



Montessori Learning Centre • Phone 475-1039 • mlcmont@mts.net • 170 Ashland Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3L 1L1 • Fax 452-4643



## Dates to Remember

- **Tuesday, October 4**  
P.M. In-service -  
no afternoon class and no lunch
- **Tuesday, October 4 @ 7:30pm**  
Parent Orientation Evening
- **Monday, October 10**  
Thanksgiving Day -  
no school
- **Friday, October 21**  
A.M. / P.M. In-service -  
no school all day
- **Tuesday, November 1**  
A.M. In-service -  
no morning class and no lunch
- **Friday, November 11**  
Remembrance Day -  
no school all day
- **Wednesday, November 16**  
P.M In-service -  
no afternoon class and no lunch
- **Wednesday, November 16**  
Evening Parent / Teacher  
Conferences
- **Thursday, November 17**  
A.M. / P.M. Parent / Teacher  
Conferences - no classes all day
- **Friday, November 25**  
Annual MLC Auction  
Fundraiser

# Autumn is here!



**A**ll the children have been welcomed into MLC and are busy exploring the activities in all areas of the classroom. New friendships are forming and the teachers are getting to know each child as an individual, working with them one-on-one, in small groups, and as a class.

## Show & Tell

A calendar indicating when your child is scheduled to bring an item to show the class has been included with this newsletter. Show & Tell is optional, and your child does not have to bring something on their day. We think it is an excellent esteem-building activity, and we encourage parents to help their children plan it. Please note the date and only allow your child to bring **one item** on that day.

Items suitable for Show & Tell include: objects from nature; travel souvenirs; books; crafts; musical instruments or things that are special to the children. Please have your child bring their Show & Tell into the classroom at arrival time when it is their turn.

**Reminder:** The Balfour door is unlocked: 8:30-9:30, 11:00-1:15, 3:00-4:00; the Ashland door is unlocked until 4:00pm. Please remember to not leave valuables (e.g. purses in the car while picking up your child.)



# In the Classroom



## Classroom Happenings

**D**uring September, the children were introduced to, or reminded of, the many classroom materials in small group lessons in room 2, as well as individually in the main classroom. As the leaves turn colour, we will discuss fall, the shapes of leaves, and will have discussions about Thanksgiving and related music, crafts and language activities. We will talk about what it means to be thankful.

Geography begins with the awareness of the earth as a globe, and with an understanding of the land and water on Earth. The North American continent will

be the spotlight. We will study the countries, people, music, art, animals, etc. A little later, we will focus on Winnipeg, Manitoba as part of North America. The children will learn the names of the continents through a song.

Science is an ongoing area of learning, and the nature shelf is always available for children's contributions. In October, we will begin the Montessori approach to the universe through a lesson on the importance of the sun and the three elements of the Earth: land, water, and air.



### Halloween

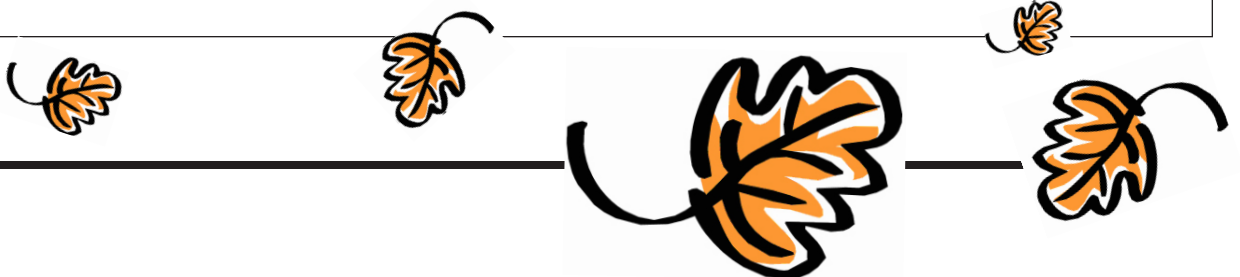
**H**alloween is celebrated at MLC with special snacks, songs, games and crafts. **We do not wear costumes at MLC, and do not want the children to wear or bring them to school.** Halloween evening is a highlight in many homes, and we try not to overload the children.

