



## Looking Ahead to 2009-10

Re-enrollment information has been mailed- take advantage of the early re-enrollment discount available through **March 27th, 2009!** Outside new enrollment contracts for 09/10 will be accepted beginning April 1st, giving our current families the first opportunity to enroll.

We appreciate the opportunity to share with many of you through our recent Friday sessions of "Montessori Parent Conversations." It is a great way for you to learn of the specific things you can expect at the "next level" for your child here at CDSA. We will have additional curriculum presentations in the spring including an Open House evening!

## CALENDAR

<b>Fri., 02/20</b>	Kindermusik Showcase and Montessori Parent/Teacher Conversations (Porter) @ 8:30-9:30 am
<b>Fri., 02/27</b>	No school ~ Extended Day available (Professional Development)
<b>Looking ahead...</b>	
<b>March 10</b>	Curriculum Night/Open House Toddler & Transitional
<b>March 12</b>	Curriculum Night/Open House Primary & Kindergarten
<b>March 13</b>	Teacher Luncheon
<b>March 16-20</b>	<b>Spring Break</b> (Extended Day available if enrollment allows; form attached)
<b>March 23</b>	High Touch - High Tech visits "Olfactory Fun Factory"
<b>March 25</b>	Class pictures
<b>March 27</b>	<b>Deadline for early re-enrollment discount</b>

# A Note from the Director ~ Come Grow With Us

To sustain our growth, we must also grow professionally. At Country Day, we are constantly embracing new ideas and are committed to developing ourselves.

Because we recognize it is crucial to empower those of us working daily with all children to have a variety of approaches, strategies, and interventions to ensure we are doing all we can for each and every student; our professional development in-service Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> focused on “**Learning Differences and Classroom Management in the Montessori Environment**” with a presentation by Joyce S. Pickering, M.S., CCC/SLP, Hum.D, CALT, QI - Executive Director of the Shelton School in Dallas. Joyce has presented for the American Montessori Society National Conferences for multiple years, and we were delighted she was able to share a plethora of valuable information and expertise with us.



Additionally, we are again excited several of our teachers will be attending the American Montessori Society National Conference in Louisiana Feb 27 – March 1<sup>st</sup>. AMS provides the leadership and inspiration to make Montessori a significant voice in education. Teachers not attending the conference will spend the day observing authentic Montessori area schools.

The Montessori environment is created for children of multi-ages. Because no two children grow and mature in exactly the same way the materials available to the children are varied and numerous. The proper activity for the right moment is there to be introduced to the child when he is ready or chosen by him as his interests dictate. Thus, no child is held back if his skills indicate a need to move on, nor is a child pressured to keep pace with skills he is not yet ready to master. The sensitive periods of each child can be capitalized upon in a multi-age classroom. Also, the advantages of a child entering the Montessori program early are several. The child has time to adapt to his environment and grow without unnecessary readjustments. The more experienced students assist the younger in their tasks creating a non-competitive and very caring atmosphere. We invite you to join us any morning to observe your children at work as well as any other level you may be interested in observing!

The advanced Montessori curriculum is available for your perusal upstairs in the faculty lounge – feel free to stop by and review it when you drop off or pick up your child. It very succinctly outlines the goals and objective of each lesson. Our Montessori professional library contains many wonderful books- DVDS- CD’S available for you to borrow as well. You may indeed find these materials very helpful as you grow in your understanding of this exciting approach to learning.

We look forward to every opportunity to share this profound pedagogy with you here. A Montessori education is not only for children but for parents as well. Take every advantage of Montessori parent training so your child can reap the benefit from his experience.

Next year, we will provide our parents with a subscription to the periodical, “Tomorrow’s Child” – a wonderful magazine focused to help you bridge the gap from school to home in a Montessori way! Take a preview look at [www.montessori.org](http://www.montessori.org).

## Welkom ~ Welcome ~ Piacere

We not only welcomed in a new year recently, we also welcomed three new families to CDSA. Please join us in welcoming:

- **Hallie DeBrine**, daughter of **Kellie DeBrine**, who joined Ms. Charlotte’s Toddler class.
- The Toddler class also welcomed **Arlys Nixon**, sister of Transitional student Glenn Nixon and daughter of **Alisha Bell**.
- **Maggie Sarten** joined Ms. Sue’s Transitional class. She is the daughter of **David & Sally Sarten**.
- **Cole Turner** will be joining Mrs. McCall’s Primary class on Monday, 2/23. Please give him and his parents, **Greg & Kim Turner** a warm welcome.

