

JOIN US FOR SUMMER CAMP

Don't miss out on four weeks of creative camps for 3-12 year olds! Visit cmhschool.com for a brochure and registration form.

WEEK 1 JUNE 19-23	WEEK 2 JUNE 26-30	WEEK 3 JULY 17-21	WEEK 4 JULY 24-28
PRE-PRIMARY <i>How Does Your Garden Grow?</i>	PRE-PRIMARY <i>Digging Up Dinosaurs</i>	PRE-PRIMARY <i>Cat in the Hat & Friends</i>	PRE-PRIMARY <i>Nature Artworks</i>
ELEMENTARY <i>Outdoor Adventure and Crafts</i>	ELEMENTARY <i>Recycled Art Assemblages</i> <i>Drama Camp: Once Upon a Dream</i>	ELEMENTARY <i>Creative Campers</i>	ELEMENTARY <i>Destination Science</i>



LETTER FROM THE BOARD

CMH Community,

This letter will be my last as President of the Board since my term is expiring. However, I'm excited that I still have many years as a parent at CMH, as my youngest is still in pre-primary! Now is the time for me to consider how I can best serve the children and the school. If you're reading this letter, you are undoubtedly a CMH supporter. I hope that you will also consider the many opportunities available and choose what works for you (see the Director's Letter). At its founding, CMH was a co-op. Though we are no longer one, the spirit of "doing our share" survives.

For example, it's my pleasure to share that Anne Tobe has joined our Board of Trustees. She holds a D.Ed. degree and is currently a department chair at the Art Institute of Ohio - Cincinnati. Anne has been an active volunteer in the PP3 classroom and now will share her talents in a Board capacity.

I would also like to thank the many volunteers, led by Lori Walker and Suzanne Chevalier, who made this year's auction fundraiser, "Carnivale la Dolce Vita" a huge success! The event is both an important fundraiser and a way to strengthen the parent community.

Here is an update on the Board's priorities for this past school year:

Continue to be fiscally disciplined

Careful budgeting and spending has us on track to achieve a modest profit and positive cash flow this fiscal year.

Maintain the facilities

New playground equipment is being enjoyed daily. Also, the project to connect CMH to the municipal sewer will proceed this summer.

Recruit new Board members with specific skills

Anne and other recent board member additions have filled some important needs. We are still seeking prospective members with skills in Montessori Education or Law. Please contact Donna Chrobot-Mason by May 1 if you are interested in serving on the Board.

Franco Medeiros
CMH Board President

2016-2017 BOARD

Franco Medeiros
President, for the Board of Trustees:

Donna Chrobot-Mason
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Member

Is Your Child Getting Enough ZZZZZ's ?

Sleep deprivation can cause behavior and learning problems in children and impact their ability to regulate emotions. Parents are often surprised to discover that the recommendation for children ages **3-5 years old is 10-13 hours**, while **6-12 year olds require 9-12 hours...**and parents, you should be getting **7-9 hours** a sleep each night! Each child's sleep needs are as unique as they are, but these recommendations are a good benchmark for your child's sleep habits.



cmh connections

UPCOMING EVENTS

April

29 Spring Habitat Help Day
10:00am-1:00pm

May

1-4 Terra Nova Testing, Grades 2-6

8 Volunteer Appreciation Brunch
9:00-11:00am

19 Junior & Senior Bonding Trip
(Grades 3rd, 4th & 5th)

25 End of the Year Picnic & Art Show, 6:00-8:00pm
Senior Dance
7:00-8:30pm

29 No School/Memorial Day

30 Junior Field & Water Day
Senior Creek Day

31 Junior Creek Day

June

1 Pre-Primary Water Day
Senior Graduation & Party
7:00-8:30pm

2 Last Day of School
Pre-Primary Ceremony,
9:00-10:00am
Junior Ceremony
10:15-11:15am

For up-to-date information, follow CMH on



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear CMH Families,

It is the goal of many parents that their children attend a safe school setting that allows them to grow, learn and excel. CMH certainly provides the learning environment and experienced staff to allow for the individual needs of each child to be met. However, there is often another unspoken goal of parents; that their child will be a contributing member of a class/school community that values, nurtures and accepts them. This goal is modeled to the child by the partnership between home and school. Children are put at ease in the stressful world around them by the importance placed on the open and trusting relationships built between their home and school life. When families are engaged in their school community they give their children the opportunity to catch a glimpse of their beloved parent and devoted teacher holding a conversation or smiling at them from afar. The gift of these moments throughout their childhood will have a lasting impact that will be more meaningful than any gift you could ever give them.

