



# The Lake Fern Montessorian

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## Roxanne's Reflections

◆ March marks the end of winter. The first day of spring is March 20<sup>th</sup>. Winter was mild this year which is just fine with me. We are going to take advantage of the fresh air, sunshine and warm temperatures that March brings us with plenty of outdoor activities. Last month we introduced the Grab-N-Go breakfast and Lunch on the Lanai. Breakfast will be available on Monday morning, March 10<sup>th</sup> and lunch on Thursday March 20<sup>th</sup>. Also on March 20<sup>th</sup> we are celebrating spring with our annual Spring Fling. We have an egg hunt, games and special treats planned. We will need some volunteers to help out so watch for sign up sheets the week prior. If you are unable to volunteer, you are welcome to lunch with us for whatever time you can spare. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy time with your child or grandchild.

Some other events this month are:

Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Teddy Bear Portraits. These are high quality portraits. Many parents use these for Easter, Mothers Day or birthdays. Dress your child nicely that day and be at school on time. Pictures will begin at 8:30, until everyone is photographed.

Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, Group Pictures. Please have your child wear a school shirt so everyone looks uniform. The photographer will start at 8:45 so please make sure your child is on time that day for class.

Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> is Good Friday. School will be closed.

PLAN AHEAD: Spring break is April 7<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>. School will be closed for cleaning and renovations!

2008-2009 Registration will open 17 March for current families and 14 April for new families. There will be no tuition or fee increases for next year. We recommend early registration, we are already receiving new student inquiries and have a number of recent new students, so we again expect to be at capacity next year.

## Mrs. Manley's Class News

◆ Hello to all and I hope everyone had a lovely February. Last month went by so quick and I know this one will go by just as fast if not even more so. Before you know it, it will be summer. This March we are going to do something new in Social Studies and I am very excited about it. This month we are going to be doing special individual projects. I am going to assign a famous black historical figure as well as a famous woman to each student. In class, we will be studying these people and I feel not only will it be necessary for them to do some of this research assignment at home but it will be a beneficial practice for future assignments. On Thursday, your child will be bringing home two assigned historical figures. They will be given examples in class of this assignment as well as a rubric so they know exactly what they should be doing and looking for in order to get the best possible grade out of it. In math, we will continue working on measurements, fractions and more. Remember to be practicing multiplication and division facts with your child. In our reading class we just finished the Report Card and we are just beginning the book *Al Capone Does My Shirts*. It is a great piece of literature that teaches lessons in life, the struggles that people face and the way in which you choose to work through them. The kids will really enjoy it. In our Language Arts class, we are beginning more practice in essay writing. It is going well and we are definitely beginning to see some improvements in their individual pieces. Just a few reminders, Friday, March 7, is our field trip to Wonder Works. We will be celebrating green day with Mrs. Price's class on March 14. We ask that all students bring in something green to eat and share with all their friends. We have some fun St. Patrick's Day crafts we will be working on through out the month of March as well. I hope that each and every one of you have a wonderful March and I look forward to seeing all of the great historical figure projects through out the month.

## Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ This month, we will be finishing up our Asia and human body units. We will be moving into plant and animal kingdoms during science for the remainder of the school year and to begin our study, students will be choosing an animal of their choice (from any continent) and making a book for their March homework. Students should include information on habitat, life cycle, food cycles, etc. Please see homework details on our website.

We will be having a field trip to Wonderworks on March 7<sup>th</sup>. We have never taken a fieldtrip there and the students are excited. Students will have the opportunity to interact with a variety of exhibits and labs including: natural disasters, light and sound, control room, wonder lab, far out galaxy, laser works, and challenge lab. I expect this to be a fun and educational trip, and I am glad so many students are attending.

A list of quiz books is now available on our website. Please encourage students to read books from the list and take quizzes here at school. Several of the students are doing extremely well with these comprehension quizzes, and consequently, their reading comprehension is improved. Also, we are still trying to make our reading goal of having every student read at least 100 books at home this year. I am offering 100 tickets for school store to every student who achieves this goal. If you have already read 100 books, and want to read another 100. Go for it! I'll still give tickets for your second hundred.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- TEDDY BEAR PORTRAITS
- TUESDAY, MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:30
- GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS
- WEDNESDAY MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:45
- GOOD FRIDAY, SCHOOL CLOSED
- FRIDAY, MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>
- SPRING BREAK – SCHOOL CLOSED
- APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH 11<sup>TH</sup>

## Mr. Price's Class News

◆ March is here and so with it, the warm weather. In math we are working on probability. In science we are working in the area physical sciences, which includes material such as understanding matter as well as topics such as simple machines. In literature we are reading Codetalker which is a story about the Navajo code talkers of World War II. In social studies we will continue with American History, transitioning from the Early America Era to the Civil War Era.

There is a change in procedure for make up tests. Make up tests will be given on Tuesdays after school from 3:30 to 4:30 and will reflect tests from the previous week. This is the only chance to make up these tests barring extraneous circumstances. There will also only be one make up per test. Also, math assignments are now due the next day. This gives me a chance to have a quick turn around on the work and ensure that each child knows the information.

This month's field trip is to Wonder Works. It will be on March 7, 2008. We will have to be there by 9:30 A.M. It takes a minimum of an hour to get there, so if you're going to drive straight there, please allow yourself plenty of time. If your child is leaving from the school, try to have them there by 8:00 A.M. We are scheduled to be there until 1:00 P.M., if you independently wish to stay past that time, Wonder Works will require you to pay a supplemental amount.

## New Building Update

◆ As we reported in last month's newsletter, we submitted documentation for the pre-application meeting with the City. The City rejected the application. They want a survey of our stormwater discharge swale. We agree that after 15 years this swale needs to be returned to its original design specifications. It's been clogged by dirt washing in with the stormwater, and not to mention by 2 bonehead repair attempts by the City to their ditch which impeded flow in our swale. So we had the survey team out last week and are awaiting updated drawings to resubmit for the pre-application meeting. Luckily, as with anytime a Government employee walks in the front door, the problem can be solved with a liberal application of money.