



Eastern Suburbs Montessori Primary School Charitable Trust,
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Term 4 - October 2016

Primary News

Welcome!

We welcomed our new students and their families to our school. Juno, Estelle and Madison Curtayne.

Thank You

A very big thank you to all our parents who helped make our 20 Year Anniversary Day so special. Your contributions for our raffle baskets, silent auctions, clean up, set up and catering was much appreciated and the Trust and Staff thank you so very much.

We would also like to thank our wonderful 20 Year Anniversary Committee – Ange / Anna / Bev / Maurine / Rose Phillips and Michelle who have worked very hard for the last 12 weeks ensuring that this all went off without a hitch!!

Communication with Teachers

If you need to contact teachers, all communication related to any classroom issues must go either through the Montessori Office or via the children's journal.

Please do not contact teachers on their personal home numbers, mobile numbers unless specifically asked by the teacher.



Hats are Compulsory this term. If your child does not have their hat they will be asked to play under tree shade during any breaks.

Eastern Suburbs Montessori Primary School Term 4 2016

Reminder that all term contributions are due two weeks prior to the beginning of each Term unless paying by Automatic Payment. For Term 4 this amount of \$1,025.00 was due on 26 September 2016 to account number **010262 0012685 01**

Montessori Office hours are
Mon-Fri 9.00am-3.00pm during term time.
Have a great Term!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Eastern Suburbs Montessori Trust Meeting
Tuesday, 25 October 7.00pm
Tuesday, 29 November 7.00pm
This will be held at the Montessori Unit.

Yr 7/8 Auckland Art Gallery Trip
Thursday, 27 October

Parent Information Evening 7-8.30pm
Tuesday 8 November
'Freedom with Responsibility' followed by workshops.

Yr 5-8 Athletics Day , Glover Park
Wednesday 9 November, 9.30-3.00pm
Thursday 10 November Rain Day.
Do not pay the \$3.00, this will be covered by Montessori PTA.

ESMPS PTA Meeting
Thursday, 10 November 7pm

Yr 0-4 Athletics Day
Wednesday 23 November
Friday 25 November Rain Day

Yr7/8 Kelly Tarltons Trip
Monday, 28 November

ESMPS PTA Lunch for Staff
Tuesday, 29 November 12.30-1.30

ESMPS Leaving Ceremony
Friday, 9 December 1-3pm Main Hall
The students of Eastern Suburbs Montessori farewell our Year 7 and Year 8 students leaving the Unit. This is a lovely occasion and we would welcome all families to attend this ceremony

ESMPS Thank You to Staff
Friday, 9 December 3.15pm
Shared afternoon tea and a chance to thank the staff of ESMPS.

ESMPS PTA Beach Party, St Heliers
Friday, 16 December 2.30pm
Outside toilet block near boat ramp, St Heliers.
BYO snacks/drinks/balls etc

Term 4 Finishes
Friday, 16 December 2pm

What an exciting start to Term 4 - a Community Celebration of old and new, young and old, past and present - the mixing of a community that spans 20 years. It is amazing to see where / how it started and where / how it is now. I have had the privilege to be part of this journey for almost 15 years. I have lived and breathed through many changes, growth spurts, celebrations and look to the future changes, growth spurts and celebrations that will evolve over the next phase of this school's journey.

I appreciate the time, effort and money that many of our beginning families invested into this venture - what is more, I appreciated the effort so many of these early families made to attend our 20 year celebration. It certainly was a very special few hours to catch up, share stories, hear of adventures and see how many of our past students have grown into contributing, effective citizens that contribute to this world in their own way and allowing interdependence to naturally occur between generations of people.

A huge thank you to Anna, Ange, Bev and Michelle for steering the Celebration Event and working to provide an opportunity for so many to participate and celebrate. It is very satisfying to know that the hours of work committed to this event saw over 300 people come and celebrate over the two events. A real achievement for our school. A huge thank you to our families who made such generous donations of gifts for the raffles and silent auctions. It is not often we fundraise for our classes so an outstanding effort was made by all.

