



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

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Starlight Reception & Auction



**When:** Friday, November 25, 2011

Cocktails at 5:30 pm

Buffet Dinner at 6:30 pm, followed by the Live Auction

**Where:** St. Boniface Golf and Country Club – 100 Youville St.

**Tickets:** Available for \$25 each in MLC hallway at drop-off the week preceding the auction and at any time in the office until Friday, Nov. 18th. Please try to purchase your tickets by this date as St. Boniface catering needs numbers in advance.

Our 2011 Starlight Reception & Auction is fast approaching and tickets are now available at the MLC office. Please invite your friends, family, and neighbours for an entertaining and inexpensive night out and a head start on holiday shopping. For \$25, they'll receive a buffet meal and a chance to bid on some amazing prizes.

Cocktails and browsing will begin at 5:30 pm, followed by the buffet dinner at 6:30 pm and then the Live Auction. Like last year, we will have a ticket auction area for smaller items. Cash or cheques will be accepted for the ticket auction. In addition to cash or cheques, Visa and Mastercard will be accepted for the Live Auction.

There are many terrific prizes already piling up, including artwork, dinners, jewelry, a custom built solid cedar kid's picnic table, and adventures (just to name a few). Oh, did we mention that three pairs of **WINNIPEG JETS TICKETS** will be up for live auction?!

Sure to be a highlight and new this year, are two framed originals prints (created by the morning and afternoon classes) featuring the colourful thumbprints of our little ones, which will be up for live auction. These prints make a lovely keepsake.

We are still gratefully accepting donations and would appreciate them being dropped off at the office no later than November 18th, so that we have time to catalogue the items for the auction program.

**Please refer to page 3 to find out how you can take part!**



## Dates to Remember

**Tuesday, November 1**

A.M. Class in-service—  
no morning class, no lunch

**Friday, November 11**

Remembrance Day— no school all day

**Wednesday, November 16**

P.M. Class in-service  
no afternoon class, no lunch

**Wednesday, November 16**

Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)

**Thursday, November 17**

AM/PM Parent/Teacher Conferences—  
no classes all day

3:00PM Parent Orientation, **adults only please**

**Friday, November 25**

**ANNUAL M.L.C.**

**AUCTION FUNDRAISER**



**WINTER CONCERT**

Friday, December 16

@ the Park Theatre

698 Osborne St.

A.M. 9:30 - 11:30

P.M. 1:00—3:00

Refreshments after concert

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL before break

**Friday, December 16**

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL after break-

**Tuesday, January 10, 2012**

# In the Classroom

## Classroom Happenings



We have been lucky to have some wonderful Fall weather. We were able to go outside; running, running, running. We were tempted to organize the children into games, but they seemed to want to just run as much as they could.

Inside we've had lots to do. Of course we've learned about leaves and why they fall and what you can do with them (rake, jump, collect, rub, glue, draw, sort, name, match, etc.) We've learned some more class rules and have been shown more of the classroom materials (lessons in pink tower, broad stair, geometric cabi-

net, leaf cabinet, cylinder blocs, sandpaper letters and sounds, number rods, cards and counters, and Practical Life activities.) We've learned about the importance of the sun; plants and animals; living and non-living things; magnetic and non-magnetic things; the difference between sink and float; the elements of the earth - land, water and air; the simple globe - water and land; the coloured globe - continents; and the world puzzle map.



## November Activities

We will be focusing on the continent of North America, its peoples, animals, plants and landscapes. We will be learning about landforms (islands, lakes, bays, peninsulas, hills and plains.) We will concentrate on N. American animals and how they get ready for winter. We are looking forward to a presentation from the Living Prairie Museum on just that subject on November 4th.

We will be introducing and reinforcing Montessori materials in all areas. Looking forward, we will of course be doing crafts, songs, stories, etc. pertaining to the holiday season.

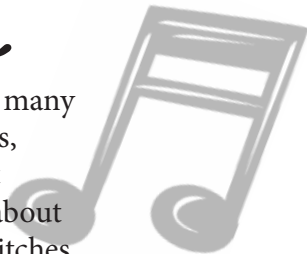

December 16th is the date of our Winter Concert. The children will be practising the songs they've learned all fall.

## French

This month, we will be talking about winter and introducing "weather" vocabulary. We will continue to practice greeting each other, counting and colours.



## Orff Music



In October, we learned many songs and games about leaves, autumn and turkeys! We just finished having fun singing about ghosts, jack o'lanterns and witches. The next focus is our winter concert repertoire...



