



It's unbelievable that June is here and another eventful school year is about to come to a close. It was a pleasure and a privilege to have had the opportunity to watch as each child grows and matures; a piece of art in the making!

**Montessori Quote:** "Children are human beings to whom respect is due, superior to us by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future." -Maria Montessori

## June Events

Date	Event	Details
Wed., June 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>International Children's Day</b>	Each classroom will talk about respect and friendship.
Wed., June 1st	<b>Fire Drill</b>	Please bring fire drill slippers
Fri., June 3rd	<b>Teachers' Work Day</b>	No school; childcare (8-3) available By reservation; deadline June 1st
Tues., June 7th	<b>PA Meeting</b>	8:45-9:45 in the lunch room
Fri., June 10th	<b>Fathers' Day</b>	Primary Fathers' Day celebration 1-3; more information will follow
Fri., June 10th	<b>Special Event-Parent Date Night Opportunity</b>	Ms. Kathleen will babysit children from 5-10 pm, in order to earn money for her summer trip to a Ghana orphanage
Sat., June 11th	<b>Sports Day &amp; International Food Fair!</b>	Sports day and International Foods, is a family day from 11 am to 2 pm.
Tues., June 14th	<b>Theater Practice for both Primary classes</b>	Primary classes will walk to the Zahrada 12:30-2:30; take the bus back; no enrichment classes
Wed., June 15th	<b>Theater practice for Elementary</b>	Elementary will walk to and from the Zahrada, 12:30-2:30; no enrichment classes
Thurs., June 16th	<b>Theater practice for the whole school</b>	Dress rehearsal at the Zahrada, 12:30-2:30; bus to and from; no enrichment classes
Fri., June 17th	<b>Year End Performance</b>	Year End Performance at Zahrada, 10 am to 12 pm; No school lunch, no pm classes; childcare by reservation 12-3 pm;
Mon., June 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Moving Up / Graduation Day</b>	Children visit the next upper level; celebrate with ice cream as in previous years;
Tues., June 21st	<b>Montessori Madness Book Club</b>	Last meeting of the year to discuss Part 1 of <u>Montessori Parenting...</u>
Thurs., June 23rd	<b>Elementary field trip (All day trip/Upper EI)</b>	Lower /Upper Elementary go to Prague Zoo; Lower EI will return to school for lunch..
Fri., June 24th	<b>Last Day of School</b>	Half Day 8:30-11:30 am

## Announcements

- ❖ Please check out our new website, [www.montessori.cz](http://www.montessori.cz) and register to participate in our IMSP social network. A social network is only effective if there are many participants! There are videos from events that have taken place during the year to view, as well as calendar updates, parent's comments and other news.
- ❖ IMSP is hosting 2 options for Summer Camps on our campus, during the first two weeks of July, **Dance Camp by Daniela Privarova**, our dance teacher and another camp by **StageStars**, about film acting. You will receive a detailed email about this exciting new opportunity.
- ❖ IMSP has bumper stickers for your car, that say "I ❤️ Montessori". If you would like one, please see Ms. Wendy.
- ❖ **Sports Day/International Food Fair**: We need YOU! Please sign up on the Parent Board, to share a dish of your native cuisine and/or to say a few interesting facts about your country of origin. Facts, songs, dances and stories are all welcome and we encourage you to dress in your native/traditional clothing for our International Foods Fair on June 11<sup>th</sup>, after the Sports activities. Sports Day/International Food Fair is from 11 am to 2 pm, here at IMSP on the playground!
- ❖ Please check the primary and elementary lost & found boxes. All items left behind will be donated to a charity in September. Your child will also need to bring a large, labeled bag on the last day of school to take home all of his/her belongings.
- ❖ IMSP T-shirts and ball caps are still available for sale in the office! Please see Martina if you'd like to buy one. Children's t-shirts are 110 kc and adult t-shirts are 120 kc; ball caps are 95 kc.

## **Parent Date Night!**

As some of you may know, I will be traveling to Africa to volunteer at an orphanage in Ghana. Drifting Angel Orphanage is located in a village called Tsito, in the eastern part of Ghana, where I will be helping to take care of 35 orphans. Last year, the orphanage was able to raise money to purchase beds for each of the children and trip to the beach. For most of them, it was the first time they had seen their own coast. There are still many things that the orphanage is

working towards in the future, such as to build an additional bedroom, offer medical insurance and replenish general supplies.

On **June 10, 2011, IMSP will be sponsoring a fundraising event, "DATE NIGHT," from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm.** "Date night" allows parents to have the evening to themselves, while their children get to spend the evening at school, babysat by IMSP teachers (2 -3 teachers depending on the size of the group).

