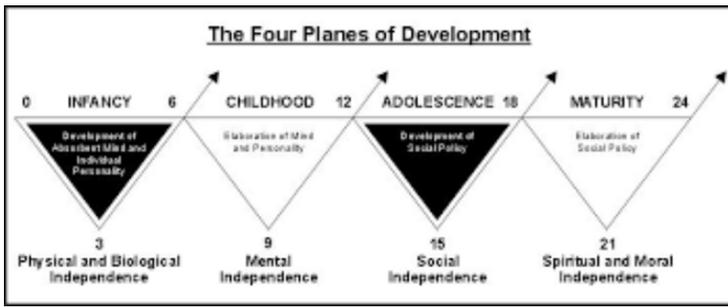


Montessori Topic: Multi-Age Classrooms



"The main thing is that the groups should contain different ages, because it has great influence on the cultural development of the child. This is obtained by the relations of the children among themselves. You cannot imagine how well a young child learns from an older child"; how patient the older child is with the difficulties of the younger."

Maria Montessori

In a Montessori environment, classrooms are multi-age. This means for the primary classroom, children range from age 3 to age 6. There are many benefits to a multi-age classroom. One benefit is that age groupings are based on the planes of development which relate to distinctive milestones. Children learn at their own pace in a multi-age environment with an individualized learning path. The environment offers a 3 year range of curriculum and materials; therefore, children have the flexibility to master skills when he or she is ready. Everyone has someone they can work with, regardless of their age. Children naturally gravitate toward learning from one another, rather than an adult. Another benefit is a multi-age classroom offers experience with leadership skills. New or younger students are surrounded by helpful mentors and older students become leaders. First and second year students are encouraged when they watch older students enjoy advanced, challenging work. An additional benefit to the multi-age classroom is that the child stays in the same classroom for three years. This means the child is already familiar with the teachers, environment, classroom routines and procedures. The opportunity to create familiarity, not only saves time in the beginning of the year, but allows for a deeper bond between children, teachers, and parents.



Upcoming Events:

Parent/Teacher Conferences:

April 1st - 12th

Elementary MAP Testing:

April 1st - 12th

Elementary Field Trip to McEntire:

Friday, April 5th

Spring Break:

April 15th - April 19th

Sky will be open Monday - Thursday

Library Trips:

Primary Room 1:
Tuesday, April 2nd

Primary Room 2:
Tuesday, April 23rd

Classroom Wishlist Items

Lysol Wipes
Copy Paper
Toothpaste
Shaving Cream

A Look Into Our Classrooms

Pre-Primary:

It has been a month full of celebrations and introductions to wondrous places. We soared back in time through Europe to discover dinosaurs indigenous to the area many years ago. These experiences were a big hit with all of our dinosaur lovers. A surprise visitor, "Sam I Am," stopped by to read several Dr. Seuss books to our friends and the Cat in the Hat brought a delightful snack. The green eggs and ham may have looked strange but it was enjoyed by all.



Primary Room 1:

This month our class studied the continent of Europe. Lessons included physical features, cultures, biomes, countries and flags of the continent. We danced the Irish jig and



smelled rosemary, garlic and cinnamon. Snacks included cheese and a tea party.

We are looking forward to our next study of Botany as we begin to plant. Also, we will have some special visitors next month- live caterpillars. We will study the life cycle of the butterfly.



Primary Room 2:

We enjoyed our European continent study; including the people, cultures, foods and traditions of Ireland and Scotland. We painted each country's flag. We did a rainbow science experiment using the primary colors. Our St. Patrick's Day celebration included a leprechaun trap, pictured above.



We have also been practicing grace and courtesy, how to take care of the environment, and respect for one another.

In April, we will begin our Botany study and have live caterpillars in class.



Elementary:

As a class, we are continuing our study of measurement. Younger students learned how to measure the length of sides of quadrilaterals and how to find the perimeter. Older students continue to study area and perimeter of triangles and circles.

Lower Elementary:

In math, many students re-visited "Infinity Street." This is a lesson designed to explore very large place value and reading large numbers. In language, students are continuing to study word patterns and families. Many students are exploring homophones. Other students have been introduced to new parts of speech.



Upper Elementary:

In math, some students are learning how to graph linear equations. Many upper elementary students have been enjoying the study of different ancient civilizations; including the Aztecs and Greeks.



Abner PTO: Friends of Abner

Friends of Abner is a non-profit 501c3 organization designed to help benefit Abner Montessori School and our surrounding community. You can support Friends of Abner in many ways. Choose Friends of Abner from the list of charities when you shop Amazon SMILE. Register our school on your Publix shopping account. You can also donate directly on the [Friends of Abner](#) website.



Parent/Teacher Conferences



Conferences will begin Monday, April 1st through Friday, April 12th.

Sign up for Primary parent-teacher conferences on our website.

For pre-primary conferences, please contact Ms. Haley.

For Elementary conferences, please contact Ms. Beth.

Meetings typically last about 30 minutes.