

Aquinas News



May,
2017
Newsletter

Mount Vernon Campus
8334 Mount Vernon Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22309
703 780-8484

Old Town Campus
112 South Columbus St, Alexandria, VA 22314
703 684-7323

Dear Parents,

The year is going by so quickly. It is almost time for our May Fête, which should be a great success. You can also register online at our website, aquinasmontessorischool.com. We want to thank the Room Parents and other volunteers who are making all the picnic arrangements and preparing imaginative decorations. The teachers and children who will be providing the entertainment. We are expecting former teachers and alumni and are all looking forward to a wonderful evening! So, whether you are on a committee, or just “pitching in” that night—Thank You!!!

THE BIG DIG

On Thursday, May 4th at 6 p.m., we will be hosting an evening gardening event to thin out our perennial pollinator garden. We plan to dig out the perennials in that quadrant on the garden. We will replant some and repot some of our pollinator friendly plants to share with families in our community. Children are welcome. We are seeking volunteers to help with the garden. We hope that garden volunteers will bring spades and other heavy tools as we have only child-sized tools. We would also like volunteers to help with playground supervision.

Children are welcome to help with the gardening. They will probably be most able to participate with placing removed plants into pots. We anticipate that the children in attendance will spend most of their time playing on the playground with their friends.

Pizza will be provided. When you respond, please let us know how many people will be coming with you and if you would like to volunteer to help in the garden or with childcare. Please RSVP to the office at aquinasmontessorimv@gmail.com.

SWIMMING

Mr. Dave has opened the pool. The elementary classes are enjoying swimming for PE.

Tuesday – Ms. Inga

Wednesday – Mrs. Walker

Thursday – Mrs. Baucom

MAY FETE COMMITTEE & MEMBERS

MAY FETE MEETING: Mon, May 8 at 3:15pm!!

Come and join the fun!

CLASSICS CLUB

The Classics Club will meet on Mon., May 22 from 3:00 to 4:00pm. This month, the members are reading *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery.

TESTING

Once completed, the standardized tests will be machine scored and the results should be sent to you before the close of the school year.

OPEN HOUSE

We will be hosting an Open House for prospective parents interested in Montessori Education on Wed. May 31, 2017 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. We have openings in our Primary and Elementary classrooms for the 2016-2017 school year. Please spread the word about our Open House to any friends or neighbors interested in Montessori!

ROOM PARENTS, CLASSROOM, GARDEN & LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to all of our parents who helped with classroom projects, gardening, library, going outs, and/or field trips during the year. We appreciate the generous donation of your time and talents which helped to enrich the classroom experience for all our students!

SCHOOL CLOSED

School will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29th, 2017.

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GRADUATION

On **Tuesday, June 6th**, the Upper Elementary Class will be celebrating with a dinner party to honor the graduates of 2017:

- Master Jackson Bacon*
- Miss Sophia Huertas*
- Master Daniel Jipster*
- Miss Grace McCain*
- Master Jake Westbrook*

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CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

CONCERT

Please plan to attend our **End of Year Concert** on **Wednesday, June 7 at 11:00 AM** which will be

presented on our playground stage. Immediately following the concert, students will return to their classrooms, from which the students will be dismissed.

YEAR'S END

On our last day of school, **Wednesday, June 7th**, **all the children will be dismissed at noon after the concert.** Those children and families who are leaving us this year go with our warm wishes for success and happiness for the future.

We wish you all a happy summer!

Sincerely,
David Futrell, Head of School
Celeste Baucom, Montessori Director

From the Upper Elementary Class:

The Sound of Rain

by a third year student

I walk out to the sound of birds chirping and rain pouring down. I look up to see trees covered with water drops. A drop of water lightly falls onto my nose. Then another. And another. The pit-pat of water on the ground quickens. Water falls on my paper as I try to write. My foot splashes in a puddle as I run into the gazebo. The wind blows in my face. The rain slows and I walk out. I watch as a sparrow comes out of hiding from behind a bush. I walk back and hang up my wet paper. Then, we clean up.

