



Classroom News

Yes, it's true, there is little to report from the classroom today other than the fact that the staff has been here since the 19th of August, laboring to make it orderly and lovely for the children. The workers at the Parent Work Day did a phenomenal job of cleaning, repairing and sprucing up inside and out and it is all starting to look like a Prepared Environment should. Children and parents may notice that many of their favorite materials are missing! Every school year, we pare down to the bare bones in the classroom. This serves us by limiting the number of extremely tempting materials that are beyond the new children's capabilities so that we don't have to provide quite so many reminders to touch only the materials upon which one has had a presentation. For the older children, as we slowly and regularly return old favorites to the classroom, their absence has indeed made the heart grow fonder and eyes light up as the Bead Cabinet, Metal Insets and Number Rods reappear.

We are enrolling 9 new children this fall, which is nearly right on target, as the ideal is that we graduate and enroll 1/3 of our numbers each year. This year, there are only 2 truly new families, the others are all younger siblings of currently enrolled

students or previous students. Allow me to introduce everyone!

We welcome Katy and Jeff Mabeck and their little girl, Harper. They also have a one year old named Ames, a boy. The Mabecks have known each other since they were 11 years old! Katy is a teacher who is currently staying home with their little ones and Jeff is an engineer at HP. This couple enjoys travelling and reading and Harper is a charming, outgoing and very polite youngster.

Annabel MacClary joins us this year. She is somewhat familiar with Montessori materials as her mom, Sarah, was a classroom assistant at the wonderful Sundborne Montessori School in Albany and older sister Eliza was a student there. Annabel, I'm told, enjoys dolls, books and helping around the house. Little brother Peter is too young for school yet, but I feel certain he will carry on the tradition. Dad Matt is also an engineer at HP! Matt enjoys Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, reading and cooking. Then Sarah comes along with her love of baking to provide dessert. What a pair! Sarah also likes crafting and hiking.

Some of you may not know the Cattons, but we do! Older sister Joanna attended here for a time and now the family is back with little sis, Ilana. Ilana, too, likes to take care of her baby dolls and in addition to those responsibilities, she takes pleasure



Harper - play-dough/Theo watching



Annabel - cutting



Ilana - collage



Max - lacing a sewing shape



Sariah - pouring water



Samantha - sew-n-sew

in helping with home and garden chores. When mom Kim isn't caring for her girls, she likes to hike, bake and read and Brad, her husband, is a forester who gardens, does woodworking and geocaching.

You all know adorable Max Grapoli from his time in the hallway dropping off and picking up older brother and graduate, Zach. I visited Max at home and can tell you that he likes to descend staircases the hard way, head first and on his belly. It didn't look like a lot of fun to me, but to each his own. Dad Sean has recently taken a new job representing a natural health supplement company. He is very excited about this new venture! Amber, Max's mom, runs her own graphic design and decorating company, Amber Dawn Design, and is the editor of all our school newsletters. She does an amazing job!

You also know the quiet and serious Sariah Kenoyer from the hallway. Her big brother Jacoby is starting his 2nd year here so they will enjoy their class time together. Sariah may present as meek and mild, but I have seen her stand her ground with Jacoby on her home territory, believe me. She likes to cook, bake and garden with her family and she classifies animals, it seems, into two categories; scary and not scary. Her mom Amber is a blogger who enjoys scrapbooking. Chris is a design engineer who does home brewing and woodworking. This family has relatively few playthings compared to many others and this creates a peaceful and orderly environment in their home. Their kids are well-occupied and concentrate readily. If you have been thinking about having less stuff and more life, ask Amber about this!

We haven't seen a lot of Theo Ueng, Hugo's little bro, because he is often with his grandma and not coming and going to school with Hugo regularly. I am told that Theo copies everything Hugo does. I hope this inspires Hugo to model behavior as they will be sharing the classroom this year. Theo likes water play and various art media. Mom Joy is a gifted pianist, teaching and performing and Tim, Theo's dad, is a physician who loves his

electronic gadgets!

Yasmina (Mina) Braxton joins older brother Jai this year at PhMS. Mina helps to care for the many animals on the family farm in Blodgett, plays hide and seek and SHE loves dolls, too! Her father, Anthony, is a heroic firefighter who is also a capable builder of various things. Jenny is a real Earth Mother who gardens, preserves and produces as much of the food her family eats as possible. She is also a beautiful dancer and has taught us African and Brazilian dances here in class.

Jovion (Jovi) Tavano comes to us just as Cian Tavano has graduated. Jovi is a lover of bugs, slugs and worms who also, fortunately, enjoys bathing. Dad Steve is a caseworker for Benton County Developmental Disabilities who gardens and hikes and he also likes to brew beer. Maybe he and Chris Kenoyer will have a little brew off and I can be the judge! Liesl plays the marimba and enjoys reading and travel. Their family has taken some LONG car trips!

Samantha (Sam) Bausch will also be entering our little world this fall, joining her brother Eddie in class. She likes water play, books and coloring. Her family has done a lot of camping this summer and Mom Shawnde just loves it! Football, too! Dad Paul is a web developer who enjoys photography. They all like to go for walks and to work together in the yard. We welcome Sam and all of our new enrollees and their families. We're going to have a wonderful year together!

And me? What have I been up to this summer? I'm so glad you asked! I licensed my business, Use-What-You-Have Decorating with the Oregon Secretary of State, for one thing. I love the name of my company because it is so self-explanatory! So far, I have had only one job, which I did with my pal and mentor, Amber Grapoli, of Amber Dawn Design, who has been doing this longer than I and who has been such a guide and inspiration to me. We had so much fun transforming the Boysen's master bedroom and guest room using only what they already owned. I hope



Jovi - opening & closing

we have many more opportunities to work together as well as on our own. I am also eager to do consultations in the home to help families better integrate their young children into the life of the home. Children are capable of many things if we consciously prepare the environment for them to do so.