Here are some ways you can enhance your child's school experience and community:

- Chaperone a class field trip or join a classroom celebration.
- Contribute snacks or requested items to your child's classroom. They are always so proud to share these items.
- Share a hobby or talent with your child's class like quilting, singing, playing an instrument, crocheting, gardening or building something.
- Utilize the Classroom Volunteer Sign Up Genius and spend some of your time, maybe once a month in your child's class.
- Assist with the "Take Home Projects" the teachers have available where you can engage and help from the comfort of your home.
- Consider joining the Board of Trustees or a PACT Committee.
- Attend School Events such as the Family Picnics, PACT Socials, Spring Auction, and Parent-Teacher Conferences.
- Get to know your child's friends and their families to create supportive relationships. Help in navigating busy schedules and carpools.
- Build open and trusting relationships with your child's teachers and Director to allow for the exchange of perspectives, insight and expertise.

Both you and your child can benefit from this partnership between home and school.

Casey Reed
CMH Director

NEWS FROM PP1

Spring is finally here and only a couple months of school left! How quickly it has gone! Our class has grown in so many ways and it is so nice to see the growth since the beginning of the year.

As the year has progressed, we have introduced many activities involving multiple steps, especially in the Practical Life area. Some new Practical Life lessons included cloth washing, hand washing, floor and table scrubbing, shelf cleaning and penny polishing. These activities with multiple steps help children develop many new skills, including their sense of order, coordination, building independence and concentration. These skills are essential to children having success in other areas of the classroom, such as Math or Language.

So if your child comes home every day saying they cleaned a penny or scrubbed a table, be proud of their accomplishments. The skills they are developing with these types of works will be beneficial to them as they grow.

Michelle, Kim and Jeanne



NEWS FROM PP2

Happy Spring! The children have been busy working in the classroom and are making great progress in all areas of their development! In the classroom the shelves have constantly been changing and the children are always excited about new works and lessons. In the Practical Life area the new work is food prep. This work is in addition to snack and provides the children with another way to prepare food and then enjoy eating it. So far the children have practiced banana slicing and toasting a bagel and spreading cream cheese and jelly on it. This is a popular work and provides the children with some great practical life skills. On the art shelves the various painting works have been a bit hit with the kids as they prepare art works for our annual art show in May. In Geography we wrapped up our study of the USA and Ohio and will soon begin our study of the continent of Europe. In the Zoology area the children completed their study of mammals and moved on to learning about reptiles. The children learned about the life cycle of the sea turtle, the differences between land and sea turtles, and the different parts of both land and sea turtles. Now we are beginning to learn all about dinosaurs!

In the Sensorial area the children have been busy with the various extensions of the basic Montessori materials. They enjoy building patterns with both the brown stairs and pink tower, making posters by tracing the shapes in the constructive triangle boxes, and exploring with all of the knobbed or knobless cylinders at one time. They have been introduced to grading colors from darkest to lightest using Color Box 3. The all day children have then been able to use this material to do the sun salutation. To do this work the children put the sun candle in the middle of their rugs and lay out the color tablets in rainbow order, from darkest to lightest, around the candle like the rays of the sun. When finished the child turns out the lights, children can decide to leave their work and join the sun salutation (or they may continue working), a teacher lights the candle in the middle, and the children sit in peace and silence around the rugs until the child is ready to blow out the candle. When the candle is blown out the children all quietly return to their work. It is so neat to see the children stop, sit peacefully around the candle and "sun" and make silence for minutes at a time! This is a popular work in the afternoon!