Lower Elementary Haiku poems inspired by spring & the visiting chicks last month:

Flowers are blooming Spring was sleeping, it is here Trees are growing now	The chicks are just born The chicks are so cute they peep Chicks are black and yellow	Flowers are blooming Gold and yellow sun shines bright The chicks come to play
Chicks are hatching now They are fuzzy, warm and cute The sun shines on them	Chicks are very cute It's a very sunny day The chicks run and play	The stars are shooting In the dark night sky shining The stars are shooting
Little Blacky runs Growing feathers all day long Peeping all the time	Fuzzy, cuddling chicks Waiting for the eggs to hatch They dry, then go play	The chicks love springtime The chicks love to peep all day Peep peep peep peep peep
Chicks in fluffy grass Playing, peeping -- and cute eggs Springtime fluffy babies	The chicks are playing In the gold and yellow sun They love seeds peep peep	Peep peep chick is here He plays sand peeps every day He is cute and small
Chicks peep all day long Chicks feathers fall off a lot They play in the sun		The chicks like to run They like to eat seeds a lot Little cute chicks peep

CALENDARS

May-June 2017

Mon-Fri, May 1-12		Both Campuses	TESTING – Please do not schedule appointments or trips
Fri, May 19	6:00 - 8:30 pm	Mount Vernon	MAY FETE (raindate 5/20)
Mon, May 29	School Closed	Both Campuses	Memorial Day
Wed, May 31	7:00-8:00 pm	Mount Vernon	*OPEN HOUSE*
Tues, Jun 6	Noon Dismissal	Old Town	End of Year Concert & Party
Wed, Jun 7	Noon Dismissal	Mount Vernon	End of Year Concert

September-December 2017

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Thurs, Aug 31	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Old Town	Back to School Night
Tues, Sept 5	Reg. Schedule	Both Campuses	First Day: Returning Primary & ALL Elementary Children Begin
Wed, Sept 6	Reg. Schedule	Both Campuses	First Day: New Primary Children
Wed, Sept 6	6:00-6:45 Primary 6:45-7:30 L. Elementary 7:30-8:15 U. Elementary		Back to School Night: 6:00-6:45 PRIMARY; 6:45-7:30 LOWER ELEMENTARY; 7:30-8:15 UPPER ELEMENTARY
Sun, Sept 10	12:30 - 2:00 pm	Mount Vernon	KICK OFF PICNIC for Old Town Families ONLY
Sat., Sept 23	8:45 am - 12:15 pm	Mount Vernon	*Parent Information Session – “A Montessori Journey”*
Fri, Sept 29	1:00 - 3:00 pm	Mount Vernon	Old Town & Aquinas Primary Full Day Field Day: MONARCH MADNESS!
TBA		Mount Vernon	School Photographs taken in Uniform
Thurs, Oct 5	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Mount Vernon	*OPEN HOUSE*
Mon, Oct. 9	School Closed	Both Campuses	School Closed – Columbus Day
TBA		Old Town	School Photographs taken in Uniform
Fri, Oct 13	6:00 pm	Mount Vernon	*OCTOBER FETE*
TBA		Mount Vernon	Picture Make Up Day
Thurs, Oct 19		Mount Vernon	Speech and Hearing Screening
Fri, Oct 20		Both Campuses	School Closed- Teacher Workday
TBA		Old Town	Picture Make Up Day
Wed, Oct 25	6:30 pm	Old Town	*Parent Information Evening: TBA
TBA		Mount Vernon	Vision Screening
Tues, Oct 31	Noon Dismissal	Old Town	Staff Development Afternoon
Thurs, Nov 2	6:00 - 7:30 pm	Both Campuses	Parent/Child Night
Tues, Nov 7	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Mount Vernon	*OPEN HOUSE*
Fri, Nov 10	School Closed	Both Campuses	Individual Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thurs, Nov 16	6:30 pm	Mount Vernon	*Parent Information Evening: “Montessori Elementary” *
Wed-Fri, Nov 22-24	School Closed	Both Campuses	Thanksgiving Holiday
Thurs, Dec 7	7:00 - 8:00 pm	Mount Vernon	*OPEN HOUSE*
TBA	7:00 pm	Mt Vernon HS	Winter Concert – Mt. Vernon High School
Thurs, Dec 14		Old Town	Winter Concert - dismissal after concert
Fri, Dec 15	Noon Dismissal	Both Campuses	Begin Winter Break
Mon/Fri Dec 18-Jan 1	School Closed	Both Campuses	Winter Break