



Spring is officially here and it's wonderful to see families staying after school and enjoying the playground once again! Our garden ground will soon be prepared and that will be another available area for eager hands. So kick a soccer ball, pull a few weeds and engage in good conversation under the sun...

Montessori Quote: "...One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child."
 -Maria Montessori

May Events

Date	Event	Details
Fri., May 6th	Teachers' Work Day	No school; childcare (8-3) available by reservation
Sun., May 8th	4.2 Km Marathon 9:30 am Old Town Sq.	Upper Elementary and any other students who would like to run/walk
Tues., May 10th	PA Meeting	8:45-9:45 in the lunch room
Fri., May 13th	Photo Day	Outside, class pictures; individual, family and sibling
Tues,Wed., May 17 th and 18th	Summer Reading Book Fair!	2-4:30 in the school lobby
Fri., May 20th	Montessori Madness Group Meets-NEW BOOK	Czech/English discussion group meets 8:45-10 am in lunchroom
Fri., May 20th	Upper Elementary All Day Field Trip	Prague Botanic Gardens
Mon.,Tues., May 23 rd ,24th	Parent/Teacher conferences	No school; childcare(8-3) available by reservation; free for the time of the conference
Wed., May 25th	Lower Elementary Field trip	Historic Tree Walk in Michelsky forest, Prague 4
Mon., May 30th	Primary Field Trip	Trip to Toulcuv dvur, 9-11:30 am

Announcements

- ❖ **Parent Conference Schedules are posted on the main Parent Board. Please sign up for a conference time to meet with your child's teacher.**
- ❖ **If any families have baby items that they no longer need and would like to donate to a struggling family new to the Czech Republic, please see Anna Sta Maria in the toddler classroom. Clothing, a stroller, high chair, car seat, etc. are all welcome!**
- ❖ **IMSP has available bumper stickers for your car, that say "I ❤️ Montessori". If you would like one, please see Ms. Wendy.**

- ❖ **Upper Elementary Marathon Details for Sunday, May 8th:**

<http://www.praguemarathon.com/en/2011/volkswagen-marathon-weekend-2011/volkswagen-family-minimarathon-4-2-km-run-for-transplant/about-the-race>

We will meet on Sunday, May 8th at 8:30 am in front of the NEW YORKER in Václavské Naměstí, Praha 1 and walk to the start of the race

Parents need to be waiting at the finish line by 10:00 am, to pick up their children from the race. **Of course, parents and siblings are welcome to run with us!**

IMSP has registered the Upper Elementary children for the marathon. All participants running in the race, will receive a number and a t-shirt as part of the marathon entry fee. Please wear your IMSP t-shirts during the run. If you need one, please stop by the office!

Summer Plans?

THE NESTLINGUE MONTESSORI SUMMER PROGRAM

We would like to warmly invite **International Montessori School of Prague students**

to the **SUMMER PROGRAM** at our school

When: **July 4th – August 13th, 2011**

Daily schedule: 8.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Where: NESTLINGUE MONTESSORI,

Toddler Community and Preschool

V Parku 2308/8, Praha 4 Chodov, www.nestlingue.cz Price: 3.500,- CZK / week, lunch + snack 100,- CZK / day

Program and

enrollment at: info@nestlingue.cz

We are looking forward to welcoming you here !

Sonnie McFarland's Seminar! Montessori Best Practices: Educating for Peace May 4th, 1-4 pm at the Ibis Hotel



**Sonnie McFarland
Workshop at the Ibis Hotel**



**Montessori educators
attending Sonnie's workshop**

Classroom Events

Toddler News

As the saying goes, "April showers bring May flowers"... The skies have been moody, that's true, but overall our April was full of joy and sunshine, if not externally then internally, because our small friends were busy, busy, busy, planting indoors and out! We have flowers and vegetables growing in our garden and are experimenting with a raised bed. The children love to cart soil and carry water for watering our growing seedlings in the classroom and outside. We have also been growing sprouts - mung, alfalfa, sunflower, mustard, sesame and lentil, and tasting them not only during food tasting time, but regularly at lunch as well. Small children's tastes can change quickly and for no apparent reason. Having a variety of foods consistently available can influence this, so just keep on gently offering those leafy greens even if they are repeatedly rejected.

Montessori noted that toddlerhood is the sensitive period for fascination with small things (as you too can surely tell). The children can spend long periods observing spiders, beetles and other treasures they find in the grass.