We are looking forward to the last two months of school and cannot believe how fast this school year has gone by! We have loved getting to know each of your children and have enjoyed watching them grow and develop over the year.

Andrea, Megan, Anne and Clarissa



NEWS FROM PP3

Whoever peeks into PP3 won't believe that this classroom has been empty for a year before we got the honor of bringing it back to life. One can see children scrubbing the floor, chatting at the snack table, solving big multiplication problems, exploring arts, or enjoying a book in our little library. It is hard to believe that almost all of these diligent workers have not been in a Montessori environment before they entered and conquered PP3.

After using these cold and dark winter months to focus on all different kinds of learning, the PP3 children – just like everybody else – cannot wait for spring and sunshine. Fortunately, our CMH campus provides us with everything this beautiful season of new awakenings has to offer and Veronica, our school's naturalist, often helps us to bring it into our classroom. We got to observe some tiny tadpoles and are waiting for the spring flowers in our grow lab to bloom and make PP3 even more colorful.

While we wait, we have the opportunity to learn about water and how to break the surface tension (did you know that you just have to rub your finger on a bar of soap to do that?), we sharpen our senses by using the mystery bag to find different shapes, we get to learn about the German language and traditions, and in addition to that, each and everyone of us can work on whatever interests them! We clearly are a bunch of fortunate children and teachers in PP3!

Theresa and Birte



NEWS FROM JUNIORS

We have begun our study of Europe and the students are hard at work on their culminating project. They are excited to be doing research at home and presenting their country to parents and friends. We are looking forward to learning about different countries of Europe from the students.

We are finishing up our study of vertebrates with a comparative study of the vertebrates, and in May we will take a trip to the Cincinnati Zoo to check out the vertebrates in action.

We had a great time when our grandparents and special visitors came to the classroom. The students enjoyed being able to show off their classroom, and introduce their family to their friends. They even got to interview their grandparents about what life was like when they were growing up

We have added a Makerspace to the classroom. Makerspaces are popping up everywhere including the Loveland library, and so we decided that we needed one too. A Makerspace is a place for students to create using a variety of materials. Right now it has a woodworking bench, saw, hammer, wood, vice, sewing machine, fabric, Legos, batteries, and circuits. The students can choose this area for their cultural work, and they have had a lot of fun creating and exploring.

Jessica, Nicki and Diane



NEWS FROM SENIORS

Springtime in the Seniors began with the raising and releasing of painted lady butterflies. Watching the changes of the butterfly metamorphosis was one of our favorite daily activities. We were so excited when they emerged from their chrysalises. We fed them sugar water and watched them for several days, then we released our nine beautiful butterflies!



Grandparent's Day is another favorite springtime event. We love inviting these special people to spend the morning working with us. The children and their grandparents always have a great time. The grandparents are always so impressed with the things their grandchildren are learning and the children always love to share their work. The grandparents tested their knowledge of Ohio history, the human body, U.S. government and were astounded by the Lego robotics Rubik's Cube puzzle solver programmed and built by Alan Busch, Colin Eppert and Benjamin Beseler.

We are looking forward to our overnight trip to the Wild's. It's always one of our favorite field trips. We love the wild animal safari and sleeping in Yurts.

John and Dana



NATURE NOTES

Digging, hauling, cutting, raking, trimming, measuring, counting, weeding, listening - these are just some of the learning activities students will engage in as we settle back from Spring Break. The busiest months in nature are April and May when flowers bloom, birds nest, insects appear, trees leaf out, and wonders are found everywhere we explore. Students will also monitor and tend their indoor flower gardens that were planted in the classroom Grow Labs last month, visit the Star Lab planetarium to see lunar cycles, and complete pond studies that begun before break.

All students participated in the Annual CMH Bird Count in January and located 521 individual birds of 41 species. This was the most successful Bird Count yet since our first in 2012. When we began our Pond Studies in March we were very excited to find masses of Chorus Frog eggs in our large pond. We will continue learning about calls of local frogs, their life cycles, and other inhabitants of watery habitats.

Enjoy the wonders of Spring!

Veronica
Veronica Brannen
CMH Naturalist

