

Upstairs Class:

We had a wonderful time preparing for the holidays singing songs and working on numerous holiday crafts. We have lots of little ones working on practical life and tracing sandpaper letters as well as the wonderful stem activities with sensorial materials. More older ones are reading and spelling phonetically. Please keep sending interesting bits of nature!

Outside Class:

We had so much fun in November and December discussing the history of the different holidays and traditional foods associated with them. We sang many holiday songs and enjoyed the school festivities. This month we have focused on many practical life lessons with the younger children and the older children have focused on writing skills. Parents, please be mindful of the outside temperatures during the winter months because we take the children outside to play 1-2 times most days for an hour each recess period. Please be sure to send weather appropriate jackets, coats, and even hats and gloves.

Toddler Class:

We are excited to have Miss Jewelia back on staff and in our class as of late November. We have also welcomed two students who have transferred from the Infant Class, Genevieve and Marie. We look forward to Graham joining us soon as well.

Infant Class:

We welcomed Henry in November and look forward to Tristan joining us in January. Over the holiday break we will be re-organizing our classroom to incorporate more Montessori materials into it. We are excited about the upcoming changes.



Quote of the Month

**The child is both a hope
and a promise for mankind**

- Dr. Maria Montessori

In Other News...

SAVE THE DATES:

- **December 26- January 2** - Holiday Break week two! **No School, No Child Care**
- **Tuesday, January 3rd** – First Day of Spring Semester
- **Thursday, January 4th** – Parent Education Night
- **Monday, January 15** – **Martin Luther King Jr Holiday** – School Closed. **No School, No Child Care**
- **Week of January 15th** – Pre-school Progress Reports

BELONGINGS: Be sure to label **all** your children's belongings. Students must have weather appropriate clothing in their spare bag as well all outerwear such as jackets, coats, hats, and gloves as we go outside for recess for 1-2 times each day for 1 hour each time.

NEW STAFF UPDATES AND BIO'S:

Courtney Burk: Hello Everyone! I have worked in both the Toddler and Primary classes and am taking over the Junior Class at CHMS. I graduated from the University of Arkansas Fayetteville in 2022 with a Bachelor's of Science in Biology. I am working to earn both my Infant/Toddler and Elementary Montessori Diplomas from the Prepared Montessorian Institute. I began working in child care facilities in 2017 and worked at a Montessori School throughout college. I love learning and have a passion for helping children expand their knowledge! I would love to get to know you and your child so that I can create a positive learning experience for them at CHMS.

Deacon McDowell: Born and raised in Chicago. I was introduced to Montessori when I babysat for a Head of School. I was impressed that an 8-year-old child could do Algebra. I have been in love with Montessori since. I self-taught, read Dr. Montessori's books, and Montessori at Home. I nannied for the family of the U.S. Secretary of Education, a family of educators and Montessorians. They told me I should be a teacher. I have been in the classroom since 2007, as a Montessori Lead and Assistant Director and as an Art Educator in Traditional Schools. I have my Associate's in Art, Bachelor's in Fine Art Photography, and my 0-3 Montessori Certification. I am looking forward to helping Children's House Montessori School get back to their Montessori roots and with their accreditation.