### French

**F**rench will start on Tuesday, October 11 with Beth Smyth. The children will learn: "Comment t'appelle tu?", "Je m'appelle...", "Comment ca va?", to count to 10, and learn colours. They sing songs in French: Bonjour, Au Revoir, and Comment ca va.

## School Pictures: Thursday, October 13, 2011

Our photographer, Jody (Theo's mom), will be at the school to take photos at 9:00am for the morning class, and at 1:00pm for the afternoon class. A group photo will be taken. It will be offered to parents at a minimal cost. If parents are interested in an individual photo of their child, please email Jody at [jodysie@shaw.ca](mailto:jodysie@shaw.ca). Part-time children who do not normally attend on that day are invited to come to school at the above times to be included in the group photo with their class. Part-time children will then return home with their parents.



# Events of Note



## Parent Orientation

**T**uesday, October 4, 2011 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

This is your night, parents! This is the only evening when teachers will lay out the Montessori materials and explain how they are used and why, and describe the sequence we follow to present work. Please plan to come and learn about the equipment.

## Whose Jacket is this?

**P**lease be sure you have labelled all your child's outdoor clothing (jackets, hats, mitts, and boots) with their name. When 30 pre-schoolers dress in the same space to go out to play, items can easily get mixed up and occasionally lost. There will be a display of lost items on top of the lockers in the hallway by the classroom door.

Children should leave a pair of soft-soled shoes (preferably running shoes) at school when boots are regularly worn.

When it becomes cold we insist that children wear snow/ski pants to play outside. Don't forget to label the snow/ski pants! Please note, if you intend to order your labels from Mabel's Labels ([www.mabel.ca](http://www.mabel.ca)), please be sure to select the check box indicating your child attends the Montessori Learning Centre, as the school receives commission from these sales!

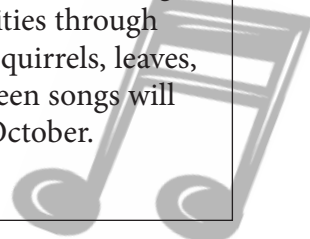


## No Parking

The children of the Diagnostic Learning Centre are delivered to our school by school bus. The school bus will drop off at the south entrance of the school, on Balfour Street. This is a loading zone, so parents cannot park directly in front of the school. Watch for two signs indicating the "no parking zone." Thanks for your consideration! (The bus drivers can issue parking tickets.)

## Orff Music

The Orff Music curriculum is presented on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning. It is taught by Zan May. The children will be exploring two and three note songs and movement activities through themes such as fall, squirrels, leaves, and weather. Halloween songs will be introduced mid-October.



## Lunch Program

We ask that parents **not send** whole eggs, tree nuts or peanut products in the lunches. We have children with severe allergies to these products.

# Shhh...

Please remember that there are other teachers and students working in the building, and we do not want to disturb them with excessive noise and activity in the hallway.



# Fundraising News



Welcome new parents and welcome back returning parents! We have three fundraising goals this year: (1) to make the 21st Starlight Auction and Reception our most successful event yet; (2) to offer desirable & useful products through our other fundraisers; (3) to offer enough variety so that there is something for everyone, but not so much as to overwhelm. Parents are not expected to participate in/purchase from every fundraiser, but our hope is that there is at least one fundraiser that appeals to you, as the monies raised by these fundraisers are critical to maintaining the integrity of the MLC program.

This past year, we purchased new Montessori equipment and a photocopier for the classroom. In previous years, fundraising has allowed for the construction of a bathroom in the classroom, landscaping of the playground including trees, benches and new entrances to the fenced area, as well the purchase of office and other essential equipment.

## Fundraising Kick-Off

As most of you know from our September email, we kicked off fundraising this year with QSP Magazines. Orders can be placed online at any time throughout the year and MLC receives 37% of the QSP Magazine sales!

