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Welcome to  
**Montessori**  
**Children's Room**  
News Letter

Vol 6 No 1 September 2009

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Inside

Welcome All

Avoiding the  
Transition  
Blues

Your  
Montessori  
Faculty



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A Tradition of Excellence Since 1968

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# Montessori News

## September 2009

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### Fall Family Picnic

On Friday September 11th at 4:30pm we hold our annual fall family picnic. The picnic is a great opportunity meet your child's teacher in an informal setting. It is also the time to make contact with other families in school.

### Back to school night

Our Back to School night occurs on Thursday September 17th between 5:30 & 6:30pm. At this event you have the opportunity to come to your child's classroom and learn in detail about how your child spends his day. You will also get a deeper grasp of how your child learns in a Montessori environment. This is an important event especially for families new to the school. Please be aware that childcare will not be available on this evening, alternate arrangements should be made for your children.



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# Fall 2009

## Calendar & Special Events

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### September

- |    |                                  |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 8  | School Opens                     |
| 11 | Fall picnic at MCR 4:30-5:30pm   |
| 16 | North Castle Library visit       |
| 17 | Back to school night 5:30-6:30pm |

### October

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | Trip - Stamford Nature Center (4yrs and 40 lbs) |
| 7  | School photographs                              |
| 12 | Columbus Day - Closed                           |
| 30 | Halloween Parade and Class Parties              |
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## PIP NEWS

### Parents in Progress - News

Welcome back, returning families and greetings to the new families entering MCR this year.

PIP, Parents in Progress, is the Parents' Association at MCR. Our goal is to increase parental involvement through volunteer efforts and provide general support for the teachers and students. There are various opportunities for volunteers. A calendar of events and volunteer survey of opportunities will be distributed the first week of school. Additionally, we will be issuing newsletters to further inform you of upcoming events.

Coordinating the PIP efforts this year will be Desiree Denn and Mandy Yasinski. Desiree's daughter, Alexi is in Ms Monica's NK2 Class. Mandy's two daughters Madeleine and Sophie are in Ms Janet's NK4 Class

Our first event is the MCR picnic Friday, September 11. It is a great way to get reacquainted as well as meet new faces.

We are excited and are looking forward to a year filled with growth, progress and laughter.

Desiree Denn- [desireedenn@aol.com](mailto:desireedenn@aol.com)  
Mandy Yasinski- [mommamandy@mac.com](mailto:mommamandy@mac.com)

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# Welcome

## Montessori Children's Room Principal

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Dear Parents, Students & Teachers,

I would like to welcome our new and returning students and families to this, our 41st school year here at Montessori Children's Room. We are looking forward to an exciting year.

Our teachers have skillfully prepared each classroom environment using Montessori philosophy and materials to meet the complete needs of each individual child.

As a faculty we take pride in our students success, especially when that success occurs away from Montessori. We place great emphasis in laying the foundation blocks of future achievement. Each activity and material a student interacts with serves a purpose. It is our goal that children leaving our school are prepared for the mainstream school into which they will enter.

Over the course of the last year, each faculty member has completed over 30 hours of continuing education to ensure our high academic standards are continued into the future.

We look forward to being part of your child's learning process, and cherish the opportunity to guide your child in finding his true potential.

We wish each student every success over the forthcoming school year and look forward to working with each of you.

Marina Anandappa  
Principal



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## After School Activities

### Schedule for 2009/10

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Mondays	Art with Miss Dilky
Tuesday	Cooking with Miss Sherry
Wednesday	Dance with Miss Kathy
Thursday	Spanish with Miss Maria
Friday	Gym with Mr Phil



After school dance with Miss Kathy is a weekly favorite activity.

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# Separation Anxiety

Avoid the transition blues



Phil Went

So it's September, it's still warm outside, memories of summer vacations are still fresh in our minds and parents across the country are lying awake at night worrying about their children's new school year. "Will Billy make new friends?, is Annie too young to be with those big kids? Will Jimmy learn to read this year?."

If you are one of those parents pondering questions like these, I have good news; you are not alone.

The start of the new school year can be a stressful time for both parent and child alike. But understanding the source of the anxiety can be the difference between a successful transition into school and weeks of sleepless nights and tearful separations.

Invariably when it comes to school your child isn't worried about the things you are worried about.

All parents worry about their kids - that's why you have sent them to school in the first place. Yet, no matter how much you want the best opportunities for your child and desire them to become independent people, the thought of leaving them in an unknown place with strangers is somewhat daunting.

In contrast, a child's biggest worry in life is "Will I still be loved and wanted tomorrow?". Any event that the child perceives as a threat to their daily supply of love and attention will be fought - it's a very basic instinct.

For some children being sent to school can be perceived as such a threat, creating a level of anxiety new to both parent and child.

The child's anxiety may also be compounded by a parents own feelings of fear & guilt for leaving their most cherished possession in this new situation.

The child may misinterpret these emotions as "If Mom's scared to leave me here, it's not safe and she doesn't love me anymore".

The anxiety naturally peaks at the moment of drop-off time. This

is the moment when the child feels most 'deserted'.

Okay, now for the good news. The reality is that once the moment of transition is

over, the child typically settles into the stimulating routine of classroom life, forgetting all about the separation that just occurred, and within a few days the anxiety of the new situation has gone.

The following are a number of tried and tested strategies to help ease you through that moment of separation.

Clearly communicate to your child and set clear expectations of what will happen when you arrive at school. There should be no surprises for the child.

At the moment of separation reassure, the child that you love them and that you will be back at a specific time to collect them. At that point, place the child in the care of a teacher and leave the immediate vicinity that the child is in. For your peace of mind it is sometimes advisable to wait out of sight until the child has settled.

Whilst it is undoubtedly important to comfort and reassure an upset child, elongating that moment of transition will only lengthen the 'painful' moment. Drop offs are best when planned, short and sweet.

Be informed about our school routines and be aware of where and when your child needs to be at school. Children struggle to enter activities that are already in progress.

Demonstrate and express your confidence in the school and the wonderful experiences the child will have.

Express to the child that they are not being sent away, that you have stopped loving them, but that going to school is a part of life.

Maintain an open line of communication with the teaching staff. They are a fantastic resource. Having a plan created and implemented by both parents and teachers is a most powerful approach to resolve any difficulty with your child's school experience.



Administration



Anthony Anandappa  
*President*



Marina Anandappa  
*Principal*



Lynn Coyne  
*Director of Admissions*



Phil Went  
*Administrative  
Coordinator*

Grade School



Anna Takeda  
*Elementary Class*



Sachia Fonseca  
*Grade Class*



Nilmini Dissanayaka  
*Grade Class*



Soundrie Alles  
*Music & Special Events*

NK1 Class



Carrie Wallang



Tania Jesuthasan



Maritza Mogrovejo

NK2 Class



Shyamali Fernando

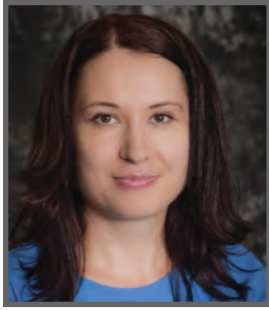


Maria Gallego



Tina Jawahir

NK3 Class



Monika Owsiana



Kasia-Pawlus  
Szweczyk



Sita Kamta

NK4 Class



Janet Bates



Maru Cobos

Toddler Class



Dilky Amunugama



Janet Jawahir



Claribel Lorenzo



Rubeterna Ulloa

Toddler Class



Priyani  
Ranasinghe



Sandy Latchmin



Lili Calderon