Children are encouraged to bring a sleeping bag and a pillow, since the event continues until 10:00 pm. Children may be picked up earlier, if necessary. There will be one movie, Lion King, rated PG, and art activities for the children. We will also be making pizza for dinner, but children can bring a snack or an alternative meal for dinner, if they wish. **The price/ per child is 500 kc for the night. All the money raised will be donated to the Drifting Angel Orphanage.** If you can not attend the event, but wish to still make a donation, please see Kathleen Renehan (Primary II teacher) for details, as the children can also benefit from from other supplies, such as English books.



Warm Regards,  
Kathleen



Dear IMSP parents,

Thank you very much for your lovely baby gifts.

I really appreciate **all** your kindness and help.

Enjoy your summer and be safe!



With love,

Jana Shulman

Dear Parents,

I would like to express my heart felt gratitude to you all, for welcoming me to IMSP and for your support throughout the year. It is with many mixed feelings that I say goodbye to you, the children, the staff and to your beautiful city. I am truly sad to go, but also look forward to reuniting with my own family. It's been a pleasure to watch the children grow over the past year and to now see their current anticipation as they look toward the next big step in their lives, moving up to the next level. It's also been a privilege to have shared in being a part of the enthusiasm that parent volunteers have brought, throughout the year, to all our of daily lives at IMSP. This is an amazing school community, well on its way to becoming a leader in Montessori education in the city of Prague. I am confident that Pheroos, the new Head of School, will be a great asset in the continued growth and development of IMSP and will use her extensive experience and abilities to further the vision of the school.

Please keep in touch as time permits. Many of you have my email address and I would enjoy hearing the news in your lives over here "from across the pond".

With love and appreciation,  
Wendy Charles  
Head of School

## Classroom Events

### Toddler News

May was a full, rewarding month for our toddler community. First, we have been very busy with our little garden. The children worked hard to plant seedlings indoors and prepare the earth outside. We had some setbacks with patches of cold weather which killed some of our plants, but we still have some carrots and flowers coming up and the toddlers are delighted to care for them (especially doing the watering) and observe the changes with wonder.

Our visit with Sonnie McFarland was truly a highlight in April and May! We are so lucky to have had the opportunity to experience her magnetism and learn from her long and deep research into cultivating peace. She filled our school with light and love and made our Earth Day celebration very special. Sonnie endeared herself to the toddlers with her lesson on the "love light" and the song, "This Little Light of Mine". Now the love light is a daily topic of joyful conversation and a tool we use that extends into helping the children find peaceful ways to communicate their feelings and negotiate with others. If you don't know the song, it's actually a gospel song from 1920, that became an anthem during the US civil rights movement of the 50s-60s. You can find it on the internet and watch your toddler start to beam with love light!

Thanks to all the parents who joined our last Parent Workshop of the year, on the topic of the Human Tendencies. We have enjoyed getting to know you this year and sharing information and ideas. We hope the workshops have been fulfilling for you too. Thank you for sharing your children with us and for all your support. Have a great summer!

### Primary News

As our school year comes to an end, we want to share thanks with all the wonderful students, families, and staff with whom we have enjoyed this year. It has been full of great moments both in and out of the classroom. We grew more independent and successful every month and we found new parts of our forest with each change of the season.

In May we had a very joyful celebration at the Mother's Day tea. We also enjoyed visiting the animals during our primary field trip to Toulcur Dvur.

During the month, as Primary 1 was looking closely at the continent of Africa, Primary 2 discovered more about North America. This month

the continent studies will switch. Primary 1 will look more at North America and Primary 2 will study Africa.

In our last month of school we have a few more celebrations. On Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, all fathers are invited from 1-3 pm, for our Father's Day celebration. Please be sure to RSVP by June 3<sup>rd</sup>, for yourself or another significant male figure in your family; (a close friend may also work).

The Year End Performance will be Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. The children have been practicing their performance parts and creating costumes. If you have a kindergarten child, you may help them practice their lines at home before the big day.

With warmer weather, we often turn on the sprinkle pool. For days of 25 degrees and above, children are permitted to bring a **labeled** bag, towel, and swimsuit. Be sure to sunscreen their whole bodies in the morning before they come to school, with 6-8 hour, waterproof sunscreen.

In the last week of school, we will clean out all lockers, compartments, and cubicle spaces. Each child will need to bring a large, **labeled** bag for the last day of school, for their belongings. Please check through the lost and found in the Primary coat room before the end of the year, to pick up any of your child's lost clothing.

May your summer be full of joy and peace. We will miss our friends that may be moving to another country or another town, but we will never forget anyone. We can't wait to see the new faces in Primary next year. Until then, have a great summer!

