



The Montessorian

Published for the St. Joseph Montessori School Community

Volume 37 - Edition 5

January 2022

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Photo: R. Holonitch

Students were invited into the school library to watch a video of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.

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The country celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 17. SJMS spent the week before learning about his life and legacy. Each level prepared a variety of lessons and experiences for the students.

In the Toddler and Children's House classrooms, teachers read books to the class in their circle time. The Lower Elementary classrooms shared interesting shelf works and books for the students to explore. Teachers in the Upper Elementary level created three stations with thoughtful questions to challenge the students and their thinking.

In the school library, Jessica played his

landmark "I Have a Dream" speech on the Smartboard.

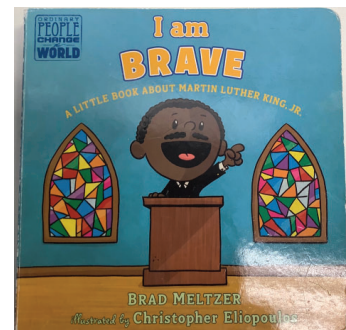


Photo: T. Chabria

Our Toddlers even learned about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the story "I am BRAVE."

Lessons on Observation

Our staff continues to develop their skills as educators with enriching professional development.

On January 12, St. Joseph Montessori School invited Peter and Rosann Larrow from Oak Montessori Teacher Education to share their knowledge and experience.

During the school day, Peter and Rosann visited all the classrooms, including our special subjects, to make observations. During the afternoon staff meeting, they shared their notes and observations with the staff.

This was a great experience for our teachers, which will make a positive impact for our students and classrooms.



Taco Thursday for Upper Elementary

With this help of the student social committee in the Upper Elementary classroom, the students enjoyed a Taco lunch party. The students helped by collecting and preparing the ingredients to make tasty taco salads. The room also enjoyed festive music while to enjoyed their collaborative lunch.



Eli T. (UE) filled his plate with tasty toppings for lunch.

Photos: R. Holonitch

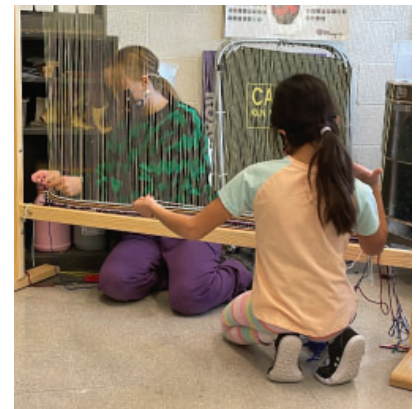
Moving Up Day

On Monday, January 31st, our students transitioning to a new level next year enjoyed “Moving Up Day.” This is the day where they learn about the new level.

We had Toddlers visiting Children’s House; 4-year old students experiencing the activities our Children’s House-Third Years complete each day; Children’s House-Third Years visiting Lower Elementary; third year students visiting Upper Elementary, and sixth years visiting Middle School.

To help with this busy day, our eighth year students volunteered their time in our special subjects rooms and created their Legacy Gift for the spring.

After an exciting day for our students in new classrooms, our parents enjoyed Moving Up Night on February 2nd.



Matilda C. (MS) and Mahala S. (LE) worked together on our loom during Art class on Moving Up Day.

Photo: R. Holonitch



Our eighth year students used their time to volunteer with our specialists and create their legacy gift.

Photo: R. Holonitch

Friday is Pizza Day!

On Fridays, our students can smell the tempting aromas of pizza in our school hallways. Before lunch is enjoyed, our Middle School students are busy preparing the supplies and food. Our oldest students work hard to prepare the pizza boxes, plates, and fruit for each classroom. Once

in the classroom, they also assist the classroom teachers to pass out the food.

This is a great opportunity for practical life skills for our eldest students. The funds from this project support their spring class trip.



Photo: R. Holonitch

Nick S. (MS) prepares the pizza for delivery.

Clay Month in the Art Room



Children's House-Third Years created pinch pots with their hands to build fine motor skills.



Artists in Lower Elementary also made pinch pots, but experimented with clay tools.



The students in Upper Elementary created a piece of pottery using the coil technique.



Our Middle School students each signed up for a chance to throw clay on our potter's wheel.

Photos: R. Holonitch

It is that special time of year that every SJMS student looks forward to... CLAY TIME! Each year, our Children's House-Third Year to eighth year students explore clay as an art material.

Each level has specific technique that they focus on for their project. In Children's House, the students try the pinch pot technique to build hand strength and fine motor skills. The Lower Elementary continues the pinch pot technique, but add clay tools to their project. In the Upper Elementary art classes, students experiment with the coil technique. Finally, the Middle School students sign up for a session on our potter's wheel.

Once all the projects have been fired in the kiln, each student can glaze, not paint, their pottery with a wide variety of colors. After the glaze fire is complete, our artists carefully wrap their projects in bubble wrap and a craft bag to take home. This project is the highlight of our art curriculum, and the time is treasured by all.

Alumni News

Class of 2003

Erin (Niemeyer) Harsh



We have a new engineer! Erin graduated from the College of Engineering at The Ohio State University in December. She accomplished this goal while working a full time job and serving her community as a volunteer firefighter.

Class of 2011

Jenna Anderson

Jenna attended Washington University in St. Louis with majors in Psychology and Filmmaking. With this new passion for filmmaking, Jenna started waxpoets, a film production company with co-creator Mags Chamberlain. The company is based in Columbus, Ohio.



Class of 2015

Grace Rieser



Grace Rieser, and her boyfriend Dominic Oddi, are expecting a baby girl in May 2022. Grace works as a Patient Care Associate at OSUCCC-James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute.

Class of 2017

McKenna Merriman

McKenna practiced her comedy skills with a stand-up comedy performance. She is a student at The New School in New York City for a degree in Comedy Writing and Performance.



Class of 2009

Keiko Wilkins

Keiko Wilkins is a PhD candidate student at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, Hawaii studying the effects of microplastic ingestion on coral reefs.



Class of 2015

Morgan Zucker



In December, Morgan Zucker graduated from Columbus State Community College.