



The TMI Update

A Monthly Newsletter Written by the Toronto Montessori Institute

December 2010

Dear Friends,

December is always an exciting month! We began the month with special guests from both TMS and the Montessori community. Our full time Early Childhood students have appreciated their first experience in the classroom in a mini practice teaching placement at TMS. For many of these students this was their first teaching experience in a Montessori classroom. Mini practice teaching placements are extremely helpful in preparing students for their practice teaching in the spring. Students look forward to the opportunity to integrate the theory and methodology during training in a real-life classroom. We are extremely fortunate to be part of a lab school where the sharing of ideas and the building of community is mutually beneficial. Teacher training requires patient mentorship and gentle guidance. At this time we reflect on the benefits of mentorship within our lab school and the greater Montessori community. The relational nature of teaching is highlighted by the gifts we give each other; the wisdom of experience and the enthusiasm of the newly initiated.

This month the full time Early Childhood and Elementary groups were fortunate to spend an afternoon with Dr. Zederayko, TMS Head of Schools. He delivered a most informative and engaging seminar on Professionalism. Students were given wonderful insights from the perspective of a highly experienced administrator highlighting key qualities that administrators seek in an employee. Our part time and full time Classroom Management Panels were enhanced by the knowledge and experience of administrators, Elaine Flett (Principal, Tall Pines School and TMS Board Member), Dianne De Freitas (Principal, Montessori School, Hillfield Strathallen College), Carolyn Reid (TMS Head of Children's House), Laurie Parker (Lower Elementary, Sunshine Montessori School Stratford Campus), Sherry Gosal (Vice Principal, Northstar Montessori School) as well as TMI Alumni Sharon Robinson (TMS), Chad Pollard (Bannockburn School), Melanie Stepura (Downtown Montessori School) and Zsuzsanna Vigh (Hatch House Montessori School). Once again it proved to be a highlight of the training year. Thank you to administrators and teachers who took time out of their extremely busy schedules to share expertise and insight with TMI student teachers. Your perspective is extremely valuable to these students who will be practice teaching and seeking employment in the New Year.

As we approach the holiday season we look forward to this special time for community building with family and friends. As you celebrate and enjoy the festivities of this season please be sure to direct anyone seeking a career in education to explore the opportunities in Montessori teacher training at TMI. Our web site includes information and application forms with admission requirements for each of our courses. Our Registrar will be more than happy to meet with them in person to tour the lab school facilities and go over course offerings and employment opportunities. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2011 so there is still time to think about options over the holidays and visit with questions in the New Year.

Thank you to all who have assisted with teacher training at TMI. Your involvement in Montessori teacher training is a gift to our students and much appreciated. Happy Holidays!

Yours truly,
TMI Faculty and Staff

In This Issue

Events at TMI

The Gift of Mentorship in Montessori Teacher Training

Professionalism Seminar and Classroom Management Panel

Happy Holidays!

Offer the gift of Montessori education through teacher training to friends and family. Refer those interested to TMI!

Upcoming Professional Development

To Help Us Serve You Better:

Send us your ideas and Suggestions for our Early Childhood and Elementary Refresher Course on February 26, 2011

Please continue to visit our Web site www.tmi.edu and direct those interested in learning more about Montessori teacher training to arrange a personal appointment with our Registrar!

We welcome your feedback and questions. Please e-mail any questions or comments about our courses or ways in which we may improve our web site to tmi@torontomontessori.ca

Thank You!

Community Life at TMI



*Celebrating TMS at the Montesoirée!
Mrs. Helma Trass, Founder of TMS/TMI with TMS
alumna and TMI Early Childhood student Alana
Kotack. Alana is currently enrolled in the Early
Childhood Diploma Programme and looks forward to
a career in Montessori education*



*Shared concentration as a child focuses on
completing a knobless cylinder exercise.*



*The instrumental relationship between the child, the
material and the teacher is illustrated here as student
teacher and child connect over the geometric solids.*




*Best
Wishes for a
safe and happy
2011!*


Community Events

CCMA Evening Presentation

*"Good At Doing Things- Montessori Education
and Higher Order Cognitive Functions."*

Wednesday, February 23, 2011
Dr. Stephen Hughes

Thank you to our Classroom Management Panel



*Chad Pollard,
Dianne De Freitas,
Elaine Flett,
and Melanie
Stepura*



*Sharon Robinson,
Laurie Parker,
Zsuzsanna Vigh and
Sherry Gosal,*

*Carolyn
Reid and
TMI student
Marie Vail*



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