



The TMI Update

A Monthly Newsletter Written by the Toronto Montessori Institute

February 2009

Dear Friends,

Preparing for the "Simple Pleasures: Arts & Crafts Made Easy!" workshop has been a fun and creative collaborative experience. We look forward to learning, sharing new ideas and creating masterpieces with all our registered participants at the end of February.

TMI has had the unique opportunity to participate in creating a Virtual Tour showcasing TMI, its programs, its partnership with TMS and the benefits of our lab school dynamic. TMI would like to thank all the current students, alumni and administrators who participated in this experience. We look forward to posting it on our Web site www.tmi.edu once all the post production work is complete.

The full time TMI students have been busy sharing their knowledge and creativity throughout TMS. As part of the TMI Upper Elementary history component, students selected a civilization and created unique timelines depicting the key points of each. Children from the TMS Upper Elementary classes had a chance to watch future teachers complete and present their assignments. Our Full Time Early Childhood students were once more in the TMS classrooms assisting with Valentine's Day craft activities, stories, poetry and circle activities, presenting selected lessons and beginning to develop an awareness of classroom management strategies during their abbreviated practice teaching session in February. The one-on-one interaction is rewarding; by seeing the world through the eyes of the children, TMI students are reminded of the reason they decided to enter the teaching profession.

Nancy Coyle, Director of Training, has enjoyed her time in the Toddler classrooms where she is always thrilled to learn from the youngest TMS students. She especially enjoyed watching the excitement in the toddlers' faces as the seeds they had planted together began to sprout.

Students and faculty appreciated the CCMA presentation by Dr. Michael Ungar "Too Safe for Their Own Good." The balance between "risk and responsibility" is one which must be seriously considered for the benefits of our children and adolescents. Michael focused on three components that children need in order to become part of the "We Generation"; community, contribution and compassion.

We are currently accepting applications for our teacher training programs. The deadline for equal consideration is March 31, 2009. Our summer Infant Toddler and our Summer Elementary I & II Diploma Programs are set to begin July 2, 2009. These programs are great opportunities for those currently working in the Montessori field or with previous Montessori training. As Montessorians we recognize the benefit of "lifelong learning." If you or a friend are interested in exploring the possibility to further specialize in Montessori education please contact our Registrar Trucilla Macedo at tmi@torontomontessori.ca.

Yours truly,

TMI Staff

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Valentines Day

TMI Video Tour

**Sharing of
Upper Elementary
Timeline Presentations**

**Deadline for applications
for all our courses for the
2009/2010 Academic Year
March 31, 2009!**

**Open House Dates:
March 3, 7, 10 & 31,**

Upcoming Professional Development

**Strategies for September
Saturday June 20, 2009**

Visit our Web site for regularly updated job postings, as well as information about professional development workshops.

Please e-mail any questions or comments to tmi@torontomontessori.ca

Events at TMI



Professional Development

A tentative date of Saturday October 3, 2009 is planned as a launch date for our Arithmetic Refresher Course.

We would like to provide a program that will be convenient and helpful to all. We appreciate your feedback on the best time for this program.

We recognize that conducting a refresher course such as this in the last term during April or June is too late in the year for you to begin implementing some of the strategies presented. The last week in August presents different challenges due to the setting up of classrooms and finalization of plans for the school year. Taking all aspects into consideration, we are proposing a date far enough away from the excitement of the first days of school in September but early enough into the school year, so that strategies may be implemented for the benefit of students throughout the coming year. Our Registrar Trucilla Macedo welcomes your ideas and suggestions as we plan the Arithmetic Refresher Course. Thank you.

Community Events Board

Mary Flewellen of CAMT presents
Strategies for September
Saturday June 20, 2009

Toronto Montessori Institute
Location: 8569 Bayview Ave. Richmond Hill

“Strategies for September” is a workshop designed for new and “nearly-new” Children’s House teachers who are eager to assist the children with a smooth transition into the classroom in September. Participants will learn how to plant the “seeds for success” by undertaking a thorough examination of what needs to happen in the Children’s House classroom during the first few critical weeks of September. This seminar will explore how to prepare the classroom environment for the new school year, how to plan for orientation, how to foster parent readiness and support and how to establish the necessary framework for normalization and a child-centered classroom. Specific, step-by-step instruction involving important introductory exercises and activities will be demonstrated and discussed in detail. Participants will receive a sample orientation plan and parent education outline in addition to song, story and finger-play suggestions.

If you think you might experience September “stage-fright”, this workshop is for you!

For more information please contact Trucilla Macedo at tmi@torontomontessori.ca

Environmentally Friendly Initiative

If you have a colleague who would like to begin receiving The TMI Update by e-mail, contact our Registrar at tmi@torontomontessori.ca



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