



Montessori Matters



E2 Spirit Week! When we consider what truly matters most with children, surely there is room for us to allow for ordinary moments of precious. Read on

E2 “In their own words”

E2 students describe volunteering and spirit week, page two.

Montessori Mondays

Montessori Monday is a monthly morning gathering for our families and friends of our families to participate in interactive sessions with a variety of topics that help link our school to home. We will have different topics each month from child development to Montessori curriculum.

Come join us on Monday, April 11th at 8:45 am in the newly renovated parent lounge. Bring a cup of coffee for a Montessori educational session given by Paul Epstein. The Montessori Monday will last about 30 minutes but feel free to stay and visit with other parents. Also, right after the gathering we will have our monthly PTSA meeting to discuss exciting happenings

Rochester Montessori School

Because how children learn influences who they will become

Some Ordinary Moments of Precious

By Paul Epstein, Ph.D.

By most who reckon, childhood comes but once. And once it is over, it is over. Dr. Maria Montessori was of the opinion that childhood stands in opposition to adulthood; she imagined a developmental spectrum with childhood at one end and adulthood at the other. In her understanding, however, children and adults are essential for each other; it is a symbiotic relationship. Adults offer children satisfaction for the fundamental needs of protection, food, health, shelter, guidance, education, love, and more. Children offer adults moments of precious.

A child will call from adults love, kindness, action, and more. That is, a child will mobilize adults to care and to provide for those fundamental needs. The child will motivate adults to greatness. How curious! Adults will typically

see this the other way around. We believe it is the adult who motivates the child. But this is only half the story as we motivate each other. Montessori wrote, *"The child is the instrument who not only makes everyone love his own corner of the earth and attaches him to his own customs but he is also, and for the same reason, the vehicle which transports mankind through the evolution of civilization."*

Daily, we celebrate the powers of children. Their influence on every RMS adult is profound. Sometimes all it takes is a child's smile, or laughter, or discovery, or desire, or interest, or spontaneity. Sometimes all it takes is hearing them say, "please," or "thank you."

Surely these are ordinary moments. And, of course, we know a child is a work-in-progress and that there are setbacks. But, nevertheless, we celebrate the ordinary as moments of precious; as moments to treasure. In the ordinary we find children becoming their potential. In the ordinary we catch glimpses of future adults who will know the difference between right and wrong and who will act with kindness.

Enjoy the spring break. Enjoy this time with your children. Celebrate the precious, they will only be this age this once.



E2 Volunteers at Channel One

By Isabell Dyrbye-Wright

On March 22, 2011 some of the E2 students went to volunteer at Channel One Food Bank and Food Shelf. We repackaged 700 pounds of noodles into individual bags for people in the community that visit the food shelf. We also packaged a lot of tortilla chips. On March 14, 2011 another group of E2 students went to Channel One. They helped by packing lentils. This was a good opportunity for the E2 students to do community service and learn that volunteering can be fun!

E2 Spirit Week

By Victor Montori

This week E2 is having fun by celebrating days like Crazy Outfit Day, Famous Person Day, and Pajama Day. On Crazy Outfit day, we saw many different wacky hair styles and mixed up clothing. (See pictures on page one.)

The next day, Famous Person day, many people dressed up like sports players, presidents, people from American history, book characters, even video game characters. On Pajama Day, most people wore pajamas. Finally, to top off the week, we are doing a Bring on Spring Day! Spirit Week is a great week!



Sixth grade students recently participated in the area Math Masters program after several weeks of preparation.

