



Celebrating 30 years!

The Lake Fern Montessorian

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Roxanne's Reflections

News for all LFMA families!

◆ Happy new year! I hope your holidays were spent with friends and family making great memories. As always this time of the year allows us to reflect on our lives and make new year resolutions. Some of mine are to get more organized, recycle things that I no longer use and donate more time to people who are in need. In order for me to fulfill my commitments I need your help. When you registered your child at LFMA you were given a parent agreement and parent handbook detailing the limited rules and guidelines we must implement in order to be a vibrant and functional educational center. Please take the time to review these documents particularly the areas concerning student needs at school, helping keep your child's cubby or storage area clean and neat and timeliness of tuition payments. The parent handbook is available on the Web site, and Roxanne can give you another copy of the parent agreement if required. By following our general ground rules you will help me stay organized and spend less time maintaining the classrooms. The top two guidelines that are most often forgotten are:

- 1) Illness – Your child must be free of fever without fever reducing medication for 24 hours before returning to school. During the month of December many children became ill. Parents were bringing them to school with a variety of symptoms from fevers to runny noses and cough. When your child is contagious germs spread like wildfire to other students and the teachers (and their families). We will not allow your child to attend classes if he is sick when attending school. Make sure you have a back up plan for days when your child must stay home due to illness.

Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ So it's the beginning of another new year. I hardly know where 2010 went and here we are at the start of a new one. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas break and that the children are well rested and ready to get back to class. I'm sure the remainder of this semester will be a busy one.

During the next few months, we will be studying the continent of Africa, the ocean, and the animal kingdom. Students will take an in-depth look at animal life and learn about life cycles, food chains, habitats, etc. The children will have an opportunity to raise a transparent tadpole, watch ants at work, and observe the life cycle of a painted lady butterfly in class. We will also be dissecting owl pellets to learn about their diet.

During our Africa study, children will be learning about plants, animals, and landmarks, as well as flags and maps of Africa. They will have the opportunity to make several crafts related to this theme as well.

Please remember that the 100th day of school is fast approaching. Students should have begun working on their homework project and all details about it are on our website. The 100th day of school this year is January 27th. Please have students wrap one gift of 100 items (puzzle pieces, pennies, stickers, etc.) and bring to class with only his or her name on it. Every child will receive one gift randomly. Also, please send in a white or light colored t-shirt for us to tie dye for this special occasion. Students should bring in the shirt no later than January 14th, so that we will have time to dye it for the 100th day.

Thanks to everyone who helped with our winter program. The students did a fabulous job and it was a great success. Thanks also for the special gifts. They were very much appreciated. Happy new year!!!!

Roxanne's Reflections (cont.)

- 2) Tuition payments – Invoices and statements come out the first week of every month. Payments are due 10 days later unless you have made prior arrangements with us. If you are paying weekly, payments are due on Mondays. If your child has a McKay scholarship or is in the VPK class monthly extra hours fees are your responsibility and are due according to the schedule above. Extra hours are a separate line item on your monthly invoice. Any accounts that are not paid in full by the end of the month are subject to late fees. If you ever have any questions about your account, please see Roxanne or email Mr. Jeff directly at LFMA@cfl.rr.com. You may also drop a note in the tuition box.

Contact Information:

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(Editor's note: Roxanne spent time on campus every single day of the holiday vacation except Christmas day, and part of that day was spent collecting donated toys and supplies for the school.)



Fun scenes from our Holiday Gathering!

Pre-Primary Class News

Miss Jenn and Miss Jessica

◆ Welcome back! We hope you had a nice holiday season. While you were gone we worked hard to get the classroom cleaned from top to bottom (and disinfected!) and change shelf work. From now until Spring Break we are going to study North America in geography, insects in science and since many of our students have a strong interest in letters and their sounds we will study reading three letter words and writing. We have added many new materials that will enhance those skills. As always if you would like to volunteer your time helping in the classroom or making crafts let us know. There is always plenty to do.

There are a couple things you can help us with this month. Please make sure your child is prepared each day. This means a healthy lunch with at least 2 snacks. Include fruits and vegetables each day. If your child naps in the afternoon, bedding is a must. Finally, restock your child's cubby with winter clothes and slippers. It is very difficult for your child to have a successful day if he does not have what is needed.

