

# Summit Private School Newsletter

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Nicholas and Jordan at the Montessori Model United Nations in New York City early March.

## Administrative News

First, congratulations to all the teaching and administrative staff on a job well done in Summit Private School receiving our new five year re-accreditation. The re-accreditation team was very impressed by the interviews with parents, teachers and especially the leadership qualities and brilliance of our students. They were equally impressed with the classroom academics, the lessons, the behavior and professionalism of the staff. Drs. Mike wish to thank all those who participated on that day and the many days of preparation prior to the visit.

What does it mean to have a student at Summit Private School? What truly are the advantages above all other schools in Palm Beach County or even in the entire state of Florida.

Summit students are taught to become world citizens, whose character is second to none and to become strong leaders. These students shall become leaders of companies, communities, organizations both private and non-private and even world leaders. This is the focus of the education and training of our students. How are we doing in this mission?

The Montessori Model UN was a great platform to test this mission. Of the 611 delegates from all over the United States and four countries outside the US the staff holding the conference thought all of our students were 6<sup>th</sup> graders because of the way they carried themselves, presented the issues and gave speeches like veteran model UN students. **Of the 611 delegates at the actual UN general assembly in the evening of voting only 4 delegates spoke and of the four delegates two were from Summit Private School.**

In their own words they became leaders for great causes that can positively transform the world. Their fears turned into incredible confidence and one student stated it was as if she had wings and could fly after she gave her speech.

**Summit Private School was the only school from Florida at the Montessori Model UN.** We are here to create the men and women who will transform this planet; they will become leaders in every area of their life and be a force of good for positive change on the planet. This is what a Summit Private School education is all about and soon we will be going through 8<sup>th</sup> grade to instill these leadership qualities even more. I am not aware of any school in the southeast part of the country can touch the leadership skills these children are developing. The other great part of Summit Private School is that the students love coming to school and have a love and passion for learning and there is nothing greater than this when it comes to the education and training of children.

God Bless and have a wonderful Spring break,

Drs. John and Susan Mike

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### Upcoming Events

- ◆ 4/6: Return from Spring Break
- ◆ 4/10: Good Friday **SCHOOL CLOSED**
- ◆ 4/16: Teacher's Luncheon
- ◆ 4/18: Island Luau PTA Fundraiser  
6 pm
- ◆ 4/22: World Peace Day
- ◆ 4/28-30: Pre-Testing-Kindergarten/Elementary IOWA

## Toddlers



Kevin paints a shamrock.



The children in Ms. Jo's and Ms. Norma's classes doing a jig.



Ms. Cindy's class celebrating Valentine's Day.

***A Note from: Andrea Cole*****"BOXTOPS AND USED INK CARTRIDGES**

This is a reminder that the Boxtops Program is ongoing throughout the year as is the Used Ink Cartridge Program so please keep collecting these items! We have had a wonderful response since our last newsletter so thank you to all those that have been collecting. Please keep them coming!!"

Thanks,  
Andrea Cole  
561.417.2984 Cell 561.699.5239

**Ms. Jo and Ms. April**

Happy Spring! Ms. Jo had a wonderful time at the AMS conference in New Orleans. She went to many outstanding workshops and got to hear an inspiring speech by Greg Mortenson, author of "Three Cups of Tea". He is also the founder of an organization called "Pennies for Peace". This program is being established in thousands of classrooms all across the country. Check out the "Pennies for Peace" jar in our classroom and encourage your child to donate whenever possible. Remember, a penny buys a pencil in Pakistan. The class had fun on St. Patrick's day and there was plenty o' green to be seen! The garden is flourishing and the children enjoy their time there with Ms. April. Thanks to all the parents who have been helping out. This month we will be concentrating on springtime and things that grow. Welcome to Kevin Mukherjee West who recently joined our class. And Happy Birthday to Anderson Peters who turns 3 on March 29. Have a safe and restful Spring Break.

