



MCHL NEWS



Montessori Children's House of Loudoun

December 2018

Tis the Season . . .

With only a few short weeks until Winter Break, there is a great deal of excitement in the air at MCHL. The children will spend the next few weeks learning about holiday traditions around the world. If you are interested in sharing your holiday traditions and customs, please contact your child's teacher. Each teacher will send home information about class holiday parties.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



MCHL will use Fairfax and Loudoun County public schools as a guideline for delays and/or closure due to inclement weather. We may choose to open sooner than the public schools since we do not have to deal with bus transportation issues. Therefore, we would request that everyone check our website or call the office to see if we are open. This information will be posted on our website and answering machine by 6:30 am.

OFFICE NEWS



Winter weather has arrived! Before you leave home, please check the weather report. Temperatures often drop during the day, leaving children uncomfortable outside. The children will still continue to have daily outdoor recess (weather permitting), so please dress your child accordingly. Mittens are preferred unless your child can put on gloves without assistance. Also, parents are asked to put your child's name on all of those nice new coats and hats!

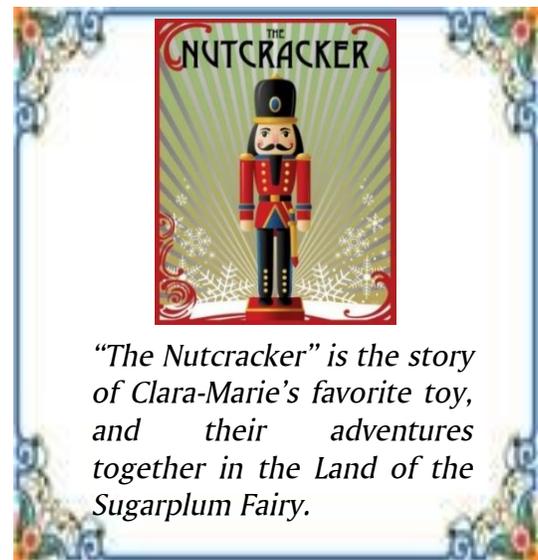


MCHL will provide tuition receipts upon request for tax purposes in January 2019. Our Tax I.D. Number is 54-1748774. If you have any additional questions, please contact the office by phone or via email at info@mchl.org.

KINDERGARTEN FIELD TRIP

On Thursday, December 13th, the Class of 2019 will visit The Puppet Co. Playhouse in Maryland for a performance of:

<i>IMPORTANT DATES</i>	
December 3 - 7	Scholastic Book Fair
December 6	Pajama Night @ 6:00
December 11	Spirit Night @ Pump it Up 6:00 pm
December 13	Kindergarten Field Trip Glen Echo Park, MD
	Parents Night Out
December 21 – January 1	Winter Break (MCHL Closed-Classes resume January 2)
January 21	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (MCHL Closed)



"The Nutcracker" is the story of Clara-Marie's favorite toy, and their adventures together in the Land of the Sugarplum Fairy.

find us on social media



All children should arrive at MCHL no later than 8:15. We will depart at 8:30 and return by 12:30.

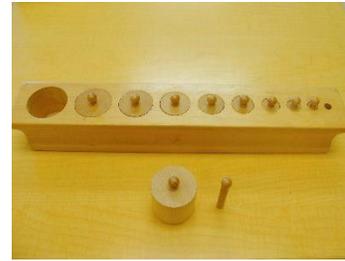
MONTESSORI 101- SENSORIAL

The classrooms at MCHL, as in all Montessori classrooms around the world, have an area devoted to Sensorial education. Simply put, the Sensorial materials are designed to help the child in discriminating among sizes, colors, shapes, smells, textures and sounds. Our youngest children are drawn to the Knobbed Cylinders and the Pink Tower. Each of these materials allows the child to explore size on a very concrete level. As in all of the areas of the classroom, the materials in the Sensorial area are sequenced from simple to more complex. Initial lessons are given to the children with minimal language – for example, we present the Color Tablets (*a box containing the three primary colors in pairs*) as a matching activity before we give the names for each of the colors.

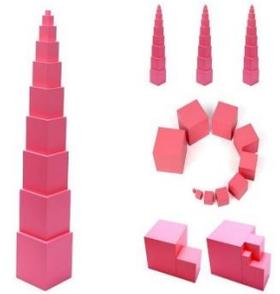
We encourage all of the children to work with the Sensorial materials – to feel the cubes, listen to the different sound cylinders, trace the various geometric shapes in the Geometric Cabinet, well before we provide the language of “this is the smallest” or “this is a cube”. As in the area of Practical Life, the Sensorial materials are also designed to foster concentration and coordination. All of the teachers have enjoyed watching a child intent on balancing the smallest cylinder on top of a tower of ten, or thoroughly engrossed in grading the various shades of blue from darkest to lightest that are provided in the Color Tablets.

In addition to refining the senses and encouraging concentration, the Sensorial materials provide the foundation for math. Before a child can understand quantity on an abstract level, we guide them to the red rods, or the brown stair, where they can actually see and feel rods or prisms increasing in size by a given unit of measure.

Other Sensorial materials include smelling bottles, which children enjoy matching various scents, baric tablets, which vary in weight, and tasting activities which focus on salty, sweet, bitter and sour. Collectively, the Sensorial materials provide a variety of ways for children to learn about their world in a way that is both inviting and age-appropriate.



Knobbed Cylinders



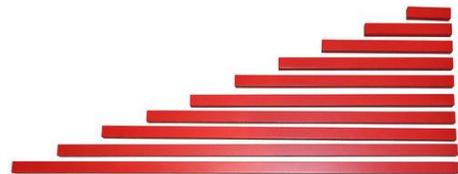
Pink Tower



Color Tablets



Geometric Cabinet



Red Rods



Brown Stair



Smelling Bottles



Baric Tablets

Do not tell them how to do it. Show them how to do it and do not say a word. If you tell them, they will watch your lips move. If you show them, they will want to do it themselves.

Maria Montessori

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Sponsored by the MCHL PTA



Scholastic Book Fairs

The MCHL PTA will host a Scholastic Book Fair the week of December 3rd. There will be an assortment of age-appropriate books on display for you to purchase. A portion of the proceeds will go directly to the MCHL PTA. If you are unable to shop at MCHL, the Scholastic website will provide a link so you can shop online.

“Pajama Night” is on Thursday, December 6th from 6:00 – 7:00. Students can return to school at 6:00 in their favorite pajamas. There will be pizza available for purchase from 5:30 – 6:30, and “guest storytellers” will read to your child in one of our classrooms so you can shop for the perfect books and “Clifford the Red Dog” will come to pose for photos with the children.

Peter McCory

Sponsored by the MCHL PTA



Peter McCory, “The One Man Band”, visited us for another lively performance last month. Our children were entertained with Mr. McCory’s signature style. They also had the opportunity to participate in “sing-alongs”, dancing and instrument playing. Please check our Facebook page for photos.



THANKSGIVING FUN @ MCHL



The Partners and Staff of MCHL would like to wish your family a safe and wonderful holiday season with best wishes for 2019!