# Events of Note



## Volunteers needed for Starlight Auction!

There is a tremendous amount of coordination required in the last two weeks leading to the auction and we need volunteers! Specifically, volunteers are needed to help with:



	Date	Time	Location	Details
Pre-Wrap	Tuesday, Nov. 8th.	7 pm	46 Harry Wyatt Place	Prep work for the Wrapping Bee.
Wrapping Bee	Saturday, Nov. 19th	9 am	46 Harry Wyatt Place	Organization of the auction items into attractive packages.
Auction Set Up	Thursday, Nov. 24th	5:30 – 8:30 pm	46 Harry Wyatt Place	Transportation of the auction items to the St. Boniface Golf Club (those with minivans or SUVs are particularly needed) and setting up the items at the venue.

If you can help out on any of the above days, please sign up on the notice board. This is a great way to volunteer some of your time, meet other MLC parents, have some fun (really, it is fun!) and enjoy some tasty refreshments. All three events are to be held at Zoe's home at 46 Harry Wyatt Place, ph. 269-7384.

The auction is truly a great opportunity to get a well-deserved night out and to spend some time getting to know the other parents at the school and the MLC staff. **Keep in mind that each family who sells more than 2 tickets to the 2011 Starlight Reception & Auction, will receive an entry for each additional ticket sold for our superb door prize** (a mini family photography session\* with Jody Sie of Better Together Photography, a 16X20 print from London Drugs Photo Lab, and a \$25 London Drugs Gift Card).

\*Session to last 30 minutes, family will receive a 16X20 print of image of their choice and 15-20 high resolution edited digital negatives on disk from the session.

# 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. They have requested quiet especially at: 11:20-11:45 and 12:55 - 1:15, as their students have trouble concentrating when they hear us.

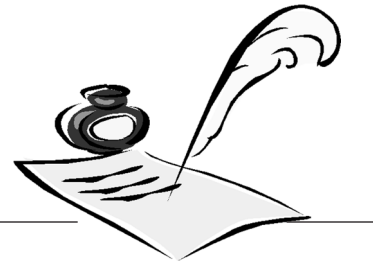
# Congrats!

Congratulations to Elizabeth's family on the birth of a new baby girl, Jocelyn.

**Thanks** to Dyson's family for the hammock which they have donated to the MLC. The children are loving it!



# Events of Note cont'd



## Parent Orientation

The Parent Orientation evening was held November 17 at 3:00pm. The staff offers this information session for parents only. It is always a pleasure for the teachers to talk about the Montessori philosophy and share its principles. We love to tell parents what we do and what we work towards in class.

## Parking at School

When picking up and dropping off your child, please be careful not to park too close to the intersections. Vehicles parked in front of the sidewalk can cause a considerable hazard for those trying to cross the streets, especially as the snow begins to pile up your cooperation is appreciated.

## Whose jacket is this?

As the cold weather arrives and children need help with jackets, hats, mitts, and boots, please be sure you have labelled all your child's clothing with their name. With 30 pre-schoolers getting dressed 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 those items too!

We do not have enough staff to remain indoors with the few children who are not dressed for the weather.

## Drop Off options

Early drop-off at 8:30 am and late pick-up at 4:00 pm are available options at MLC.

Some parents have pre-paid and chosen this option. Parents who pick up after 3:45 pm should pay a \$2.00 late fee.

Abe, our caretaker, requires that the gates be locked "open" now because he expects snow to be falling very soon. Therefore now it is extremely important to encourage your child to meet you inside the orange marker cones, our "pretend fence", and say goodbye to the Greeting Teacher (the one with the clipboard.)



## Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, November 16 - evening  
Thursday, November 17 - daytime

Fifteen minute time slots are scheduled for a meeting between parent(s) and teachers. It's a great chance to talk and share information about your child. Look for sign-up sheets posted on the bulletin board.

## WINTER CONCERT

Our winter concert will be held on Friday, December 16th, 2011.

The concert will be held at the Park Theatre on Osborne Street, at the following times:

Morning Class: 9:30 am - Parents and children should arrive at the Park Theatre at 9:30 am.. The concert will start at 10:00 and go until 10:30 am. Please feel free to stay after the concert for refreshments (provided by the parents), and a chance to meet other parents and families.

Afternoon Class: 1:00 pm - Parents and children should arrive at the Park Theatre at 1:00 pm. The concert will start at 1:30 pm and go to 2:00 pm. Refreshments will be offered after the concert.

## HELP WANTED After-party host or hostess

We need a morning and an afternoon parent to act as host or hostess of the after-concert parties. There is a template to follow, so don't be afraid. Please let Judy know if you would like to do this!



# Fundraising News



Thank you to everyone who participated in the **holiday wreath fundraiser** (via FundFactory Fundraising), which raised **\$697** for MLC.

While **QSP Magazines** is an ongoing fundraiser, we are happy to report that we have already raised **\$460.28** to date. **Mabels Labels**, our other ongoing fundraiser, has raised **\$68.78** to date. Thank you to those who have already placed their orders.

