



Summit Times

February 2006

Notes from the Administration

The Summit Private School campus is truly amazing. Where can you go where everyone involved in the education of your child actually nurtures and loves your child. As Maria Montessori has said "One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child." There is a wonderful sense of family here at Summit and I would like to take some time to discuss the new family members around campus.

Miss Nicole Ladley is the new Lead Teacher in the Toddler room and having a wonderful time with the children while redirecting, educating, potty training and a host of other activities. Debbie Feller, a familiar face on campus having been here all year, is the new assistant for Miss Jo. Both Miss Nicole and Miss Debbie are also helping with drop-off for the school. Miss Kathy Doole is our after-school elementary care provider who is a state champion lacrosse player, an experienced camp supervisor, an education major and is introducing more cooperative fun sport games for the after-school children.

We have had some wonderful meetings these past several weeks. Our Preschool parents enjoyed the amazing tasks and work the children are doing in the classroom, with many reading and solving math problems, understanding geography and developing practical life skills; but **most importantly as they work they are developing a love for learning!!!**

The Parents of our elementary children had an opportunity to share thoughts and desires for the school moving into the future and some of those ideas are already being implemented. The kids love the more hands on art class and Coach Roudy is gathering information and connections to start creating team sports for the school. In this regard, we need your help to create a team mascot. Soon we will be surveying all the elementary school children to come up with suggestions for the team mascot and then we will vote on all the selected suggestions. One elementary student recommended the Summit Platypuses but after the laughter we realized this is probably would not have the desired emotional impact on the opposing team.

Winterfest was a huge success and I would like to thank all of our staff, students, and families for their support. The class baskets were truly amazing—I was amazed at all the creative thought and hard work that went into those class baskets.

Important Dates

2.14 Valentine's Day

2.19 President's Day

No School

3.1 3.2 AMS Conference

No School



Www. Summitschools.com

It's Here! We are so excited to let you know our new website is up and operating. We now can have current events, updated calendars, bulletin boards and more.

We are in the beginning stages, but soon, all of the teachers will have their own bulletin board up as well as sections for the

Specials' teachers and After-school instructors. Our monthly newsletter will be geared towards parent education and used as a forum to address many of the issues our children face in today's society.

Stay tuned for more details and take a look at the new photo gallery on our website.!

Miss Lourdes & Miss Carly

In January our class joined the other preprimary classes in a joyful day at the Dreher Park Zoo. The weather was beautiful and the children had a fantastic visit.

Some of our friends at the zoo



Since the beginning of the school year we have been counting each day by placing a marble in a glass jar on our morning job line. After many months of placing marbles in the jar, we finally reached the 100th day of school and had a fun celebration. The day began



with each child bringing from home a contribution of 100 coins of whatever denomination they chose, we then counted the money and found that we had raised \$164.20 in pennies, dimes, nickels and quarters...that was a big heavy load of coins! The money raised will be contributed to the teacher fund for the annual AMS trip.



100th Day Celebration

We would like to thank our helpful Moms Suzanne Matera, Marjorie Wessel, and Mrs. Schwartz for lugging the heavy coins to Publix, providing and helping us with snacks and the treasure hunt, the kids had a fantastic time!

Miss Jo & Miss Debbie

Happy New Year, and welcome, Miss Debbie! She is settling in nicely as the assistant in our classroom and the children really love her.

The new friends who recently joined our class are Jeffrey Bielec, Bradley Gaskill, Raymond Ozols and Alessandra Winkel. Welcome!

Happy Birthday to Nate, Bradley and Jaxon who turn 3 this month. We are looking forward to Winterfest. Hope to see you all there!



We can do no great things, just small things with great love.

Mother Theresa

Miss Cindy & Miss Nena

We would like to welcome everyone back from the 'Winter' Break and hope that you all had a wonderful, fun-filled time over the Holidays. The children seem to be well rested and ready to tackle another few months of learning new and exciting things.

Garrett Newman has returned to Florida for the 2nd half of the school year and Luke Rosen has officially joined our classroom as of January. Welcome to both.

Our "holiday frame" fundraiser was a HUGE success thanks to the continued support of all our parents. The children had such fun putting them together and we must say they turned out beautifully.

We started out January with a very exciting event for the children – the first Pre-school field trip. It was a wonderful day and everyone seemed to have a great time. We have had a lot of positive feedback and would like to thank everyone involved for making it possible.

During the Month of February we will have the Winter Fest, Valentines Day

and our class is hosting the teacher luncheon this month. We are very excited.

Valentines Day is going to be celebrated with a valentine's lunch for the children and valentines cards that will be made by the children to share with the class.

We hope that 2007 is a wonderful year for all!



Our day at the zoo!



Miss Rachelle & Miss June



Welcome back from a well needed and hopefully a well rested break. Happy 2007 to you all. The children came back to school ready to go. We checked on our garden and have been trying to keep up with weeding. We are ready to harvest the radishes and have a tomato growing with many flowers on the plants.

We were fortunate on Jan. 4 to have Mr. McCarthy from the McCarthy Wildlife Sanctuary visit. He brought with him many exotic animals that have been rescued and enlightened us on how precious these animals are.

Please make sure that you have checked the Reporters calendar and have your child begin preparing by choosing their topic of what they would like to report. If you have questions, please contact me at least a week before your child's due date. This is your child's responsibility to get done and present like all other homework that is sent home. Second and third graders, please make sure that spelling homework is done daily and turned in each Friday.