## Lower Elementary News

As last year in June, the lower elementary children will be preparing formal research reports on an animal of their choice. This is a new concept for the first graders! One condition will be that it should be an animal that is found at the Prague Zoo. The older children will research the habitat that the zoo animals live in when they are in the wild. They will make dioramas of their animal of choice. We will need shoe boxes for this project, so please bring any shoeboxes you are not using. We will bring these reports with us when we go for our scheduled field trip to the zoo during the last week of school. In small groups, the children will find their animal and present their report to their classmates in front of the animal's environment. It is always very exciting for the children to find „their“ animal and share their knowledge with their friends.

Moving Up day is June 20<sup>th</sup>! The kindergarten children who will be coming to IMSP elementary next year will visit the elementary classroom. They will be welcomed into our community and get a glimpse of what they will be experiencing next year. We can't wait to begin the next school year with them!

We hope everyone enjoys their time during the summer holiday.

Remember to keep reading and review your old spelling words! We have really enjoyed our second year in the Czech Republic and at IMSP with your children! We are looking forward to another great school year for 2011 to 2012.

Amy and Stephen Ball  
and Mirka Chmelova

## Upper Elementary News

The end of the school year is almost here! We've been trying to reach our highest goals. The children have had some Math tests that covered all areas of their grade levels, not only to have some kind of assessment, but also to have the real experience of a standardized test. The children are working on those areas that need the most attention.

In creative writing, the children are learning self-assessment through the use of 6+ traits of writing. The 6 traits of writing are: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions and (+) presentation. Using clear and precise scoring guides, they will be able to focus on these traits, develop an authentic way of writing and assess their growing pieces.

In Biology studies, the Upper Elementary children are creating interesting projects within a cooperative team framework. Group goals, team jobs (e.g. the summarizer, the researcher, the accuracy coach) are to produce work within a limited amount of time. The five kingdoms are overviewed first and then they proceed to the detailed study of the species.

Our 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders in the Czech program, again have the opportunity to participate in KET, the Key English Test for schools. They are excited and are working on their preparation for the June 18<sup>th</sup> test date.

Thank you for your support and have a wonderful summer.

## **Alumni- What's It Like Moving to a New School?**

### **A bunch of Hellos from Marianka! ☺**

I admit the first couple of months were hard for me. Sitting in a chair for 85 minutes, then going to my locker, taking a bunch notebooks, (not even mentioning that I had to remember which book is used in which class, and that my hand was dying all the time) and then straight to being lost in a bunch of middle scholars. There are a lot more kids at this school, and so it was hard dealing with not being the oldest kid in the school. Somehow I had this 'thing' of observing kids that were at ISP (my new school) from the beginning of elementary school, just because I like thinking that IMSP is a better school in some ways. I found out, that almost all of the kids can't read fluently, or write without spelling mistakes. Also, whenever we have a school performance, or practically anything, I noticed everybody is very nervous. I'm never nervous, and I bet I got that from the end of the school play that we had every year at IMSP. I guess I'm just trying to say, that when I look back at the good old times, I am happy, that I could be a part of our wonderful IMSP.

### **Hi, from Caleb!**

My first six months were difficult and challenging but fun as well (when I wasn't working on piles of homework). It was kind of weird going to my locker seven or eight times a day but it was fine after a few days. I enjoyed having several kids in my grade because if there were lots of them I might have felt more awkward trying to get to know them all. As I mentioned earlier, homework is a bit of a hassle and at first I had two and a half hours a day. Then my teachers lightened off a bit because some of us didn't have enough time to do it all (hockey). Over all, it was rough at first but then I got into a rhythm and could deal with stuff better. Enjoy!

### **Hi, from Sabrina!**

My new school is very different from IMSP.

We have a daily class and time schedule. Each class we have takes about 40 minutes and contains a different subject. We have a 10 minute break after each class to find the next class, where our schedule tells us to be for the next lesson.

We also have many subjects: math, Czech language, English, German language, PE, art, music, history, geography, biology, informatics, politics and physics. And later on when we get a bit older

we will study chemistry and Latin. IMSP taught me all of this knowledge as well, but in a different and a bit more creative way.

The hardest part of this change in schools for me was getting used to the new way of doing things and the environment. The grading is also different. We get grades 1-5 (5 is the worst grade) and it's very challenging keeping up with all of them and making sure they're good. In the middle and at the end of each year we all get report cards that we bring home and show to our parents so they see how we are doing and make sure we study the subjects that we need to work on. There are also many more children in a class at a public Czech school such as mine. An average class has 32 children in it. I'm getting used to the change quite quickly and I'm handling the situation well.

