



The Lake Fern Montessorian

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Roxanne's Reflections

News for all LFMA families!

◆ Happy New Year! I hope all our families had a wonderful holiday. I know the time off for the staff was well deserved. We all work very hard each day to make sure your child gets the very best education. While you were away, we painted, cleaned, re-arranged furniture and put out new shelf work. I cannot wait to see the children's faces when they see all the exciting new things they will be doing.

Mr. Jeff did not quite get everything on his list completed over the holiday, because he received a bad cold for Christmas. Some have mused that he must not have been a good boy last year, but he does not agree. He says Santa needs a hearing aid, because he wished for coal, not cold.....



It is not enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well.

Rene Descartes (1596-1650)

Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ Can you believe it is already 2007? Where did 2006 go? Anyway, I am excited about the upcoming semester and I am sure it will be a great one. I hope everyone got some much needed rest and relaxation during their break and that the children are ready to jump back into the swing of things upon their return.

The classroom has transformed over the break and students will now be having class in a rain forest. We will be learning about the levels of a rainforest as well as about the plants, animals, and people that live there. We will be focusing on South America, Africa, and Australia where rainforests exist and studying various animal kingdoms during the remainder of the year. We will begin with a study on reptiles and amphibians and we will explore dinosaurs and prehistoric life.

We will be celebrating our 100th day in school this month and will be having a party and homework related to it. A detailed description of the homework assignment went home at the end of November with December and January spelling words. I understand that several students have already been actively working on this project and are racking up quite a lot of points already. I can't wait to see what the students come up with!

Our field trip this month will be to St. Augustine. We are very excited about this field trip and hope that every child will be able to bring a chaperone to experience this amazing opportunity with us. We will be going on a tour of St. Augustine which will include a trolley tour, the fort, and the Old Florida Museum to name a few. Because it is a prearranged tour, we will need to bring lunch with us, as we may not be able to stop off somewhere to buy lunch. They will be keeping our lunch at a specific location and then bringing us back to

Pre-Primary Class News

◆ In our class we will finally be able to learn about Vincent VanGogh, his life and work. We also will continue to work on new math concepts. Our letters of the week will lead us into basket no. 3. Please help your child pick out something to share each Friday that begins with the sound of the week. They really enjoy telling their friends all about their share items and are disappointed when they have nothing to show. If you need a new circle schedule of the letters please let me know, it's also available on the web site at www.LakeFernMontessori.com.

Our science unit is my favorite! Our Body is a lot of fun because we study the organs, skeleton and muscles. Everything is tied together with nutrition and hygiene. Weekly notes will be posted so you know what we will be discussing that week.

I was so busy putting out new work, cleaning and rearranging that I have not had a chance to write my thank you notes. I will complete them shortly, but I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the gifts and cards. I appreciate the words of encouragement and love. Mr. Jeff and I and the entire staff deeply appreciate your continued support of LFMA and involvement in your child's education.

The greatest city is that which has the greatest men and women in it. If it be a few ragged huts it is still the greatest city in the whole world.

Walt Whitman (1819-1892)



eat so that we don't have to keep it all with us. I would suggest a disposable lunch container so that we won't have to worry about picking it up later. We plan to leave the school at 8:00 am sharp. It is our hope that students will have their own chaperone so that no one has to rush back. If not, we will arrive back at the school around 5:00pm. More details are available in your folder along with payment envelopes, which need to be returned with payment no later than Friday, January 5th. I must have an accurate count of how many will be attending the trip, so that I can give final details to the tour facility. I do ask that each family fill out the survey form on the counter in the foyer so that I have the needed information. Thanks!

Let me take the opportunity to say thank you to everyone who helped out with our winter program. The children, as always, were amazing and I think everyone had a wonderful time. Thanks too for all of the gifts and warm wishes that we received before the break. I treasure them all. Happy New Year!

Mr. Price's Class News

◆ And so a new year begins. A time of New Year's resolutions and another chance to blow them! I like the beginning of the year because it offers a natural transition and opportunity to begin new things. We are very happy and pleased to announce that we will be adding a new student to our class. In addition, we will be resuming our regular schedule of special programs. This month I will be beginning the Second Step program, which focuses on empathy, assertiveness skills, problem solving, and much more.

In science we are continuing our study of Earth including understanding both global and local weather patterns. We will also begin a new literature book, Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell.

I would like to once again thank both the children and the parents for their effort in this year's music program. I was very impressed with the level of excellence the children put forth. They looked and sounded great.

This month's field trip will be to St. Augustine. We have signed up for special educational programs that focus on early socio-cultural aspects of the historic city. For further details of the field trip, please see Mrs. Price's section of this newsletter. Happy New Year!