WEST SIDE MONTESSORI

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April 28, 2014

Upcoming Events

April 28-May 2
Middle School Internship Week

Tuesday, April 29
- Perrysburg Kindergarten Field Trip *(12:30-3 p.m.) BG Recycling Center*
- STEP Parenting Class *6:30-7:30 p.m. (Toledo Campus)*

Wednesday, April 30
4th Level at Watershed Ed. Program *9 a.m.-1 p.m. (Toledo Botanical Gardens)*

Thursday, May 1
First Thursday: "School's Out … Now What?" *8:45-9:30 a.m. (Perrysburg & Toledo Campuses)*

Friday, May 2
- Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day *10-11:30 a.m. (see right)*
- MS Grandparents' & Special Friends' Evening *6:30-8 p.m. (Toledo Campus)*

Monday, May 5
- Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day *10-11:30 a.m. (see page 3)*

Tuesday, May 6
- Upper Elementary Field Trip *9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Ann Arbor Museum of Natural History)*
- Kindergarten Spring Sing Rehearsal *(Toledo & Perrysburg) 12:30-3 p.m. (UT Recital Hall)*
- PACC Meeting *6-7 p.m. (Toledo Campus)*
- STEP Parenting Class *6:30-7:30 p.m. (Toledo Campus)*

First Thursday Topic on May 1

"School's Out … Now What?"

Do you wish you had a way to keep your child's academic skills fresh without losing the fun summer vibe? Join us on Thursday, May 1, from 8:45-9:30 a.m. to hear a new perspective on summer learning that you and your child will both enjoy. The discussion, led by Montessori-certified teachers, is free and open to the public at both the Perrysburg and Toledo campuses.

Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day

West Side Montessori will welcome many special guests this Friday, May 2, from 10-11:30 a.m. for Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day. The following suggestions for the Toledo campus will help the morning run more smoothly:

- **PARKING** – Parking will be at a premium for this special event. Please consider **dropping off** grandparents and special friends at WSM in a carline-type format on Friday beginning at 10 a.m. If possible, we ask visitors to carpool within families. Parking in the St. James Woods subdivision is not permitted.
- **ARRIVAL** – Greeters will be located at the East and West building entrances beginning at 10 a.m. to help direct visitors to the proper classroom.
- **DEPARTURE** – At 11:30 a.m. all grandparents and special friends that were dropped off can be picked up in the same carline-type arrangement. A WSM staff member will be at each side of the building with a walkie talkie helping guests get into vehicles in a timely manner. Visitors are welcome to take home half-day students during morning dismissal. ***Please send note to your campus office by Thursday, May 1, if your child will be picked up by the grandparent or special friend.***
- **PATIENCE** – If you see a visitor or special guest that needs help maneuvering through our parking lot, please be patient. We appreciate everyone's help and cooperation during this event.

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Summer at West Side!

Summer at WEST SIDE

Are you looking for a truly unique experience for your child this summer? **Check out our camps and register online today**! Our first week of camp will begin with many exciting options for students in Little House through 8th grade.

Our *Little House* summer camp program is designed to be consistent with our Montessori school year program, in a relaxed, more outdoor-oriented atmosphere.

Children's House morning sessions will offer a Montessori-based program that allows children to explore engaging materials while a trained teacher offers exciting and enriching lessons. Each afternoon session will implement a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and Literacy approach with different themes each week.

Lower and Upper Elementary camps will have a variety of unique themes and experiences throughout the morning session and swimming most afternoons at the St. James Club, next door to West Side Montessori.

Look Ahead at Week 1: *June 11-13*

- **Children's House** will have a variety of experiences this week creating their own pets and putting on a performance of their very own! Linda, from Rosenbloom's Farm, will visit both Toledo and Perrysburg bringing some real pets from the farm!
- **Elementary** students will collaborate to identify a need in the community, work together as a team, and give back!

Specialty Camps

- NEW—**FIRST AID, CPR, & BABYSITTING CAMP** is now open for students who will be 11 years old by June 11, 2014. This camp is going to be a **FULL DAY CAMP** and will include a Pediatric CPR and First Aid certification through the American Heart Association. This camp will be taught by Meg Boyer, an R.N. and WSM's health coordinator, and Sarah Kreinbrink, a WSM teacher.
- **SPANISH CAMP-PART 1** — This camp is designed to explore and teach students about the Spanish and Latin culture through language, dance, food, sports, and more! This camp will be taught by Brianne Smythia, a WSM Spanish Teacher. This is a two-week camp that will be held in the morning session as a half-day camp for students entering grades 1-3.

Connect with Us

montessoritoledo.org

West Side Montessori

@WSMontessori

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New Beginnings

by Sarah Kreinbrink, Little House teacher and former Summer Camp Director

The Summer of 2013 marked my 10th year as West Side's Summer Camp Director. This year, I am excited to "pass the beach ball" to Brandi Parcell!