I like my school very much and I'm happy to be a part of it. I am also very grateful for all the many things that IMSP taught me and also for all the wonderful people I met there. I am happy that I was part of this fantastic school.

## June, July and August Birthdays

Toddler	Primary	Elementary	Staff
Krystof Bykov June 23 <sup>rd</sup> , he turns 3!	Adela Jezkova June 2 <sup>nd</sup> , she turns 4!	Josh Miller June 4 <sup>th</sup> , he turns 11!	Sandra Cabajova June 3 <sup>rd</sup> !
Charlotte Wilson June 30 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 3!	Una Sket July 1 <sup>st</sup> , she turns 5!	Valerie Kucerova June 26 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 8!	Wendy Charles June 18 <sup>th</sup> !
Klara Starkova July 7 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 3!	Eliska Hovorkova July 3 <sup>rd</sup> , she turns 5!	Amico Cueto June 28 <sup>th</sup> , he turns 12!	Katerina Zapletalova June 19 <sup>th</sup> !
Linda Kleskenova July 30 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 2!	Catherine Sta Maria July 3 <sup>rd</sup> , she turns 5!	Eduard Tomas July 9 <sup>th</sup> , he turns 7!	Milada Corvinova June 29 <sup>th</sup> !
Sofie Romasko August 19 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 3!	Simon Chlouba July 24 <sup>th</sup> , he turns 6!	Tara Svobodova August 18 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 7!	Michaela Paulova July 12 <sup>th</sup> !
	Michael Sta Maria July 31 <sup>st</sup> , he turns 7!		Martina Hraska July 13 <sup>th</sup> !
	Norbert Suchy August 20 <sup>th</sup> , he turns 6!		Dita Dlouha July 24 <sup>th</sup> !
	Alex Sterba August 23 <sup>rd</sup> , he turns 4!		Ivana Sket July 28 <sup>th</sup> !
	Viktorie Slegrova August 27 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 6!		Evzen Pospisil August 12 <sup>th</sup> !
	Brook Ferreira August 28 <sup>th</sup> , he turns 6!		Tereza Simeckova August 22 <sup>nd</sup> !
	Evelyn Polivkova August 28 <sup>th</sup> , she turns 7!		Anna Rehakova August 23 <sup>rd</sup> !
	Joshua Paul August 30 <sup>th</sup> , he turns 4!		
	Sofie Balharova August 31 <sup>st</sup> , she turns 6!		



### Alice's Corner:

Have you been to Chateau Sychrov? It is a neo-gothic Chateau and offers four tour routes, night-time tours, falconry displays and concerts. See more information here: [www.zamek-sychrov.cz](http://www.zamek-sychrov.cz)

The same place, Chateau Sychrov, is organising a summer festival called "Skotske Hry", Scottish Games. As well as watching and even taking part in traditional Scottish games, you can hear Scottish and Irish music, watch international competitions in playing Scottish bagpipes and many other activities. The festival starts on August 19th and finishes August 21st and is a great day out for the whole family!



### Forest Activities

We were enjoying our new places with nests in both classrooms in May as much as we could. We had lots of free play there. I found it very important for children during those days to have time to just relax and enjoy themselves in a place they'd created for themselves.

It was visibly seen that after 5 – 10min. of free play in the Forest they all got very relaxed and comfortable. It was also nice for teachers as they started to enjoy our walks fully. Our new place gives us shade if it is hot weather, a roof if it is raining and lots of material whenever we come there.

Some of the children keep asking me when we will go to the forest again and it makes me feel that I am in the right place for everybody :-).

We found lots caterpillars of different colours during those days and I would like to give them glue for pictures to show what is actually going to happen with the green ones, brown ones, small ones, big ones :-).

Primary II saw a deer too, which was quite a nice experience.

A lovely time for everybody is waiting for us during June! :-)

I wish you a nice and peaceful summer month.

–Sandra Cabajova

## Upcoming workshops and events at Muddum Art Center, Letna:

### **LIFE DRAWING:**

Drawing from a nude model- all levels welcome and materials provided

Wednesdays 19:30-21:30

1st and 15th June

4 evenings: 1000kc

1 evening: 280kc

### **MAKE YOUR OWN TEAPOT:**

14th June 15:00-18:00

Learn how to make a teapot from clay using basic hand-building techniques

21st June 15:00-17:00

Colour your teapot using oxides and glazes

450kc for both lessons

### **MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER:**

18th June 15:00-17:00

Use recycled materials to create textured hand-made paper

200kc for individual workshop, or 400kc when done alongside diaries workshop

### **MAKE YOUR OWN DIARY:**

19th June

Learn simple hand-binding techniques to make your own notebook or diary

250kc for individual workshop, or 400kc when done alongside paper-making workshop

### **MAKE YOUR OWN JAPANESE MASK:**

11th June 18:00-21:00

Theory about Japanese theatre masks, making a mask out of clay

25th June 18:00-20:00

Colouring your mask with tempera colours and varnish

450kc for both lessons

### **BELARUSSIAN EVENING:**

13th May

Come and learn more about Belarus and its culture. In this evening's programme we will have music, movies, traditional cuisine, lots of information and you can also try traditional art.