If your child has lost his/her Friday folder, please send in a new folder so parent notices do not get lost. A reminder with our community snack; please make sure that it is individually prepared and please send in a nutritious snack. Drinks are not necessary unless you would like to send one in with a birthday snack. We appreciate your cooperation. Readers from our classroom library are due back each day. This gives us an opportunity to listen to your child read. Please make sure that if you haven't sent in your field trip \$ you do so as soon as possible.



Miss Angela G & Miss Zoe

It's hard to believe that 2007 has arrived and that our classroom is back in full swing again! We have begun our artist and composer studies. This month we will be focusing on Van Gogh and Mozart.

Just a few reminders for you to help us successfully continue our classroom daily routines and get our new year off to a great start:

1. Please label your child's snack each day.
2. Please come into the classroom and check your child's spare clothes to see if they will still fit. If your child does not have a change of clothes at school, please send a set in.

3. We are still using 2 cloth napkins for our lunch routine. Your child will benefit from having a set in their lunchbox each day.

4. We are continuing to foster independence in your child. Please say goodbye at the door and allow your child to take care of their personal belongings. We are there to help your child help himself/herself.

5. If you need to speak to Miss Angela for any reason, please set up a meeting time so that I can give you my full attention. Notes are also welcome. My personal e-mail address is AngiePG@aol.com.

We are in need of classroom volunteers

The Romans are Coming!

From: The Computer Lab

We have begun studying the Roman civilization in our Computer Lab. The students have begun by practicing their research skills, saving pictures, and learning how to bookmark sites on the computer. Next, we will discuss where they fit in the timeline of history, how they defended their empire, the types of homes they built, their clothing, religion, foods, and even their transportation.

As with last year, each child will choose a topic of interest and we will hold our Roman day this spring. After last year, the one thing we learned, we



need some parent volunteers the day of the event to assist with the games and art projects. I will be sending out a volunteer sheet after Spring Break. It was a great fun last year and we look forward to the event being a success this year.

If you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. Start considering their costumes!!!

Angela Updike

for the second half of the year. Please come into the classroom and see our sign-up sheets posted above the sink area for available times and dates.

Thank you all for supporting our class and all that we believe in and always lending a helping hand.

If men had used only speech to communicate their thought, if their wisdom had been expressed in words alone, no traces would remain of past generations. It is thanks to the hand, the companion of the mind, that civilization has arisen. The hand has been the organ of this great gift that we inherit. -Dr. Maria Montessori

Miss Stefanie

The Upper Elementary, once again, will be actively involved in the research process! Each student will choose a topic to further explore in order to create a PowerPoint presentation. I would like to go to the Boca Raton Public Library with the children on Tuesday February 13th from 9:30 to 11:15. Volunteer drivers are needed; if you are interested please contact me.

The class has begun our study of the human body with the circulatory system, this is an in depth look into the function of our heart, blood vessels, and blood. I am looking forward to creating a model heart with the students. With all the creativity flowing from the students of the Upper Elementary, the plan is to host a classroom fair in May of our entire human body study. The Lower Elementary will be invited to participate

in the hands-on experiments and presentations of each body system!

It is amazing how fast this school year is flying by! Valentine's Day is upon us, along with our annual class luncheon and we are sure it will be a lot of fun for the students.



We have been conducting experiments on the human body. These pictures are of an experiment showing how much blood flows through your body in one minute. The children are having a great time with the study. If you have anything special you would like to share, please drop me a note at your convenience.



Miss Ann & Miss Maria

We certainly hope you all enjoyed the holidays as much as we did. The children seem enthusiastic about being reunited with their school chums.

Everyone learned a great deal about dental hygiene this month with a very special visit by a pediatric dentist. Next week the children will have a presentation by a renowned scientist.

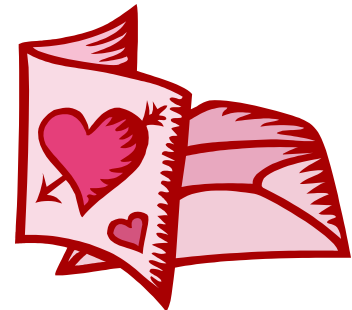
In class, we will continue our artist of the month theme, our study of the periodic element chart and, we will

begin studying the timeline of life on earth. The third graders have begun a research project on some of our world's most famous structures and monuments. It should be a very interesting semester.

We also have some terrific field trips planned including the Miami Metro Zoo, Parrot Jungle and a visit to the Anne Kolb Nature Center.

Our fourth annual science fair is scheduled for April 19th. So far, the

projects have been outstanding and we can assure you that this year will be a resounding success as well.



From the PA

Congratulations to the Vigdor family for winning the 50/50 raffle at \$ 340.00

Congratulations to the Sussman family for winning the raffle of the 54" Mitsubishi flat screen HD television set.

The PTA made \$ 7,564.00!!!!

Furniture **\$ 580.00**. There are still 2 more pieces of furniture available for purchase.

Live Auction came in at **\$2,520.00** There are a few items remaining from this area too.

Silent Auction came in at **\$ 4,619.00**.

If you would like to find out about the remaining items, please call the office.

Thanks for all your support—it was a great time!