**Ms. Norma and Ms. Irene**

This past month we had a month of review, it is always good to remember those first lessons. Our classroom has changed in the past few weeks. I would like to welcome the following students: Annelise, Christian, Cabo and Liana. We are very happy to have them in our classroom. We also say goodbye to Nicolas and Andrew who have moved up to Pre-Primary. We wish you good luck and we will miss you. We have also celebrated four Birthdays this month: Happy Birthday to Andrew, Gui, Giuseppe and Cabo who are all now three years old. In the next few months we will have activities and we will learn songs about colors, planets and peace. Our school year will soon be over and we are very proud and happy with the progress our students have made thus far. Michelle Pearl has done a great job as Room Mother and we appreciate all her hard work, we will miss you. We thank Shola S. and Jasmin G. for accepting the position of Room Moms for the rest of this school year. We hope you have a Good Spring Break and we will see you in April. *Ms. Norma and Ms. Irene.*

**Ms. Cindy and Ms. Nena**

March sees the arrival of spring. The children have been doing some great lessons and our new readers can't seem to get enough of those books. We will be having our Spring & Easter craft day on the Thursday before Good Friday. Our homeroom moms will be arranging this fun day so please check your emails for further information. On this fun day the children will be able to wear their spring clothes. Please make sure that you send in your child's lunch as usual as we will not be doing a luncheon on this day. We will, however, be having a special snack for them. This month we will host our 'grandparents/special persons' morning. This will be 26<sup>th</sup> March and we look forward to seeing you in the classroom. We hope that you all have a wonderful Spring Break!!!

**Ms. Crystal and Ms. Jennifer**

Dear Parents: Thank you so much for participating in Grandparents/Special Persons Day. The children were so proud to share their classroom and it was a big success. This month in honor of St. Patrick's Day, we took an in-depth look at Ireland in the cultural area. We experienced some food, coins and one of their most favorite - the Leprechaun came to visit!! Thank you all for all of your support this month. Have a great Spring Break. ♥ *Ms. Crystal and Ms. Jennifer*

## Ms. Jan and Ms. Jade

The children in Miss Jan and Miss Jade's class enjoyed studying about animals and their original continents. This unit, as are all units, is ongoing so any books on the subject are welcome at anytime for show and tell (not just snack days.) We also "studied" (their favorite description of work) about the history of St. Patrick's Day and focused on Ireland in our cultural studies. A few weeks ago we began making flags which represent countries that the children or children's friends come from. Harrison's nanny Marita came in to tell us about Peru, and the children loved her presentation. Anyone you know who would like to offer a cultural presentation of 20' is welcome! Visuals, costume dress or international food are always a big hit. Just e-mail Miss Jan to set up a time. We are "studying" the parts of the seed and flower as spring approaches. Happy Spring!

## Ms. Angela and Ms. Deirdre

"The long awaited overnight field trip took place with the third grade students and some of the upper elementary students departing at 7:00 am on a cool Thursday morning. There was lots of excitement in the air with all of them arriving by 6:45 while it was still dark! I heard some of the third graders were worried they would miss the bus and got dressed in the middle of the night!! Most of the 3rd graders look forward to this trip since hearing about it as 1st graders. For two years they see the 3rd graders going away and it was their turn. The trip is planned by Florida Safari Adventures and this year the kids were bused to Sanibel Island. The trip keeps them busy with visits to Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge, a pontoon boat trip, a visit to the shell museum, a walk on the beach and camping in tents at the Koreshan State Historic Park with an evening campfire. The next day included a visit to Edison and Ford Estates with a visit to the laboratory and summer home of Thomas Edison and a walk through the gardens of Henry Ford." Written by Andrea Cole

## Ms. Jennifer and Ms. Stephanie

Well the last month has flown by! We have spent the month learning what a verb is, where Georgia is on the European map and the different types of clouds. The class had fun trying to figure out what type of clouds brought us all the rain last week. We are starting seeds in our classroom using our yogurt and fruit cup containers. The students are responsible for watering their plants and making sure they get enough sunlight. We are hoping that when we get back from Spring Break, we will see our chives, cilantro, coneflowers, daisies and Chinese lanterns sprouting. Have a great Spring Break!