At this time of the year, I contemplate and plan for the next year. On my to do list this term is to work with members of the trust to review and implement a Vision & Mission document to see our school through the next 4 years. Watch out for a survey to ask for your input and ideas!

After such a wonderful celebration, my head is buzzing with what the future could hold for our students - a very exciting place to be!! There will be some changes taking place for 2017.

This will involve the current Junior classes moving to Room 27 to become one class with three teachers. The teachers will present lessons across all curriculum areas and all age groups of students. I will be working with them later this term to establish systems and procedures of how this will be implemented. The purpose is to enhance even more the teaching and learning of the students. It is anticipated that the students will benefit from the expertise that each teacher has to offer.

This means that the Senior Class will move to Room 20 / 28 - their numbers are growing and it is expected that there will be 35 students next year, with even more students expected in 2018. They will remain as one class but there will be differentiated learning areas in this space which may suit some of the specialist learning which happens at the Intermediate level. There will continue to be two teachers with the Senior students.

Exciting Times Ahead!



Rose Phillips

Montessori Junior Class

A warm welcome back to all families in this final term of 2016. We sometimes wonder where all the time has gone? What beautiful memories have been collected over the year and how much has been accomplished together as a community of learners.

Madison joined us from Tauranga during Term 3 and Juno is experiencing her first term in the classroom along with Estelle who has joined us this week. The students always enjoy the arrival of new children. It is always a pleasure to see how quickly children settle into a new environment and make it their own! Miss Richardson, who is an AUT teacher trainee, continues her final practicum in Room 20 until the end of week 4. It is great to have her helping the children learn while she gains experience working in a Montessori classroom.

Our Year 4 students are starting to become very excited about having visits to the Senior Class later in the term. They are starting to show their readiness to move into the senior class by being focused on their learning, choosing work independently and showing confidence as leaders in the classroom. It is great to see them enjoying their role as the oldest in the class. Some are now offering lessons to the young ones. It is obvious amongst the younger students that they too are thinking about being in a different class level next year – comments like ‘When I’m in Year 4.....’ are being heard around the classes.

The focus this term is to continue to encourage independence. This includes making wise work choices, being responsible for their belongings (both inside and outside the classroom), as well as remembering established routines such as bringing book bags, journals and reading books into the class each morning.

Reflections done, both orally and in journals, at the end of the work cycle or day are showing development of critical thinking as the students articulate their new discoveries and findings from their learning.

We all look forward to Athletics Day this term. The Year 1 / 2 students are also participating in gymnastics lessons and Kiwi Sport lessons. They are keeping very busy! The Year 3 / 4 students have been practising their running, jumping and throwing skills in preparation for the big day. Their last unit of inquiry will also involve them taking part in a mini triathlon.

Junior Units of Inquiry

Year 1 and 2

Last term the Year 1 / 2 students made the most of the Olympic Games and held their own mini-olympics. They made 5 groups and made up their own country. Each group then had to design a flag, a uniform depicting the appropriate colours and relevant icons, decide on a mascot and a logo for the medals awards. The hard part was collaborating through this process and justifying the reasons for their agreement. They even practised for an opening and closing ceremony before participating in their special events that included elements of speed, balance, strength and accuracy. The cheerleaders did a magnificent job by encouraging the participants and cheering them on. After the event the students had to reflect on their successes and what could be done better next time. Team spirit and enjoyment were key to the positive reflections that were made.

Following this the Year 1/2 students explored the world of invertebrates and their usefulness in our environment. They can identify body parts and functions of many invertebrates as well as talk about the importance of the life cycle. They have also learned the characteristics of invertebrates. Their trip to Butterfly Creek last term supported their learning. Later in the term these students will be learning how to express their ideas through poetry.

Year 3 and 4

Last term the Year 3 / 4 students focused on inquiring about how the earth’s forces have an impact on the natural features of the earth. Their trip to Mangere Mountain helped them to understand some of the impacts that can occur.

This term the students are focusing on the theme ‘how we organise ourselves’. The Year 3’s are inquiring into why people choose to volunteer their services within the community and the different ways this can happen as well as the reasons for it. They started out finding out what special attributes they have and how they can show kindness everyday..