Please join us in welcoming our new families!



## Thank You ~ Gracias ~ Merci

Our faculty and staff would like to thank **Dr. Sarita Louys** for providing a wonderful lunch in January.



Thanks also to **Elizabeth Lawrence** and **Dr. Gina Seymour** for donating APPLE gifts for our teachers in January and February. We appreciate their generosity.

Look for communications from your PTO regarding parent support opportunities still available for spring.

Also, please contact the front desk in the event that your work, cell, or email address changes. Things change frequently and we’d like to keep our records up to date. You can also email them to [Julie.malone@cdsa.org](mailto:Julie.malone@cdsa.org)

COMING SOON!!

Summer Camp at  
Country Day School of  
Arlington 2009

16 months ~ First Grade

June 8th ~ August 7th

Registration forms  
available at [www.cdsa.org](http://www.cdsa.org)



Enrich your child's summer by providing him or her with a safe, good ol' summertime fun experience at CDSA. Our 2009 camp will have a strong focus on science!

**Other offerings include**

- High Touch – High Tech (Science)
- Spanish
- Kindermusik
- Stretch-N-Grow (PE)
- Extended Montessori Activities

Full and part time schedule options available. Come and join the fun!

## Book Fair Coming Soon!

March 2<sup>nd</sup> will not only be the celebration of **Dr. Seuss' birthday**, but it will also kick-off the **Usborne Book Fair!**



We will be hosting a cash and carry book fair Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be several hundred books set up for you to choose from. Shopping hours will be from 8-10 am and 2:30-3:30 pm (books will be available to look at throughout the day Monday and Tuesday). The book fair will end on Wednesday after shopping hours.

We'll receive 50% of the retail sales in books for the classrooms! You can get a preview of the books and place your order online if you won't be able to come by at [www.ChildrenNeedToRead.com](http://www.ChildrenNeedToRead.com) - just look for the link to our school - click on the Country Day School of Arlington Montessori link so we'll get credit!

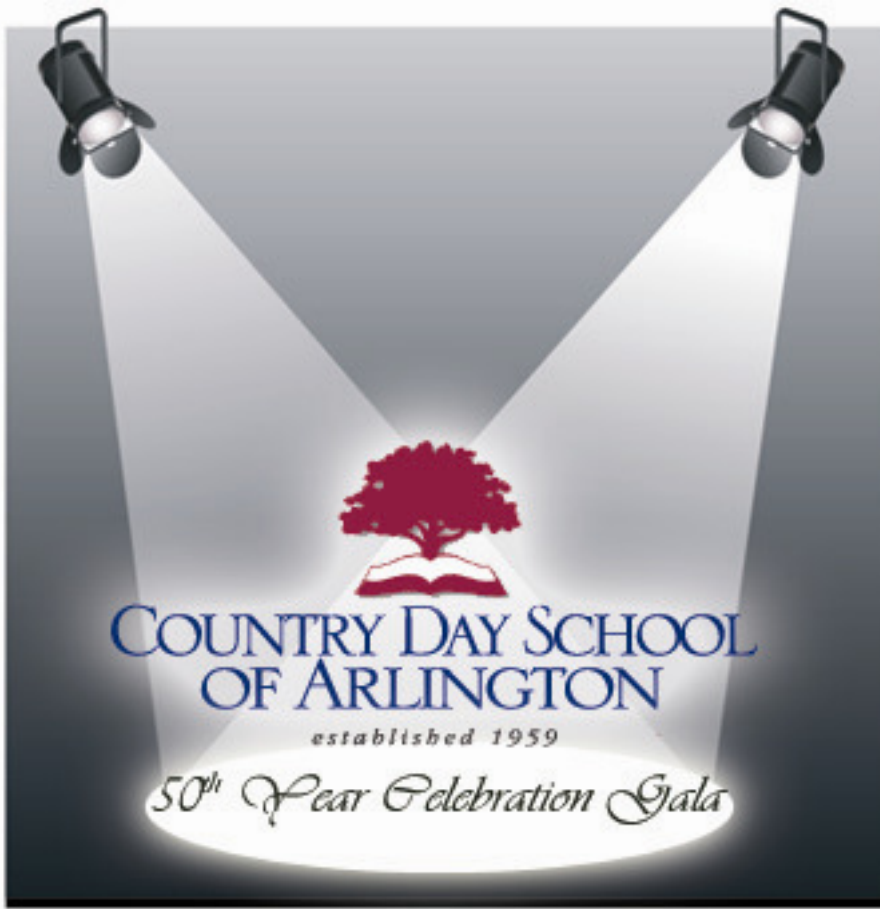
Usborne Books have long been favored by Montessori schools because of their rich non-fiction content at every reading level and their wide variety of books on arts and crafts, cooking, culture, history, science and more. Levels from infant to adult.