## Ms. Ann and Ms. Maria

Congratulations from our class to the Upper Elementary for a superb job at the model U.N.. You have made us all very proud. The staff had a marvelous time at our conference in New Orleans. We came back refreshed and excited with many novel ideas. We also did our part in helping the New Orleans economy cruising Bourbon Street in the evenings listening to bands, buying boas and beads. The anticipation of the overnight to Sanibel proved to be all that the children had dreamed of. The weather was glorious, the learning experiences were the best, the independence of the children was awesome! We think the trip was all that everyone hoped it would be. We wish you all a restful Spring break.



New Orleans.



Sanibel Island.

## Elementary Students at the Sanibel Island Overnight Trip!



**Have you joined PTA yet?**  
*It is not too late!*

*Every membership counts!*  
Call Evelyn (561) 367-1270 or  
Robin (754) 246-3954

## Mr. Sesame and Ms. Giulia

The month of March has been amazing for the students and staff here in the upper elementary. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month we set off on our trip to the Montessori Model United Nations up in New York. What an amazing opportunity this has been for our upper elementary students, and this would be a great opportunity to, once again, thank all the families here at Summit for your support of these young leaders on this wonderful socially and culturally enriching trip. The student-delegates did a fine job of representing our school up there, working with hundreds of Montessori students, some from schools as far as Haiti or Mexico. The format at the MMUN is non-competitive and is meant to create a venue for students to come up with effective world solutions to global challenges. Yet, our students were able to establish themselves within their committees, give speeches on major UN issues, work through regular and moderated caucuses, as well as create and sign on to draft resolutions that were later voted on at the official UN building in NY. These guys worked hard. One young delegate was videotaped being honored by the President of their committee for being well-prepared. Of the five students selected to speak at the UN building, two of them were from our school. Need I remind everyone that this was our first year participating. Ms. Giulia and I were practically fit to burst with emotion and pride, to see the children work so hard and so effectively. Although it was somewhat intimidating for each person to speak in front of our committee, each student gave their speech at the podium. One student described the experience as "flying without wings," when she was able to overcome her fear and speak in front of her committee. Now, students have been inspired by the plight of school children in Pakistan and we have started collecting coins for Pennies for Peace. The students are charged with positive energy and are looking for ways to make change happen. This has been an amazing month for everyone here in the upper elementary in so many different ways. We hope all our families enjoy a wonderful and relaxing spring break and look forward to seeing everyone in April. *Sesame and Giulia*

## Specials Corner

### Library and Garden - Ms. Jayne

**The Library:** Our Summit Readers are truly reaching for the stars! As of today, we have 899 stars and rockets on our library walls. We expect to be way over 1,000 by the end of the school year. Great work kids. It is wonderful to inspire a love of reading in our children. Nurturing existing interests and encouraging new ones is one way we try to promote enthusiasm for books.

Many Summit kids love reading aloud in the library. Poetry is always popular for reading to their classmates. Shel Silverstein and Jack Prelutsky are two of our favorite poets. We have been reading them throughout the school year and the kids really appreciate the wit and humor of these two authors.

Our library, which has over 5,000 volumes, has so much to offer our students. Come in and look around. Take advantage of this resource.