Brandi *(left)* and I have been working together this year to plan the best summer camp experience yet! I am looking forward to spending time with my son this summer and the possibility of teaching some parenting classes as well. Please help me to welcome Brandi to her new role as Camp Director. She comes with fabulous ideas and a plethora of management experience with international and stateside summer camp programs. Brandi has been the Regional Director of Destination Imagination and a teacher at West Side Montessori in the Children's House program since 2006. Brandi has her Montessori certificate, a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, a master's degree in Higher Education, and hopes to someday go back to get her doctorate in Leadership Studies.

Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day

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Below is the schedule of visitors for both Perrysburg and Toledo campuses:

Friday, May 2 • 10-11:30 a.m.

This day is for all grandparents and special friends who have children in Children's House, Lower Elementary, and Upper Elementary classrooms at the Toledo Campus. Little House families on this date include those who are enrolled in Monday-Friday (5-day) at Toledo and Wednesday-Friday (3-day) programs at Perrysburg and Toledo.

Friday, May 2 • Middle School Evening Program • 6:30 p.m.

The Middle School students will be at their respective spring internships during the morning. There will be a special evening event for grandparents and special friends of Middle School beginning at 6:30 p.m. This will give students, grandparents, and special friends an opportunity to spend time together. It also provides students an opportunity to share their internship experiences. Dinner will be provided.

Monday, May 5 • 10-11:30 a.m.

This event is for grandparents and special friends of children enrolled in Perrysburg's Monday-Tuesday (2-day) and Monday-Friday (5-day) Little House programs; in Emerald & Sapphire Children's House classrooms; and in Toledo's Little House Monday-Tuesday (2-day) program.

You're Invited

Final Meeting is May 6

All West Side Montessori parents are invited to join other WSM parents at the next PACC *(Parents Association Coordinating Committee)* meeting on Tuesday, May 6, from 6-7 p.m. at the Toledo Campus. This meeting is open to all families – those who currently serve on the committee and for families who would like to join in on the fun! The focus of the meeting will be on organizing events for 2014-15 school year.

Child care is available. **Please email Lynn Cherry with the number of children who will be with you to ensure we have enough staffing for child care.**

Registration is open for the 5KDub Run and Family Fun Walk. Registrations received by **Tuesday, May 6,** will include a t-shirt. Click **here** to learn more about the event and register online!

Parents Corner

Schedule Your Observations Today

Last day to observe is Friday, May 9!

Please call or stop by either the Toledo or Perrysburg campus to schedule a day and time to observe. As the end of the school year is fast approaching, make sure you make your reservation today for an observation.

May-June Happenings

Watch for more details in upcoming newsletters, but be sure to mark these dates on your calendar now.

- **Wednesday, May 7**
  Kindergarten Spring Sing
  UT Recital Hall (6:30-7:30 p.m.)
- **Thursday, May 15**
  5K'Dub Family Race/Walk
  Olander Park (5-6:30 p.m.)
- **Friday, May 16**
  Lower Elementary Orff Festival
  St. Ursula Academy (7-8:30 p.m.)
- **May 19-22**
  Right to Read Week/
  Scholastic Book Fair
  (Toledo Campus)
- **Thursday, June 5**
  8th Level Graduation Ceremony
  (7 p.m.)
- **Monday, June 9**
  Calamity Make-up Day
  (8 a.m. - 6 p.m.)
- **Wednesday, June 11**
  Summer at West Side! begins

Kindergarten's Spring Sing: Circle of Friends

by Risa Cohen, Children's House Music & Literacy Teacher

This is my third year coordinating Spring Sing for the West Side Montessori Kindergarten programs. Our theme this year, "Circle of Friends," is one that exemplifies the culture of our school.

When I began teaching at West Side, I noticed that teachers referred to their students as "friends" and was struck with how respectful and inclusive their language was. Prior to teaching at West Side, I was in the habit of addressing my students according to the subject I was teaching, such as "Mathematicians," "Writers," "Artists," "Musicians," or when there was no particular subject involved,

"Scholars." Giving the students these grown-up titles acknowledged their work as "big work" and important.

And what is more important than the work of friendship? Nothing. Living peacefully and respectfully is arguably more important than learning to read, write, or solve equations. I appreciate the emphasis West Side places on grace and courtesy. The teachers and staff lead by example, modeling for students how to be a friend. I am proud to be a part of this caring circle of friends and I hope you will come to hear the kindergarteners sing songs of friendship at ***Spring Sing: Circle of Friends.***

Spring Sing: Circle of Friends is Wednesday, May 7, at 6:30 p.m. at the Recital Hall at the University of Toledo and includes kindergarten students from Perrysburg and Toledo.

Day of Remembrance

WSM Middle School students recently completed a unit on the Holocaust by attending the Day of Remembrance speaker at the downtown library. The unit also included reading two books: *Night* and *The Book Thief* and integrated honoring the victims, celebrating the heroes, and bringing the villains to justice in Social Studies. The students' work can be viewed in the hall of the West building at the Toledo campus.

Lower Elementary Visits the Toledo Zoo

The rain did not stop the three Lower Elementary classrooms from having a wonderful day at the zoo on Friday, April 25. With scavenger hunts in hand that connected classroom zoology lessons to live animals, the students, teachers, and chaperones set out to explore. View more pictures at **goldfinch.montessoritoledo.org**.