



The Lake Fern Montessorian

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Roxanne's Reflections

News for all LFMA families!

◆ Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a great holiday and are ready to put the rush behind us. I know I am. While you were away the school got a deep cleaning and had some repairs and refurbishment done. As the year progresses we will continue with some other projects, including roof replacement and restroom renovations in the main building. These things take time and money, so we have to budget carefully.

We are excited that Mrs. Manley is now back full time and Wyatt is making great progress. I know she and Lee are grateful for all your prayers and the entire LFMA staff is grateful for your patience while the family went through this process. We are all looking forward to the time that Wyatt can begin to venture out and meet his many friends.

One item of business I would like to touch on is parking in front of the main building. During peak times it is very important for us to not park in front of the main entrance because it blocks the driveway and stops traffic flow, trapping others behind you. Please use a parking spot or pull off into the grass to park and walk your child into and out of the building. It does not take that much extra time and helps greatly with traffic flow. During non-peak times, if you must park in front, please pull forward far enough so that others can get around the small island.

If a man be gracious and courteous to strangers, it shows that he is a citizen of the world, and that his heart is no island cut off from other lands, but a continent that joins to them.

Francis Bacon (1561-1626)

Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ A new year is upon us and I can hardly figure out where last year went. The wonderful thing about a new year, though, is that it always promises fresh and exciting opportunities. Although the break was wonderful and hopefully allowed both the teachers and students to get some peace and relaxation, I for one am ready to get back into the swing of things. The staff took some time during the break to freshen things up, so students will see some differences when they come back.

This month's field trip will be on Thursday, January 17th to the King Center in Melbourne to see the amazing Golden Dragons acrobats. This was a pre-paid trip, so if you already paid for the trip then you are all set. If not, please make arrangements for your child as the seats have been sold out for months and the entire upper level staff is going.

The hundredth day of school is January 22nd and as usual, we will celebrate with games and activities related to the hundredth day of school. Each student will be asked to bring in one gift of 100 items (stickers, leaves, etc.) and to do a homework assignment related to earning a minimum of 100 points. Please see the January homework for details, as there is a thorough explanation of the assignment on our website or CD-Rom.

I wish everyone a wonderful 2008! Happy New Year!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- UPPER LEVEL FIELD TRIP – KING CENTER
- JANUARY 17TH
- MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
- JANUARY 21ST, SCHOOL CLOSED
- ONE HUNDREDTH DAY OF SCHOOL!
- JANUARY 22ND

Pre-Primary Class News

◆ To kick off the New Year our letters will be g, l, d and k. Please continue to practice the sounds we have already studied. In social studies, our new unit is community helpers. We will discuss all types of helpers. If you would like to share something related to your job that you think the children would enjoy, please let me know. For geography, our continent is Antarctica. With this topic I am tying in ocean mammals and birds, as well as other cold climate areas such as Alaska. We will discuss how animals prepare for the winter months and hibernate as well.

Overall the children have progressed well and are ready for more advanced work. Over the break I prepared the classroom with new materials to enhance the skills already mastered and to entice the children to try new things.

Mrs. Manley's Class News

◆ Happy New Year! I can't believe it's already 2008. How exciting to begin a new year and to finally be back at Lake Fern in full throttle. January is going to be a very busy month for us. We are going to finish up our activities for the book Frindle. Then we will begin reading The Family Under the Bridge. We are beginning a new unit with new material in our math class. The children will continue working on the basic skills of multiplication and division and we are going to slowly add new concepts. I am excited to see how they will meet the challenges that this new unit will provide. In science we will be working on Animal Growth and Adaptations at the beginning of the month. Later in January our class will dive into Plant Growth and Adaptations where we will be investigating plant parts and their functions along with how they breathe and reproduce. It should be very interesting. In our social studies class we will continue moving our way through the United States into the southern states. We just finished up with the New England area and we learned so much about New England's history and culture. Don't forget that this month is our field trip to the King Center to see the acrobats. It is an amazing show and I know the kids will love it. Blessings for the New Year and may it be filled with joy, love, and lots of learning!

Mr. Price's Class News

◆ Happy New Year! Here we go again! I hope everyone had a great Christmas break with their families. I look forward to this time of the year. We will be getting back into our routine of specials and class structure. This is the time of the year with very little time off. This offers us the opportunity to develop new study and academic habits. I will be highlighting the development of personal and social growth as well as academic progress. I would like to see each student learn how to set goals and follow through with plans that they make.

In science we will be wrapping up our studies on the human body as we near the next term. In social studies we are studying the revolutionary war as well as the period of time that follows it. In literature, we will be beginning the book Hatchet by Gary Paulsen. It is a story about a boy who has to survive in the wilderness after being the sole survivor of a plane crash.

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Presentation of the Colors at our Christmas Celebration. Thank You Scouts!