## Why Are We Fundraising?

We've expressed that fundraising is critical to maintaining the integrity of the MLC program, but have you ever wondered exactly how the monies raised by our fundraisers are used? Well, to begin with, a portion is applied each year to MLC's operating costs in order to keep the cost of the tuition fees down. Operating costs include rent for the MLC space, the teachers' salaries, materials for the classroom and the groceries for the children's snacks. The MLC's budget for the 2011-2012 year anticipates receiving \$5,100 from fundraising efforts.

Other fundraising monies are applied to the staff's "Wish Lists" for the classrooms... for example, new musical instruments, books, teaching tools or learning toys. Projects are also sometimes undertaken relying in part on fundraising monies, such as the bathroom built inside the classroom in 2010 which cost MLC approximately \$25,000.

And that is why we encourage parents to participate in /purchase from our fundraisers, as the monies raised by these fundraisers are indeed critical to maintaining the integrity of the MLC program and to keeping the cost of the tuition fees down. We thank you for your continued support of MLC and its fundraising initiatives.

## Other November Fundraisers

For important information on our biggest fundraiser of November (and the year, for that matter), the 2011 Starlight Auction & Reception, please refer to the

1st page of the newsletter.

Order forms for **The Good Food Company** are due back Monday, November 21, 2011 and the filled orders will be available for pick-up the week of December 5-9, 2011. MLC receives 30% of the sales from this fundraiser. The Good Food Company offers prepared food products free of any artificial colours, flavours or preservatives (MSG), all in compostable packaging. These delicious and healthy food products are not only great to have on hand in your own pantry, but also make excellent host gifts or holiday presents. The top three selling children will receive a Craft Kit (crayons, smocks, art pads, etc.) courtesy of the Good Food Company.

Orders for **QSP Magazines** can be placed online at any time throughout the year and MLC receives 37% of the QSP Magazine sales! If you are looking to order new subscriptions, renew existing subscriptions or give subscriptions as (holiday) gifts, visit [www.qsp.ca](http://www.qsp.ca), click "Shop Now" under the heading "supporters" and enter group #31976.

As a way to target the problem of lost belongings at MLC (and everywhere else), we are fundraising with **Mabel's Labels**. Orders for Mabels Labels can be placed online at any time throughout the year. Shop for your children's clothing, shoe, or other labels at [www.mlc.mabel.ca](http://www.mlc.mabel.ca). Be sure to use this address in order to ensure that MLC receives its commission of up to 22% of the sales.

## Many Hands Make Light Work

Our Fundraising Committee puts the "fun" in fundraising, but we remain 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).



# Meet your Board of Directors for 2011-2012

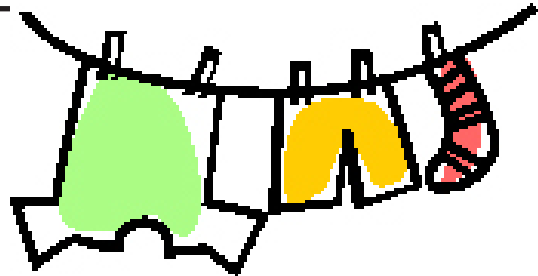
Thank you parents!

President.....	Amanda (Will's mom)
Executive Vice-President.....	Kelly (Shea's mom)
Vice-President Administration.....	Tracy (Max's mom)
Vice-President Program.....	Kathy Pauls
Director.....	Lucille Labossiere
Treasurer.....	Angela (Jillian's mom)
Secretary.....	Danielle (Benjamin's mom)
Parent Advisory Council.....	Mya (Emmett's mom)
Fundraising Committee.....	Jody (Theo's mom)
	Erin (Willem and Edie's mom)
Directors-at-large.....	Ali (Noah's mom)
	Sonya (Sunny's mom)
	Amanda (Will's mom)
	Tia (Myren's mom)
	Dawn (William's mom)
	Christine (Claire's mom)

## Board Meeting

November 15th @ 7:30pm

**Board members, parents and staff are always welcome**



## MMTA Teacher's Conference

On October 21, 2011, MLC teachers joined many Montessori teachers in Winnipeg at the annual Manitoba Montessori Teachers' Association (MMTA) Conference.

This year it featured storytelling with Mary Louise Chown and Laura Cowie who delight in the power of story to connect families and communities, and the power of the imagination to help children thrive. Also featured is "Movement Exploration" with Jacqui Davidson, who teaches the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School's Professional Division Teachers' Training Program and has co-authored a chapter on dance education for Physical Health and Education Canada written for both classroom and physical education.



# November 2011 Show & Tell Calendar

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

*Morning Show & Tell  
names appear in italics*

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