



Montessori Matters



Did you know that the triangles (left) are used to construct quadrilaterals and other geometric shapes (center and right) are used to develop handwriting?

In This Issue

- Keeping Informed.....1
- Meet Juliane Dennis2
- RMS Giving2
- Target Red Card.....3

Volunteers are Needed

Volunteers are needed to help Children’s House – Middle School aged children on picture day. *Pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 12th.* Please contact Kidron. Thank you.

On the Calendar

October

- 3 PTSA Meeting 8:45 AM
- 10 Montessori Monday 8:45 AM
- 11 Children’s House Parents’ Night: Mathematics 5:30 –7:00 PM
- 12 School Pictures: Children’s House, Elementary / Middle School Programs
- 18 Parents’ Evening: To Praise or Not to Praise? What’s the Question? 5:30-7:00 PM
- 19 Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- 21 **No School:**
Professional Development Day

Keeping Informed RMS - A Vibrant Community

Like Us on Facebook

We welcome your Facebook friendships on our new RMS Facebook page. For easy access, go to our website homepage and click on the Facebook icon in the lower right corner.

Save the Date!

A Parent’s Evening, October 18, 6 PM, with Head of School, Paul Epstein. Paul will speak about the problematic effects of praising children in a topic titled, *To Praise or Not to Praise: What’s the Question?* As parents, we are naturally inclined to praise our children. But if we are not careful, our praises, as well as our punishments, can have the opposite effect on children. Instead of engaging in more praise-worthy behavior, children may become less interested and less cooperative. If praise doesn't work as we expect, then what should we offer our children?

The evening begins with a light pizza dinner with children (at 5:30) and will also include musical performances by students and faculty, the 2011-2012 Annual Fund kick-off (see more below), and refreshments. Your guests are more than welcomed.

The Media Center needs your help! We are developing a semester theme

following each of the continents. North America is our theme for this semester. If you have anything that you would like to donate to the school as a display, decoration, activity that surrounds the theme of North America, please bring it to school. Your items will be handled with care and returned to you when the semester is over. Please remember to label everything so that we can return your items to you. Thank you for your time and effort, RMS Media Center Committee.

Meet the faculty: Juliane Dennis and Sally Johnson team together in the Acorns classroom.



Meet Juliane Dennis

Juliane, Acorns' toddler room guide, began her work at RMS 1979 when she was a teenager! Her Father was the president of the board, and her two-and-a-half year old brother was enrolled in the RMS toddler program. When talking with Juliane, it is very clear that she has a passionate drive for her Montessori work with the Toddlers.

Juliane chose to work with this age group because she feels she has much in common with Toddlers. They are who they are, and there is no guessing.

At the same time, she finds Toddlers inspiring because they are true to themselves, strong and independent. After all these years, Juliane's favorite time of day is the beginning of the morning. Anything can happen, and it's always different.

Juliane has learned through the years that when toddlers take their very first steps towards successful independence, they change their attitude about all challenges for the rest of their lives.

Juliane is originally from Anderson,

Indiana, and she currently resides in Wabasha with her husband. They have six children between the two of them and 12 grandchildren, all of whom keep her very busy! She does find time to herself during her long commutes; she finds it relaxing to drive through the country side while listening to books on c.d.

Juliane has had quite a history with RMS, and it is our hope to further develop this story to give you more of an in depth look at Juliane's career along with a running narrative of the history of RMS. Look for it soon in an upcoming issue of Montessori Matters!

RMS Philosophy of Giving

The fundraising development effort at Rochester Montessori School blends the essential work of raising funds for our school with a philosophy that each family's active participation in the life and health of the school creates a vital community. The donation of time, talent, and resources demonstrates to your children your support of their school and creates meaningful and enduring relationships between families and the school.

We are a school that recognizes and highly values collaborative work between parents and staff. As we work together to build a community that is strong philosophically, financially and pedagogically, we rely on the many and varied contributions of our Montessori parents, alumni and friends.

The Annual Fund

The Annual Fund is the most significant fundraising activity of the year. Our theme this year is simply, **Books and Beyond: Request, Rebuild, and Replace.**

This theme reflects a simple truth: While we regularly budget classroom and media center funds, the School experiences the cumulative effects of decades of use. Simply, we need to rebuild our media center and replace classroom furniture and Montessori materials.

Our goal is to raise \$50,000 with 100% participation from our current families as well as expanded support from alumni families, grandparents, friends, faculty, and staff.

The Annual Fund is crucial in helping to make the School's media center project complete. Your contribution also helps to pay for educational



$$\begin{array}{r}
 7239860 \\
 - \quad 7019 \\
 - \quad 164458 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$



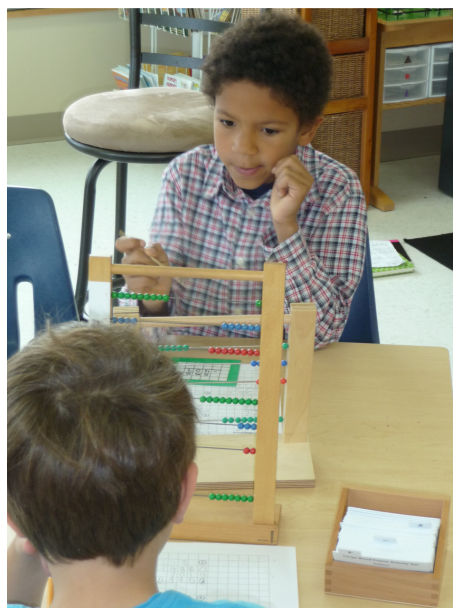
Did you know the large bead frame is used for operations (+, -, x, ÷) into the tens of millions? These E1 second year students (above and below) complete two-step subtraction calculations beginning with, for example, 7,239,860.

programs, resources, and many other things that enhance the children's day-to-day experience. This year's focus is to fill our media center with furniture, books and computers, as well as to refurbish much of the well-loved furniture and materials that the classrooms have used for over 30 years.

We encourage every family at RMS to make our School a priority for your charitable giving. Each and every gift is greatly appreciated and welcomed because of the statement it makes about the strength of our community's shared vision and commitment to the School.

Strong participation in the Annual Fund also positively influences contributions from foundations and corporations.

We are narrowing down our plans for the Annual Fund event. If you are interested in participating in the planning of this event please come to our PTSA meeting on Monday October, 3rd at 8:45 in the Parents' Room. If you are unable to attend



but would like to participate, please contact Shannon Mcraith at www.shannonmcraith@gmail.com or Kendra Garrison at accountant@rmschool.org

The Target Red Card

Our school is earning money! Thanks to all of you who are currently participating in the Target Take Charge of

Education® program. Simply shop with your Target Credit Card®, Target Debit Card®, or Target® Visa® Credit Card and designate RMS. A percentage of your purchase is donated back to our school. We've already raised \$6,039.18 with only 14 current card holders donating. Think of the possibilities if we were to all register our Target cards!!!

Please consider supporting the School. Other family members, grandparents, alumni, friends, and neighbors can help, too no matter where they live.

To participate, or to see how much has been contributed to RMS, please visit www.target.com/tcoe

Our school ID is 22375 or call 1-800-316-6142.