Thanks for your help!



Mrs. Manley's Class News

◆ Happy New Year parents and students! I hope that your holiday break was an enjoyable one. Last month was an extremely busy time for all of us and the time off was much needed. Thank you to all of our parents who came to our LFMA holiday gathering. The children did such a wonderful job and we thank you for all of your support.

This month I will be collecting field trip money for our end of the year field trip. I know it seems early but I want to be sure to give everyone time to plan for this field trip. We will be attending Animal Kingdom May 20, 2011. If you have not had the opportunity to go to Animal Kingdom before it will be a treat for you. It is an amazing learning experience with Disney magic included. Money for this field trip will be due to Mrs. Manley no later than Friday, January 28, 2011. All of the information is in your family files. Please turn in the field trip forms along with check or cash made out to Mrs. Manley. I will be ordering the tickets and handing them out once they come in. Again, please remember a parent must attend this field trip. Also keep in mind that I can only guarantee one adult ticket for every child ticket that is purchased. If you are in need of extra tickets for other adults you may pay ahead of time for the tickets. If I have too many adult tickets purchased I will refund your money to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

The new year brings on many more interesting subjects in science and social studies as well as continued growth in mathematics. Keep in mind that at this point in time all of the 4th and 5th graders should have their times tables completely memorized and the 3rd graders should be working in that direction as well. If your child is having difficulty in that area please practice with them often. Success in memorization of all the multiplication tables will help to insure successful math growth at this point in their education.

I look forward in starting a new calendar year with you your child and hope you are blessed in 2011!

My heart is singing for joy....The light of understanding has shone in my little pupil's mind, and behold, all things are changed.

Anne Sullivan (1866-1936)

Mr. Price's Class News

◆ And so it begins again! A new year and new opportunities! I'm very excited about the new program that will be introduced this month. Students will get to choose from several initial badges from various subjects including: climatology/meteorology, microscope explorations, robotics, music, etc. They will complete research, training/development, and experiential/application activities for each badge. Students will be eligible to work on their badge upon completion of the daily work as well as any necessary make up work.

I am implementing a new system in the classroom that is designed to increase class-time efficiency, aid in student organization, and reduce waste and clutter. Each student will have a hanging file folder in a box (shared with the other students at his or her table). That hanging file folder will be used to hold all returned papers, study materials, and their BLUE FOLDER. The BLUE FOLDER will have the weekly assignment sheet affixed in the center prongs. I want each student to keep each one of these for the semester they're in. They can use these to track their progress and keep track of needed corrections. In addition, I will require that any missing work, poor grades, needed corrections indicated by red or pink highlighter on the assignment sheet be reviewed by parents (I will provide signature areas on the assignment sheets).

The second grading period for my class ends January 7TH for grades and January 14TH for attendance. I don't usually do conferences for the second grading period, but you're always welcome to set one up. I will also set one up if I feel that there any issues that need to be discussed. Till next month...



Morning Assembly at LFMA

2011 Marks LFMA's 30th Year

♦ And no one is more surprised than we are! Our first classes were held in September of 1981 with seven students in a rented church wing. Since then the hard work and dedication of our staff along with some valuable business and financial assistance from various members of the community has allowed us to grow to a 2 ½ acre campus with 5600 square feet of classroom space, 95+ students and 13 employees. We don't have an exact count but our best estimate is we have served over 1500 families over the years. As the year progresses, we will reminisce on these pages and have a special function or two.



LFMA Alumni Rachel and Katie join us at the 2010 Holiday Gathering

Scenes from our Holiday Gathering in Years Gone By



Holiday Gathering 2002 at the LFMA Campus. We now pack a 300+ seat facility every year!



Holiday Gathering 2007, our first year at First Christian Church!



Holiday Gathering 2004, our first move to a larger venue, the Gibson Center. Outgrew that too!

Never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never – in nothing great or small, large or petty – never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense.

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- TUITION PAYMENTS DUE

- JANUARY 13TH

- 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL!

- JANUARY 27TH

- ANIMAL KINGDOM UPPER LEVEL FIELD TRIP MONEY DUE

- JANUARY 28TH