## Kindergarteners Are A Busy Bunch!

Our Kindergarten students along with the older 4 year old students have the opportunity for an additional work cycle session each afternoon on the advanced curriculum for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year focusing on language arts – including the Jr. Great Books program – mathematics and writing working with 3-4 primary teachers- providing additional time for one on one lessons. Attached to this edition of *NTU*, please find a copy of a weekly newsletter that shares the specific curricular areas covered in the Kindergarten afternoon work cycle.



The Kindergartners are learning about the local and national government. One of the extensions to this lesson included writing a letter to President Obama with questions they would like to ask if they could personally meet him. They are anxiously awaiting his response! Next month they will have the opportunity to see how our local government is run when they will recite the Pledge of Allegiance at an Arlington City Council meeting and meet Arlington's Mayor, Dr. Cluck.



It's time to get ready for CDSA's 50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration Gala. We are very excited and would like to be the first to ask you to mark your calendars for Saturday, **April 25<sup>th</sup>**. The spectacular evening celebration will be held at the Creative Arts Theatre and School (CATS) featuring performances by our children, light hors d'oeuvres, and a silent auction. Join us in celebrating our first 50 years!

Each year, we rely on the support of our wonderful families to make the Gala a success. The auction fundraiser couldn't happen without the generous donations from school families and our community patrons.

Look for more information soon!

Students in Primary & Kindergarten wear uniforms Monday-Thursday

A promotional coupon for Mills. The background features a stylized American flag with stars and stripes. At the top center is the Mills logo, which consists of a red square containing a white stylized 'M' above the word "MILLS" in white capital letters on a red rectangular background. Below the logo, the text "25% Off Your Purchase" is displayed in large white font. Underneath, it says "Even more savings on select in-store items!" and "Offer Good February 21 - February 28, 2009." At the bottom, a red banner contains the text "Use Online Code GCMILLSFD09 OR print to redeem in Store" in white, followed by "All discounts apply to in-stock items only." and "Stores Closed Sunday and Monday." in a smaller white font.



## WHOLE LANGUAGE CALENDAR

GEOGRAPHY:	ASIA
HISTORY:	CHINESE NEW YEAR, PRESIDENTS OF USA
SCIENCE:	VERTEBRATES, NON-VERTEBRATES
ART:	VALENTINE ART, MARDI GRAS
MUSIC:	LOVING, FRIENDSHIP SONGS
KINDNESS:	EMPATHY



## WHOLE LANGUAGE CALENDAR

GEOGRAPHY:	EUROPE
HISTORY:	IRELAND
SCIENCE:	SINK OR FLOAT
ART:	COLOR MIXING, CASTLES, CROWNS...
MUSIC:	IRISH SONGS
KINDNESS:	SELF CONTROL



Lunch may be the most important meal a child has during the day of learning. Does that meal help them prepare to be open and ready to learn - to be focused and concentrated? **Or does that meal give them a quick jolt and then drop them spinning on the ground?**

Let's put love in our children's lunches and leave the food coloring at home. Let's give our children what they need to grow and learn. Like the plants in the garden, let's make sure the soil is rich, the water pure, and the vitamins and minerals of the highest quality. Let's give them delicious meals that nurture their growing bodies and minds for a lifetime of health and learning. Now doesn't that sound good enough to eat?