QSP offers over 700 titles including magazines, books, and CD-ROMs to choose from with savings of up to 85% off newsstand prices. If you are looking to order new subscriptions, renew existing subscriptions or give subscriptions as birthday gifts or for the holidays, visit [www.qsp.ca](http://www.qsp.ca), click "Shop Now" under the heading "supporters" and enter group #31976. As suggested in our email, posting the above information to facebook, twitter or sending it by mass email to friends & family, allows people to participate without pressure and with little effort. Paper QSP materials and order forms are also available at the MLC office.

Our second fundraiser of the year is holiday-oriented. We will be selling beautiful fir wreaths, centerpieces, and door swags from Petal's West Greenhouses (via Fun Factory Fundraising) at very reasonable prices. Order forms have been placed in your child's mailbox and are due back by October 15th.

As indicated on page 3, we also receive commission from any purchases made throughout the year from Mabel's Labels ([www.mabel.ca](http://www.mabel.ca))

## 21st Starlight Reception & Auction Nov 25th

We have once again booked the St. Boniface Golf Club for this year's event. Those who attended last year can attest that we received terrific value in our \$20 tickets – a lovely buffet meal, dessert, coffee & tea. An assortment of wine and refreshments will also be available for purchase.

Dan Wachniak of Wachniak Realty will once again host the highlight of the evening- the live auction. Dan graciously donates his auctioneering skills year after year. A ticket auction area (for the smaller items) will also be set up.

Tickets will be available to purchase in November. **Please consider inviting friends and family** (e.g. grandma and grandpa!) for an inexpensive night out and a head start on holiday shopping.

We hope to make the 21st Starlight Auction and Reception our most successful event yet, lessening, or eliminating altogether, the need for any further fundraising throughout the year. We are also attempting to get an early start on collecting donations in order to better sort, list and advertise the auction's prizes leading up to Nov. 25th, thereby building anticipation and increasing ticket sales.



# Fundraising News

(Continued)



## Here's how you can help:

- Pick up copies of the donation request letter (available in a basket by the classroom's entrance) and drop them off to businesses, friends or family who might be interested in making donations in the form of services, products or gift certificates.
- Donate your own services, products or gift certificates (suggestions are made on the following page).
- If all else fails, donate money that we can combine to purchase a large ticket item. Also, we have found that while some businesses are not willing to make outright donations, they are often willing to donate the bulk of the cost of a product or service if we apply some money toward it.
- Sign up for the Wrapping Bee (where we catalogue & wrap the donations) to be held on November 19th or to transport the auction packages to the St. Boniface Golf Club.

Donations can be dropped off at the MLC office, preferably by the end of October to allow cataloguing for the evening's program.

## Upcoming Fundraisers

Be sure to leave room in your holiday shopping/grocery budget for an exciting, new fundraiser. **The Good Food Company** offers prepared food products free of any artificial colours, flavours or preservatives (MSG), such as soup mixes, seasonings, or baking mixes, all in compostable packaging.

## Many Hands Make Light Work

Our Fundraising Committee puts the "fun" in fundraising, but at present we are a small committee. If you would like to help out, please call the co-chairs (Erin 284.9977 or Jody 474.2678), approach us in the hallways or email us at [mlcfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:mlcfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com). Our next meeting is October 11th at 7 p.m. and we would love to see you there!

## Our New Email Address

If you have not already received emails from the fundraising committee's new email address, [mlcfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:mlcfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com), please add it to your list of accepted senders.





