



Monona Grove Nursery School Newsletter May 2016

Teacher Appreciation Week!!!!

May 2-6, 2016



Thank you to Jodi, Juli, Cori, Stephanie, Marcia, Patrice, Sherri, Diana and Dawn for your dedication to our school! You do so much!



Thank you Thank you Thank you! Thanks to all of you our Spring Fling was a great success-we all had a great time and we made almost \$5000 for our school. Thanks to all who volunteered, all who donated and all who bid! And especially big thanks to our board members Sara Jorgensen, Jamie Wohlgamuth, and Stacey Neuman for all of their hard work running the event.

And again, a thank you to **Summit Credit Union** for sponsoring our morning entertainment.



We still have room in our Fall Toddler Time Classes and in our afternoon Seahorse class. If you know someone or have been thinking about signing up- do it!!!



Summer is just around the corner! With summer comes sports, pools, and parks full of little ones. Oliver's labels can help you make all of that much easier with our fabulous labels that last through the pool, the washing machine, and even the dishwasher. You can label anything! Even a soccer ball or a t ball glove! There are so many great designs to choose from! Help your school and your sanity by ordering a set today-

www.oliverslabels.com/mgns



Our garden and outdoor classroom has been spruced up and planted. We will soon all be eating peas, radishes, lettuce, spinach and a variety of herbs. Yum!



For those of you sticking with us for the next school year, please check your brown bags soon for a reenrollment packet which will include paperwork needed for next year.



We appreciate that our board allowed us to close on April 8th so that our entire staff could attend the Early Childhood Conference in Whitewater. We all agreed that we learned A LOT. Here are some highlights:

Stephanie: The media plays a large role in the way that children play. When kids are exposed to characters they begin to mimic and play as the characters do. This does not allow for a lot of creative interpretation. They tend to stick to that "script" and play in character. For example, "Chase (Paw Patrol) doesn't do that".....can eliminate a child's creative play idea.

Jodi: I learned so much from attending the early childhood conference at UW- Whitewater. One of the most interesting concepts I learned about was called The 9 Temperament Traits of a Child.

Sherri: I got to spend 2 days earlier this month at the UW-Whitewater's Early Childhood Conference, and really enjoyed it. It was good to be around so many people who love teaching this age group as much as I do. One of my favorite seminars was about how to make the most of "circle time", and I'm excited to be able to implement some of those ideas at MGNS.

Dawn: I took music and dance class and learned that it is important to teach kids in layers. Sometimes when teaching a song and dance it should take weeks instead of days. Start with the words, then dance moves, add the words to music and then put the dance moves to the music. It's hard to do this sometimes because we seek instant gratification and want to do things quickly. But taking your time to learn something helps the children feel less frustrated and they have a bigger sense of accomplishment when they can finally put it all together and it works! I think teaching in layers can also work when learning things at home.

Marcia: "I learned the about the latest research on reading from top experts from around the country. One focus was the importance of developing comprehension skills using techniques that can be implemented at any age. I was excited to be able to share the knowledge that I gained from this symposium in a recent staff meeting."(Marcia was unable to attend the Whitewater conference, but instead attended a 2 day reading symposium at UW-SP)

Sue and Juli: We went to several great sessions, but one of the best was called Movement Anchors Learning—about some movement activities that can help kids with concentration, and cross body activities. Sometimes we have to remember that some kids CAN'T sit still. Look for finger tracers and hopscotch in the hall soon!

HELP NEEDED: We are moving our storage room to a new room on Saturday, May 14th. We would love to have some helpers if your family can help us! Please contact Sue

Coming soon:

SPiRiT WEEK!

We have a fun and festive week planned at MGNS May 9 –13.



Monday, May 9th – MGNS T-shirt day

Wear your favorite MGNS t-shirt!

Tuesday, May 10th – Hat Day

Big or small, fuzzy, sporty, silly, whatever!

Wednesday, May 11th – Crazy Hair Day

Big hair, sideways hair, spiked hair, neon hair, Have fun with it!

Thursday, May 12th – MGNS T-shirt day

Wear your favorite MGNS t-shirt!

Friday, May 13th – Dress Wacky Day

Have fun with different socks, backward clothes, wacky looks, get silly!

Meet the MGN Board Member:

Hi, I'm Kristi Buske and I am the Advertising Coordinator on the Board of Directors for MGNS. This is my first year to the position and we are also a new family to MGNS so these past few months have been quite a learning experience. My daughter, Eve, is in the Starfish class and absolutely loves her teachers and classmates. She will be continuing in 4K at MGNS in the fall. My husband, Matt, is a mason foreman for Findorff Construction. I work full time as the program director for a girl's group home in Madison that is part of Orion Family Services. The three of us live on the east side of Madison with our dog, Lucy, and cat, Speedway. We are looking forward to many outdoor activities and festivals this summer! Matt is also a golf fanatic while I prefer drinking wine with my girlfriends and listening to 80's music ☺. My job as advertising coordinator is to coordinate with Sue and Maria Banchik, our graphic designer, to get our ads published and word spread through local media about our wonderful school. I have learned a lot this past year being on the board and look forward to another year with MGNS



Year End Picnic

The annual end of the year event takes place on the last day of school. Teachers, parents and their child, the whole family if you like, meet at a park. We all stay to play, laugh, talk and reminisce about the school year. Parents or caregivers are responsible for their child

so parents and caregivers must stay the whole time. We spread out blankets and have a picnic lunch/snack (each family brings their own). It is a happy way to say good bye.

Is your Calendar Marked??

May 7—Open House for Potential MGNS families----Please help us spread the word to neighbors or friends.

May 18—Field Trip to Aldo Leopold-Starfish and Dolphins

May 19—Field Trip to Aldo Leopold-Penguins, Seahorses and Manatees

May 30—No School- Memorial Day

June 1-Field Trip to Sassy Cow- Starfish

June 2- Field Trip to Sassy Cow- Manatees and Seahorses

June 3- Field Trip to Sassy Cow- Dolphins and Penguins

June 8—Year End Picnic for Starfish

June 9- Year End Picnic for Seahorses, Manatees, Penguins and Dolphins

June 9- Parent Clean up Night