### **EXHIBITION OPENINGS:**

Exhibitions of pottery and paintings in our gallery, opening 20th May and 17th June, 19:00

### **CHILDREN'S ART SUMMER PROGRAMME:**

Clay every day, excursions, arts, crafts, animation film making and more...

25th-29th July- a week of activities based upon "The Farm"

1st-5th August- a week of activities based upon "Ancient Greece"

10:00-15:00, suitable for ages 5 and over

2 weeks: 3400kc

1 week: 1900kc

1 day: 450kc

For more information see our website: [www.muddum.cz](http://www.muddum.cz)  
or contact Klara: [info@muddum.cz](mailto:info@muddum.cz) / 777876541 Muddum Art Space  
and Club of Friends, Kostelni 24, Praha 5, Letna

## **Children Recommend Reading to Children!**

Dear parents and children,

as the summer approaches and school ends we at IMSP are aware that summer reading is essential for staying in touch with reading levels.

To help your child read throughout the summer, make sure that he/she has books at hand. Make trips to the bookstore allowing your child to choose books, visit the public library or start a neighborhood reading club. Your child might wish to join Scholastic's summer reading program and help win the world reading record for summer! reading! <http://www.scholastic.com/summer/>

I wish you a happy summer full of joy and reading!

**Below are summer reading tips from IMSP students...Enjoy!**

**By Julie Gatineau**

**"The Chronicles of Narnia" by C. S. Lewis**

Is my favorite series of books because they all have interesting characters. The main character is a lion called Aslan. He is special because he represents Narnia and always does things right. Aslan also helps everybody who needs him.

There are seven books in the series and the main characters are Lucy, Peter, Susan and Edmund.

I would recommend this series of books to all people older than seven because they are filled with details and are a bit scary.

**By Kai Sket**

**Choose your own adventures series**

**"The Abominable Snowman" by R.A. Montgomery**

Is a book that offers you choices that might help or put you in trouble. The main characters are you (reader), Carlos, Runal and the Abominable snowman.

In Abominable snowman, you are a mountain-climber wanting to know if Yeti is real or fake.

By making choices, you decide your own adventures and the ending of the story.

I would like to recommend this book to all children older than 8 because it is fun and you get to choose where to go and what you do.

**by Keo Sket**

**“The Magic School Bus- Rocky Road Trip” by Joanna Cole and Bruce Degen-illustrator**

It all started when Carlos [one of Miss. Frizzle’s students] brought a mystery rock to class.

Join Carlos and his classmates on an adventure looking for what the rock might be on a stageotype ride. They panned for precious gems, and visited an abandoned gold mine.

This book is interesting because it is part science and part fiction so kids learn things and enjoy it.

The book has 89 pages it has 8 chapters and it is also a series!

I would recommend this book to anyone above kindergarten!

**by Natalie Vacikova**

**“Tom Sawyer” by Mark Twain**

This catchy book found me. Once I started, I could not finish.

My imagination was enormously overlapping my thoughts. All the mysteries and tricks I had gone through with this book! I felt every prickle and went through everything as the book was reality! Swimming through my feelings and diving into ideas with Tom Sawyer and Mark Twain by my side.

It was fun. I think that Mark Twain was a great writer.

Mark Twain will never be forgotten for this piece of art.

The settling of the book is in the 19th century. It is exciting.

The main character is Tom Sawyer and this book is about adventures he had. The best part was when Tom Runs away from home with two friends across the river and fakes his death...

I believe that I will read Tom Sawyer again.

**By Joshua Miller**

**“Hardy Boys” by Franklin W. Dixon**

is a series of books about two teenage boys named Frank and Joe. The boys are constantly involved in action and adventure. Their father, Fenton Hardy, is a detective and they help him find outlaws and solve cases. Boys are sometimes accompanied in solving cases by their friends.

I like the books because the series is long, about 123 books, I think.

I would recommend these series to anyone older than 9 years or older because it has complicated vocabulary.

**Enjoy a Summer Full of Reading!**