular date and time.

This is a wonderful opportunity to follow your child in his or her work. Please allow your child to guide you to a deeper awareness of his or her interests and development. Your child has begun to explore the environment and materials, each in his or her own way. Please be aware that whatever materials your child chooses to show you, whether it is pouring, the sandpaper letters or the spindle boxes, it is meaningful work

## Next Week Is Picture Time!

Phyllis Marsh, our new ISM Art Teacher, will take outdoor photographs of the children and their classes the week of October 16-20. Phyllis is an accomplished photographer and has had a number of exhibits at Seacoast Galleries. Flyers/order forms have been distributed together with picture day schedule. Make checks payable to "Phyllis Marsh".

Mon. Oct. 16	9:15	ISM
	10:45	Diane
	1:00	Ext. K (class picture only)
Tues., Oct. 17	9:15	Cindy
	10:45	Margaret
Thurs., Oct. 19	9:15	Juliet
		Donna/Zoë



## Parent Association Meeting

Calling all Newburyport and Inn Street Montessori Parents ... the first Parent Association meeting will be held on THURSDAY OCTOBER 26th @ 7:00 in the Inn Street School building, 52 Inn Street.

The goals of the Parent Association ("PA") are to promote parent involvement, foster a sense of school community and to promote communications among parents, staff and administration. To achieve these goals, many volunteer opportunities have been identified. During the first meeting, parents will be able to hear about these opportunities and will be given the option to sign up and be involved. Many of the volunteer opportunities came from ideas in the Parent Association Surveys distributed in September. So, thank you for your enthusiastic and informative responses! The PA mission, organizational structure and by-laws will also be reviewed at the first PA meeting. Please join us!!!

If you cannot attend on the 26th, volunteer signup sheets will be available in each classroom until November 2nd. Material distributed at the meeting will be available in the office as of the 27th.

### Special Needs Screening at Brown School

On November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00-2:00 p.m. at the Brown School, 40 Milk Street, the Newburyport Early Childhood Program will be conducting a screening for children 3-4 years of age. Children who are 5, but were not eligible for Kindergarten, are also welcome. Preschool children (3-5 years) who may be displaying a delay in any area of development including speech, motor, social skills, behavior or cognition are encouraged to

participate in this screening. For an appointment or further information please call: Mary Giannino, Early Childhood Coordinator at 978.462.2498.



### Website On Its Way

The NMS/ISM interactive website is on its way. Coming attractions on our new website include admissions and enrollment information, downloadable forms, upcoming events, school cancellation information and newsletters. School families will also be able to use a

password to access their child's class newsletters, photographs, announcements and calendar information. Thank you to Vania O'Connor and Portside Technologies for the amazing work and training on this project. We expect to launch our new website in November.

*We Need Volunteer Classroom Representatives! Look for Sign Up Sheets and Guidelines to be posted in your child's classroom after the first Parent Association Meeting. Names will be drawn from a hat!*

#### ISM Upcoming Events

*Mon., Oct. 16 – Picture Day!*

*Thurs., Oct. 19 – Moseley Woods Field Trip with Joann healey. 9-11:30 a.m Drivers needed!*

*Thurs., Oct. 26 – Parent Association Meeting and Volunteer Sign Up at 7 p.m.*

*Mon., Nov 6 – Bamidele – African Drumming and Dance at the Firehouse Center*

*Nov. 8 – ISM Culminating Event. Parents Invited.*

*Fri., Nov. 10 – School closed in observance of Veteran's Day.*

*Nov.15 – ISM/NMS International Field Day –*



## School Wide Bulb Planting

We need donations and parent volunteers to help with our school wide bulb planting from October 23-27. Please talk to your child's teacher for details!



## Frances Stevens Memorial Library

Frances Stevens instilled a love of learning and nature in countless children. She planted the seed of learning, so to speak. Madeleine Green, one of Frances' students last year, suggested that we create a nature library in honor of Frances. We call this library "The Frances Stevens Seeds for Growing Library." Each book in the library will be stamped with an embosser bearing the name of the library. The library will be located in the former transition room, where it can be enjoyed by all the children. We would like to thank the Binnie Family and The Child at Heart Gallery for their generous donations.

We welcome all those who would like to participate in this memorial. For those interested in tangible contributions, we are seeking book donations for the library. A List of books already donated to the library was distributed last week by email to our school families. Please contact Denise Symes at [gettysymes@comcast.net](mailto:gettysymes@comcast.net) for an updated book list. We invite anyone who donates a book to write an inscription, leaving space for the embossing of the library name. Books can be given to Liz in the office.

It is National Junk Mail Awareness Week. To get off the direct marketing lists, please visit the New Dream website at [www.newdream.org/junkmail](http://www.newdream.org/junkmail). Once there, you'll find a form that automatically generates letters letting direct marketers know you'd rather not receive junk mail. Simply fill out the forms, print the letters, sign and send!