**The Garden:** Our rain gauge is overflowing! Last week, over nine inches of rain fell on our campus. I have been discussing rainfall and its impact on our environment with the Elementary and Pre-Primary kids. Measuring and seeing with their own eyes gives them the tangible evidence they enjoy so much. Our plants have certainly soaked it all up. Three cauliflower and a crop of green beans, 8 sweet, orange peppers and much mint and basil have recently been harvested from our garden. The students in Miss Jennifer's class will contribute "mint iced tea" to the Teacher's Luncheon this week. Their idea! Please pick our basil: the more you prune it, the more it encourages bushiness and growth. Help yourselves by pinching the growing tips from each plant. Many thanks to the Pelish family. Their endless energy, helpfulness and donation of time have restored our Toddler garden and pond. Jason Pelish emptied and cleaned out the pond. On the bottom, there were many, many large rocks, four garden ornaments, loads of muck, leaves and branches. We swept and scrubbed out the remaining debris. The rains followed and Jason is coming back again, bucket and pump in hand. We are really working on beautifying that special place on our campus. Thank you to our wonderful PTA for funding our lovely gardens.

### Art - Ms. Rachael


Kindergarten and Elementary were busy this month making art books. Kindergarten used an accordion format for their books. Some of the children wanted words in their books and some only wanted pictures. Elementary worked on fold out books. On the inside of the books, the children drew pictures of the things that were important to them. This led to many fascinating discussions about interests. Some of the children drew flags from the countries where they or their parents were born. Upper elementary were finally able to put finishing touches on their 'Secrets in a Box.' Mr. Sesame found an old welcome mat for us to give new life to with paint. A few students worked on making costumes for their upcoming play. We will start our book making next art class. Thank you for the paper towel and toilet paper tube donations! *Ms. Rachael*

### Music and Pre-Primary Spanish - Ms. Xiomara

Happy Spring! I would like to thank Nicole Smith and the Summit Fundraising Committee for helping to raise money for the Music and Art departments last month by holding a Pre-Primary pajama Party. I am very grateful for the computer it helped purchase for the music department! Students in Beginning and Junior Orchestra are getting used to their early morning classes from 8:15-8:55 am., M-W for Jr. Orch. and T-F for Beg. Orch.. We have started working on our Spring Program which will be performed in mid to late May. I encourage parents of instrumental students to help your child set up a daily practice schedule. In Pre-Primary Spanish, we are working on having students recognize and name body parts in Spanish on themselves as well as on stuffed animals. The children are also reviewing fruits and vegetables, colors and numbers. This coming month, we will also introduce and review members of the family. I hope you have a wonderful Spring Break!

Any financial questions can be addressed with Bari Schwartz. (561) 338-5020

**N.B. Contributions for the Summit Newsletter can be sent to [msxiomara@summitschools.com](mailto:msxiomara@summitschools.com)**



Mr. Sesame's class bundled up in Grand Central Station NY, on their trip to the MMUN the first week of March 2009.

## Sports

Last year was the first Summit School flag football team. That year we finished the season with an 0-8 record. With each passing game we wanted them to do better than the previous game, and they did. This year our students came prepared. With last year's memory still fresh on their minds, they wanted to get at least 1 win. Well believe it or not, they have met their goal times 8! They are 8-0 so far this season with two more games left. Not only are they undefeated but have scored over 300 points and have given up less than 40 points. They are looking sharp on offense and defense. They understand that all 6 of them on the field work as a unit. At the end of every game I tell them I'm happy they won but I'm more proud of the way they played as a team. So with two games left please come cheer and support Gatlyn, Tessa, John, Ricky, Jordan, Nicholas, Ben, Jacob, Joey, Eric and Lorenzo. On behalf of coach Chuck, coach John, and coach Sesame, we want to thank all the parents and the players who came out and participated on Monday afternoons for practice and Saturday mornings for game day. Thanks to you we were able to have a turn-around season.

The basketball player are looking as sharp as ever. Each week they learn new skills and apply them on game day. They've been learning to communicate with each other on the court to reduce turnovers and increase their chances of scoring. I'm very pleased with their improvements and hard work. Thank you to all the parents and players for an awesome season.

-Coach Roudy

## Summit Private School

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We're on the Web!  
[www.summitschools.com](http://www.summitschools.com)