# Suggestions for Auction Donations

Here are some categories of auction prizes that have proved successful in past years, as well as some fresh ideas:

- JETS TICKETS, JETS TICKETS, JETS TICKETS, JETS TICKETS!! We all want them, but can't get them...these would be sure to generate a high bid!
- ADVENTURES: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for passes to water parks, amusement parks, theme parks, interpretive centres, and ski resorts.
- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for Music, Art, Dance, Karate or Tae Kwon Do classes; Art Supplies, Musical Instruments, Dance Costumes, etc.
- BEING THE BEST YOU: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for Gym Memberships, Yoga, Chiropractic, Massage Therapy, Physiotherapy, Dental Services, Hair Cuts, Perms (What? I hear they are back in style.), Facials, Pedicures, Manicures, and related products.
- CAR CARE: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for a Car (You don't score if you don't shoot...OK, how about a lease?), Car Washes, Full Detailing, Tires, Oil Changes, and Plush Dice.
- CULTURE: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for Concerts, Theatre, Ballet, Painting Classes, Music Lessons, Dance Lessons, Film Festivals, Comedy Shows, Restaurants (well, if you're paying a babysitter, you might as well eat too), Cooking Classes and Wine Seminars.
- ELECTRONICS: Televisions, DVD Players, Laptops, iPads, iPhones, iPods, Kobos, Cell Phones, Gift Certificates for iTunes, etc.
- EXPERIENCES: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for use of Cabin, for use of Boat, Time Shares, Sailing Outing, Horseback Riding, Hotel or Bed & Breakfast, Hunting & Fishing Lodge, Skiing at a Resort...
- HOME RENOS & UPKEEP: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for Renovations, Deck/Fence Building, Interior Design, Home Depot, Rona, McDiarmid Lumber, House Cleaning Services, Carpet Cleaning, Window Cleaning, Airduct Cleaning, Furnace Upkeep, Exterior/Interior Painting, Sheds, etc.
- LANDSCAPING & GARDENING: Gift Certificates/Vouchers for Lawn Care, Landscaping Services, Greenhouses; and, Gardening Equipment & Books.
- SPORTS: Did we mention we'd really like JETS TICKETS!? Bombers Tickets would be great too, as would Gift Certificates/Vouchers for Golf Memberships, 18 holes, 9 holes, and anything to do with golf – Clubs, Carts, Balls, Shirts, Tees; and, Other Sporting Equipment & Autographed Paraphernalia.
- THEMED GIFT BASKETS: Wine & Cheese, Book Worm (for Adults or Children), Crafting, New Baby, Chocolate Lovers', Coffee Lovers', Movie Night, Spa At Home, Family Games, Kid's Quiet Time, Bartending Basics, Go Green, Jingle Bells... just to name a few possible ideas.
- TIME & TALENT: You all have talents, so if you can make the time... Artwork, Sewn, Knit or Crocheted Items, Jewelry, Soaps, Woodworking Projects, Furniture; Vouchers for Gardening, Cakes, Cookies, Holiday Dainty Trays, Dog Walking, Photography Sessions, Scrapbooking, 2012 Taxes, a Dinner for 4 or 6 or 8... the possibilities are endless.
- TOYS & BOOKS: Toys & Books for all different ages - be gender neutral be gender specific, whatever strikes your fancy; Gift Certificates/Vouchers for Toy & Book Stores.

**Reminder:** When there is an in-service day, either morning or afternoon, there is no lunch program available. Please note this on your calendar.



# October 2011 Show & Tell Calendar



*Morning Show & Tell  
names appear in italics*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		<b>PM In-service</b> Parent Orientation Evening @ 7:30	Max, Shea Tessa, Alexis	Willem, Edie Aiden, Aliya	Anjali, Kai Anjali, Jack R.	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>No classes all day</b>	Neve, Will, Emmett Will, Travis	Quin, Arah Kaleigh, Rowan	<small>Picture day 9am &amp; 1pm</small> Noah, Leah Isabelle, Benjamin	Addison, Hudson Emma, Simon	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Emily, Sophia Elizabeth, Sydney	Layla, Elwood Layla, Elwood	Alex, Jack Elise, Metro	Dyson, Phoenix, Garrett Dyson, Megan, Phoenix, Garrett	<b>AM/PM In-service</b> <b>No classes all day</b>	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Myren, Claire Bailey, Maxwell	Sunny, Bailey, Bella Sunny, Jillian	Bergen, Avery Reyna, Zachary	Declan, Theo Declan, William	Simon, Joshua Lyly, Carson, Jack S.	
30	31					