The Year 4’s are inquiring into how and why people need to share responsibility and work collaboratively to achieve a common goal and a shared vision. They have been thinking about rights and responsibilities, roles, systems, people and their purpose for their work. In class, they have been solving problems that have arisen within their environment and coming up with suitable solutions. One of the problems they are looking to solve is related to the book bags they will be designing and making for our younger students next year. They have identified something they would like to change so they will work towards whether the changes can be made as they trial and error some of their suggested solutions. Rose will work with them on this part of the inquiry.

As mentioned above, following these inquiries the Year 3 / 4 students will be learning about the effect of choices in nutrition, exercise and recreation and how these can impact upon our health and well-being (hauora). They will participate in a team triathlon later in the term.



Hiranthi, Anita and Saskia

9-12 Class Notices

Welcome to term 4. The students have hit the ground running and it doesn't look like there is going to be much let up. The start of a new term gives us the opportunity to refocus and continue our work maintaining balance and relationships within the community. We hold regular discussions and collaborate on establishing expectations of conduct and behaviour in different areas of the classroom and routines. Students are expected to reflect on integrity daily, as well as how their actions contribute towards building a positive and safe environment.

We are continuing with our read-aloud book, "Wonder". The themes in this book are relevant to our community including bullying, peer-pressure, dealing with exclusion and friendships. This novel is written from different perspectives of child characters and there have been many opportunities to discuss and further highlight the IB Student Attitudes of empathy and tolerance.

Day 1 of the term started with Elena and the year 5's visiting Auckland Zoo as part of their unit of inquiry which relates to ecosystems and the impact of humans on them. They were able to gain further understanding of habitats and how humans are working to restore and maintain them. We also learned that our daily activities can have an impact on habitats just by the choices we are making e.g. driving a car causes pollution and the metal used to make the cars we drive comes from mining from within the ground. We also learned some interesting facts about the classification of animals and how they adapt to their environment. Over the next few weeks, the Year 5's will continue to inquire deeper into the relationships between living and non-living things within an ecosystem and the responsibility we have as members of the ecosystems we are part of.

The Year 6's have completed their digital media unit which has seen the production of some outstanding videos. These will be available on the student blog pages soon. Their next unit of inquiry looks at the issues around environmental sustainability. This will culminate with a school wide Nude Food Day which is an annual event to promote litterless lunches. To start, we have been collecting and examining our lunchtime waste. Students have been taking turns sorting, weighing and recording their findings. This activity has enabled the students to learning more about statistics including data collection and interpretation of results.

The Year 7/8's new unit "How we express ourselves", looks at how art can be interpreted and the different perspectives people can have. They are busy planning a trip to Auckland Art Gallery and exploring various sculptures around the city. Through art, students have been applying their mathematical skills mixing colours using ratios and proportions as well as using geometry and measurement to enlarge a painting using scale. In addition, students are researching an artist looking at factors that inspired and influenced his/her work as well as the elements and principles of art such as colour theory and composition. To showcase their learning and creativity, students will plan and produce a piece of art around an issue that inspires them as a means to communicate their message.

Following this unit, the intermediate students will be focusing on "Our understanding of the world continues to evolve as discoveries are made" with particular emphasis on scientists and their discoveries in and around Antarctica. They will be spending a day at Kelly Tarlton's to learn more about the science and the scientists who work and have worked on the ice.

Athletics is the focus for the first part of the term both in Syndicate Sports and during P.E lessons.

Good work habits are also a focus this term. The students have expectations around follow-up work that is expected and time frames to complete it. A variety of lessons across curriculum areas have been presented to the students with follow-up work that will help the students to practise and maintain the concepts / skills taught. It is a rewarding feeling for us as teachers to see the students beaming with satisfaction and sense of accomplishment when a big piece of work is completed and within the expected time frame set. This reaffirms the Montessori belief that we as humans have a natural tendency to work productively!



