



Dear Matisse Parents,

January 28, 2010

The New Year is off to a fantastic start! It is amazing to see how the children have grown since the beginning of the school year. January is a wonderful time for new beginnings and reinforcement of old skills. We have started this year by re-presenting the early grace and courtesy lessons such as pushing in your chair, using quiet voices, and walking with self control. We have also presented blowing one's nose and covering your cough in order to help ward off the winter colds. We will also teach the proper way of behaving in public to get ready for our field trip to the zoo.

The continent we are focusing on for January is Europe. Many of our friends and teachers have been lucky enough to visit various countries in Europe and are excited to share their experiences. Gregory, whose family is from Belgium, has been teaching us a bit of Flemish! Please feel free to send in pictures or items you may have collected from Europe.

The Matisse class has two new Kindergarten friends; both children are from Montessori Schools. Ronan has joined us from another local school and Francisco has just moved from Puerto Rico with his family. The children have welcomed them with open arms and both boys are doing wonderfully.

As many of you know, Miss Paez will be completing a project on yoga. We are all very excited to take part in mini yoga sessions starting in February. If you participate in yoga please come in and join us.

We have many things to look forward to in 2010! It will be a wonderful year in the Matisse Class.

Kindergarten Pod Focus

Science Pod

In science pod we are finishing our unit on zoology. We have worked on life cycles and food chains and webs. Our next unit starting at the end of this month will be botany, the study of plants.

Language Pod

During December our Kindergarten friends made sight word key chains. Each key chain had 100 sight words for them to practice at home and at school. They also learned sight words in the Montessori environment and played a street sign sight word map game.

Book Pod

The Kindergartners still meet every Friday to gather for a relaxing book pod. We are currently reading The Magic School Bus series, a favorite of all the children! We are strengthening recognition of characters and of plot. The Magic School Bus series provides interesting facts that the children can write down and illustrate. Remember, reading truly enhances your child's world and imagination.

With Friendship,
Ms. Paez , Ms. Stiers, and Mrs. Simpson

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