Decorating eggs and growing special grasses for spring holidays was a highlight of our month, caring for living things, celebrating and developing community as well as fine motor skills. The egg hunt

challenged the children's' hand-eye coordination and large motor skills, as well as being a lot of fun.

Thanks to those who attended April's Parent Workshop on the Human Tendencies. That was our last Parent Workshop for the year, but we are always happy to discuss any Montessori related topic with you. We hope you enjoyed the spring vacation and have a beautiful remainder of the season.

Primary News

April was full of springtime gifts! We continued to observe plant life growing both inside and outside of our classrooms, as well as many new birds and other animals in our forest. A few children were even able to spot a few deer grazing in a meadow during one of our forest walks. We really enjoyed coloring eggs and painting our baskets, but not as much as finding them during our annual egg hunt!

We studied more about the continent of South America. We made flags and read several books from various countries in South America. Ms. Joanna shared some songs from Venezuela and her carnival costume from the Caribbean.

Our Earth Day celebration was extra special this year with our special guest, Sonnie McFarland. We learned more about reducing, reusing, recycling and planting, as well as having fun by just being together with the rest of the school.

This month we will look at the continent of Africa. We look forward to leaning more about the continent with more countries than any other continent in the world. Please feel free to share with us any books, objects, pictures, recipes or music that you may have from any part of Africa. We are happy that Ms. Kathleen has the opportunity to visit Ghana this summer and hopefully we can learn more this month about her trip.

Reminder: Please bring a new bottle of sunscreen for your child to apply before going outside to play on the playground!

Lower Elementary News

May is a busy month in Lower Elementary. Part of our time is getting ready for our end of the year performance, working on lines, perfecting timing and practicing public speaking skills. Parents...please keep an eye out for an email detailing the needed clothing items for costumes. They should be items you can find around the house.

We all enjoyed learning from each other at our Science Fair. It was great to come together and see how different things in our world work. The children learned a lot putting their beautiful presentations together and the excitement lasted all week. It is wonderful to see how the children grow from year to year becoming more confident in public speaking. It is great to see their curious minds at work.

Please make sure you sign up for parent teacher conferences on Monday or Tuesday, May xx and xx. We always look forward to sharing information about class and your child with each of you. It is a pleasure to be able to sit down and work together in providing the best education for your child.

We are also looking forward to our Historic Tree Walk in Prague 4 on May 25th. Prague has a plethora of tree varieties for study and Michelsky forest is said to have giant sequoias, elms or Lime of the Republic, dating back from the early 1900's!

Upper Elementary News

Upper Elementary children felt very accomplished in presenting their Science projects. They managed to prepare different individualized projects. They chose a simple vocabulary for primary children, attractive questions and a good summary of their work. They covered a more in depth version on their experiments with a well developed speech for parents and teachers.

We will be working on the second part of the classification of the animal kingdom; the subkingdom Eumatozoa and Parazoa. That's what used to be the Invertebrate subkingdom some years before! Due to the ocean theme of our Year End performance, we are giving special attention to sea creatures from this subkingdom.

In Math, we are working on all functions of operation, oral number rounding and word problems with grammar.

Oh, those verbs! Children are working on verb study. All are conjugating perfect tenses with past and present participles. i.e.: "Charles has begun his Math drills".

Children are also proud to present an oral synopsis of their reading books each week. This report might include favorite selections or situations, atmosphere, writing style and author biography.

Children are also writing more creative stories and articles. They will be binding their own books for the end of the school year, that we all hope they will keep for years!

Upper Elementary's Field Trip to the seniors' home in Chodov!!



May Birthdays

Toddler	Primary	Elementary	Staff
Tobias Balhar May 22 nd , he turns 3!	Antonin Smolen May 6 th , he turns 6!	Marek Hroch May 4 th , he turns 8!	Kathleen Renehan P2 May 2 nd !
Natali Jaros May 22 nd , she turns 3!	Emil Haase May 20 th , he turns 3!	David Melichar May 13 th , he turns 9!	Katka Beckova May 11 th !
	Natalie Romanova May 21 st , she Turns 6!		Jitka Brunclikova May 23 rd !
	Anna Damson May 23 rd , she turns 6!		Anna Blazkova May 24 th !
	David Doan May 23 rd , he turns 4!		Daniela Privarova May 31 st !
	Diana Kleskenova May 27 th , she turns 4!		
	Agata Kobrova May 29 th , she turns 5!		