Elena & Oliver

TERM 4, 2016

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>Week 1 October</i>	10 <i>Yr 5/6 Zoo Trip</i>	11	12	13	14
<i>Week 2 15 Oct 20 Year Anniversary 2.30-4.30 and 5.30-7.30pm</i>	17	18	19	20	21 <i>Calendar Art Viewing—Min Hall 8.30-9.30am</i>
<i>Week 3</i>	24 LABOUR DAY SCHOOL CLOSED	25 <i>Trust Meeting 7pm</i>	26	27 <i>Yr 7/8 Auckland Art Gallery</i>	28
<i>Week 4 November</i>	31	1	2	3	4
<i>Week 5</i>	7 <i>Nude Food Day (Litterless Lunch organised by Montessori Y6)</i>	8 <i>Parent Information Evening</i>	9 <i>Yr 5-8 School Athletics</i>	10 <i>Montessori PTA 7pm</i>	11
<i>Week 6</i>	14	15	16	17	18
<i>Week 7</i>	21	22 <i>Yr 5/6 Auckland Museum Trip Montessori PTA Social Drinks at Attic Bar from 7.30pm. All Montessori Parents welcome.</i>	23 <i>Yr 0-4 School Athletics</i>	24	25
<i>Week 8 December</i>	28 <i>Y7 Kelly Tarltons Trip</i>	29 <i>Trust Meeting 7pm</i>	30	1	2
<i>Week 9</i>	5	6	7 <i>Yr 3/4 Triathlon 9-12.30</i>	8 <i>Glendowie Yr8 Leaving Assembly Early start 1pm</i>	9 <i>ESMPS Leavers Ceremony 1.30-3.00pm Shared Afternoon Tea & Thank you to Staff 3.15pm</i>
<i>Week 10</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>Juniors to St Andrews for Xmas Carols</i>	16 <i>School closes 2pm Mufti Day Montessori PTA Beach Party 2.30pm</i>

General Reminders

Absences

If your child/children are away from school, we request that you phone the school on **575 7374** and leave a message, preferably before 8.30am on the day of absence. If your child is to be away for an extended holiday, or special event, please could we have written notification beforehand to the school office.

Before / After School

Children are asked to wait on the court if they arrive before 8.30am. When the bell rings at 8.30am the children must walk sensibly to their classroom and unpack their belongings. At the end of the day please meet your children either on the upper court or at the seating near the top field. If you have a Year 1 /2 child you are welcome to meet them at their class. It is school expectation that students go straight home unless accompanied by their parent.

Forgotten Items

If you are dropping off something for your child, please leave it at the main office and they will ensure your child receives it. Please try to keep these to a minimum so as not to disturb the work cycle of the class.

Independence

Please help your child develop independence by encouraging them to be responsible for remembering their lunch, journal, book bag and reading books.

Lunches and Water Bottles

Our school encourages children to eat healthy lunches and to drink water. It is very important children bring a named drink bottle with water in it. No juice is allowed in the classrooms and sweets / lollies are not to come to school please.

At Glendowie School we recognise there are a number of students with food allergies, some of which have serious implications. We do not allow children to bring any food to school to share with others including birthday treats such as cakes. If there is food cooked or shared at school as part of the learning programme, class teachers will advise parents of students with known food allergies.

Meetings & Appointments

On Monday and Thursday afternoons the teachers are involved in staff meetings. In the mornings teachers are also busy with class preparation and the children before school. If you wish to see a class teacher or make an appointment, you are most welcome to email the Montessori Office or write in your child's journal, but please bear in mind teachers meeting commitments. Please do not contact teachers on their personal home or mobile unless specifically asked to by the teacher.

Named Clothing

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of NAMING all articles of clothing, this includes socks, lunchboxes. We have items of clothing left at school every day and it makes it easier to return to the owner if items are named. Please note that socks should be navy blue or black – no other colour or branding should be on them

Punctuality

Children are asked to wait on the court if they arrive before 8:30am. Students are expected to be in the classroom by 8.55am. It helps them have time to think about their day and what they need to accomplish. Our lessons start at 9:00 am so students need to be ready to start by then. Please ensure your child arrives on time as this assists them in getting ready for their learning. If your child is late they must go to the office to collect a late pass.

Sports Uniform

Please remember Sports Uniform is compulsory for Year 3 and up.