I took a 6 week obedience course with my little dog, Penelope. I was devastated that she was not the most advanced student, but everyone loves her and she is a real charmer. I was the plaintiff in a court case in which I was trying to get non-paying tenants evicted from two rental houses so that I may sell them. It was ghastly, but one more opportunity to test my mettle. I prevailed in court, but it may take dynamite to get these folks out!

I visited my mother in the beautiful San Juan Islands of Washington State and began helping her get the place ready to sell. She is 77 and Decatur Island has no stores, doctor, trash or recycling services and it has just become more work to live there than she appreciates. She also is scaling back for financial reasons. I will really miss visiting her there as the serenity of her island has spoiled me for the throngs of passengers disembarking the ferries on the other, well-known, ferry-serviced San Juans. I have also made up my mind that dating, now that I am single, (spiritually, but not yet legally) is not going to get any less scary by procrastination. I love living alone, but it would be nice to occasionally go dancing or on a picnic with a nice guy so I am

ready to be fixed up! I have had the opportunity to work with a terrific life coach this summer that has helped me to branch out, stretch and envision new possibilities for my life. It has been a great blessing. I hope that everyone's summer has been filled with such blessings and joys. It has been such fun to see some of you again and I look forward to renewing acquaintances with everyone as the school year gears up. Every fall, coming back to work is a homecoming and coming back to these people is a family reunion! Welcome to the new school year! 📖

Newsline

- **Thursday, September 19** is our first parent meeting. It will be from **6:00 – 7:30**. We will provide free child care for all children – the only requirement is that they are potty-trained. Another parent meeting follows on **Thursday, October 17**. Please put these dates on your calendar!
- Thistledown Studios will be coming to take class picture and individual photos of the children on Thursday, **September 26 at 9am** – so please be on time!
- Our **Parent Orientation/Workshop will be Thursday, October 3 at 6pm**. Dr. Kathleen Lloyd will be presenting Montessori in the Home. See our website for more information and please invite family and friends.



- We have a **Papa's Pizza fundraiser** on **Tuesday, October 8 ALL DAY**. You do have to present the flyer which we will send in an email. Please be sure to pass them out to friends and family.
- There is **no school on Thursday, October 31**. It's a Teacher Inservice Day. There will also be no Friday Art Class the next day – Friday, November 1.
- Also **no school on Monday, November 11** – Veteran's Day.
- Be sure to save the date for our big annual fundraiser! The **Love of Learning Auction** will be **Saturday, February 8**. The time this year is a little different: from **4pm to 7pm** – a little earlier, shorter and sweeter!
- If your child is a **returning student**, your child's current forms are in your box for you to review and update. It is very important for us to have current information on the emergency form, immunization records, medical school form and your registration form. **Please update information, sign again (Child Care Division requires it) and date. Thanks.**
- If you haven't yet, please go to our website and click on the **Facebook** icon to become one of our friends and then for heaven's sake **"Like" us!! Janelle Lohr**, our wonderful social media guru, is trying to connect us to the world! The local world, anyway.
- **Doni promises to start blogging again**. So please go to our website **philomathmontessori.org** and click on the **"blogspot"** to read her latest musings! I always enjoy her writing and thoughts and look forward to finding out what she has to share with us this year. Thanks, Doni!
- During the year, we may see **fliers and brochures** on the bulletin board from various individuals and groups offering services that may be appropriate for your families. However, it should **not be taken as a recommendation** as we cannot investigate every source for quality. 📖

Thank You

Summer Yard Work

- Many thanks to our garden coordinator **Shawne Johnson!**
- Weeding & harvesting: **The Rolston-Tavano, Braxton, & the Johnson Families**
- Mowing & trimming the yard: **Ryan Johanson**

Parent Work Day!!

So much accomplished in one day – inside and out!!

- Hard-working volunteers: **Lua Siegel, Rory Plaire, Kim & Brad Catton, Katy & Jeff Mabeck, Jonathan Jensen, Allan Rack, Rachel Splan, Amber & Chris Kenoyer, Nina Erlich-Williams, Liesl Rolston-Tavano, Jenny Braxton, Joy Ueng Ed & Shannon Bedford, Matt & SarahMacClary, Shawnde Bausch, Sev Williams, Shaden Jensen, Aurora Jensen**

Classroom and Take Home Projects

- Wash & iron boot bags: **Shawnde Bausch**
- Trace & cut shapes: **Shawnde Bausch, Katy Mabeck**

Outdoor Classroom

- Picking up and delivering our new shed: **Lanny McGaughy & Allan Rack**
- Keeping our sprinkler system maintained and in good working order: **Christian Petrovich**
- New fence installation: **Nate Gerding**

Year Round Jobs

- Library Parent: **Shawnde Bausch**
- Marketing Parent: **Joy Ueng**
- Art Parents: **Meagan Johanson & Kim Catton**
- Classroom Gift parent: **Amber Kenoyer**
- Volunteer Coordinator: **Lua Siegel**
- Newsletter Designer: **Amber Grapoli**
- Montessori Services Coordinator: **Amber Kenoyer**
- School Chronicler: **Amber Kenoyer**
- Meeting Secretary: **Jasmin Woodside**

Our Mentor Parents

- Janelle Lohr & Amber Kenoyer

Our sincere and humble thanks for the many things you do for us and give to us!! We are so fortunate. 📖