Alice's Corner:

With Spring now in full swing, the countryside is bursting with new life. At the Organic Farm in Sasov, Jihlava, you and your children can find out all about where your food comes from and what makes organic farming so special and important. On the farm they rear pigs, cattle, sheep and horses, as well as growing crops such as buckwheat and potatoes for the animals. There's even a shop selling a wide variety of organic food.

<http://biofarma.cz/en/organic-farm-sasov>

Perhaps as an alternative, in case of inclement weather, you could visit the Czech Police Museum in Prague. Here you can investigate crime while learning about the history of the Czech security infrastructure right from its early beginnings in the former Czechoslovakia to the present day.

[.http://www.muzeumpolicie.cz/](http://www.muzeumpolicie.cz/)

Enjoy!



Forest Activities

Spring came and we discovered seeds and growing plants in nature. Leaves and blossoms started coming up so we could start thinking about edible and drinkable ones and those that provide oxygen for us, while making sugar for growing. When we realize we can not live without trees and plants, then we care about it. We need information about what to protect and what we can utilize and replenish.

Most of our plants are used for eating. Because Easter was near, I showed children how to make flour from wheat seeds and then we seeded them in small pots. The children took them home just before the Easter holiday, so I hope you had nice decoration at home :-). We just went to a new place in the forest and we will keep going there now so children can get to know a different environment, but knowing that it is still one Forest :-). There are a lot of Oak trees, just on the edge of the pine forest.

I introduced 3 kinds of birds (Ouzel, Tit, Throstle) and we had fun playing games in 3 groups. Each group of "birds" – (children) was building a nest. Then we visited each other's nests. We had a really nice time together, as we were busy with playing our real game of actual real life birds :-). Nice.

It is beautiful to be in the springtime, fresh forest, especially after rain. It is a nice change for me and the children to be outside of the classroom for part of our day. - Sandra Cabajova

Summer Reading can be fun!

IMSP will be hosting an end of the year Book Fair on May 17th and 18th to provide an opportunity to begin preparing for the summer months and lots of reading fun. Children may enhance their reading enjoyment by creating their own bookmarks and keeping travel journals for those special vacations, complete with photos and captions.

Below is a brief list of recommended summer reading books to help get you started!

Ages 5-6

Arthur, by Marc Brown

Arthur, his sister D.W., and his friends have been around for nearly 25 years -- and their as popular as ever. There's tons of stories filled with fun and adventure in the Arthur series.

Henry and Mudge, by Cynthia Rylant and Sucie Stevenson

Henry, feeling lonely on a street without any other children, finds companionship and love in a big dog named Mudge.

Horrible Harry, by Suzy Kline

In the four stories featuring Horrible Harry and the whole South School gang, Harry leads a secret mission to place cobwebs all over school, shows the class how to make green slime (while the principle watches), and stages a "deadly skit" that has everyone on the edge of their seats. Life with Harry is never boring!

Ages 7-8

American Girls, by Valerie Tripp

American Girls is a collection of books that tells the stories of six American girls who lived long ago. Each story is told in an entertaining and historically correct way to show how each girl lived in her own period of American history.

Encyclopedia Brown, by Donald J. Sobol Whenever ten-year-old Leroy "Encyclopedia" Brown's father, the Chief of Police of Idaville, had a difficult case, Encyclopedia always managed to solve it at the dinner table. So, he decided to open his own detective agency.

Ages 9-10

Harry Potter, by J. K. Rowling Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School for Wizards and Witches.

Pony Pals, by Jeanne Betancourt

Lulu finds a wounded pony and nurses it back to health with the help of her two friends.

Animorphs, by K. A. Applegate

Sometimes weird things happen to people. Ask Jake. He may tell you about the night he and his friends saw the strange light in the sky. He may even tell you about what happened when they realized the "light" was only a plane -- from another planet.

Here's where Jake's story gets a little weird. He and his friends are told the human race is under attack, but they're given the chance to fight back. Now Jake, Rachel, Cassie, Tobias, and Marco have the power to morph into any animal they choose. And they must use that power to outsmart an evil that is greater than anything the world has ever seen...

Read more on FamilyEducation:<http://school.familyeducation.com/reading-fun/fiction/57483.html#ixzz1KncH8SG3>