

WHAT HAS HAPPENED THIS TERM AT TCHP?

- ❖ International Feast Evening
- ❖ Coffee morning hosted by the Senior Class
- ❖ Open Day
- ❖ Hallowe'en Party and Fundraiser - €2180 raised for The Children's Health Foundation
- ❖ Senior Classes Hallowe'en Concert
- ❖ First ever Hallowe'en Camp
- ❖ World Book Day
- ❖ MS ReadAthon €1062 raised
- ❖ Parent Information Evening on 'Nurturing the Mathematical Mind'
- ❖ Christmas plays
- ❖ AIJS Creative Writing Competition (1st, 2nd & 3rd places)
- ❖ Continued visits to The Orchard Day Care Centre (Alzheimer's Society)

THE MONTESSORI TIMES

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Dear Parents

The theme of this newsletter is 'In the Community'. We can all feel very proud of the role our school plays on a community, national and international level. Each of us and your children play a role in contributing positively towards the welfare of our classes, school and the greater world beyond.

Almost a century ago, Maria Montessori advocated reaching Peace for the world through the child. For this reason she was twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

We hope that the children's plays have helped spark the joy of Christmas.

Wishing you all Peace, Joy and Community for the Festive season and a joyful 2025!

**Micaela Kuh, Principal
and the staff at TCHP**

NEXT TERM'S DATES

- ❖ **MONDAY, 6 JANUARY** School re-opens
- ❖ **THURSDAY, 30 JANUARY** Parent Education Evening – 'Social & Emotional Development in Children'
- ❖ **MONDAY, 3 FEBRUARY** St. Brigid's Day Bank Holiday
- ❖ **HALF TERM** 17 February - 21 February (school closed inclusive)
- ❖ **MONDAY, 17 MARCH** St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday
- ❖ **FRIDAY, 11 APRIL** School closes at 3pm for Easter holidays
- ❖ **MONDAY, 28 APRIL** Staff Inservice - Pupil Free Day
- ❖ **TUESDAY, 29 APRIL** School re-opens
- ❖ **MONDAY, 5 MAY** May Bank Holiday
- ❖ **MONDAY, 2 JUNE** June Bank Holiday
- ❖ **THURSDAY, 12 JUNE** School closes at 12.30pm for 6-9 and 9-12 Classes for Summer holidays
- ❖ **13 – 27 June Summer Camp for Junior & Senior Classes**
- ❖ **FRIDAY, 27 JUNE** ECCE pupils finish



... IN THIS SEASON OF REFLECTION AND GRATITUDE THE SENIOR CLASSES WERE ASKED WHAT THEY ARE THANKFUL FOR:

I am thankful for:

...Nature, I'm thankful for the food it provides us with every day...

...*Ireland not being at war...*

...Food and animals - I'm thankful for the world...

...*The minutes and the hours...*

...Nature and money...

...*The plants and animals we eat...*

...The potatoes that grow under the ground and for such a beautiful world...

...*Nature and all the rivers and lakes that flow to the sea...*

...Nighttime, animals, water and trees.

Food, water and cows...

...*The environment – without it we wouldn't be here...*

MONTESSORI IN THE COMMUNITY For the child in the 3-6 Class 'community' begins in the classroom – being part of a class, caring for their environments, encouraging collaboration and inclusivity, working together, eating and playing individually and then in small groups leading to larger groups as the children develop a strong sense of self.

As the children get older Montessori in the community goes beyond the classroom. The children of this age are now more social and enjoy doing things in groups. They start to care about the larger world and other people, even people that they may never meet. Here at TCHP this takes many forms:

- Children run fundraising events for The Children's Health Foundation and other charities, liaising with local shops for raffle prizes, etc.
- The Senior Classes take part in the MS ReadAthon for the MS Society of Ireland.
- Hampers for St Vincent de Paul are prepared at Christmas time.
- Green Flag activities raising awareness of our immediate surroundings e.g. litter picking in the neighbourhood. A theme of the Green Flag is Global Citizenship.
- Children have penfriends around the world – reaching out and writing to children in Montessori schools in India and other countries.
- A group of children took part in the UNESCO Dance for Peace this summer.



MONTESSORI IN THE COMMUNITY cont...

- The 9-12 Class visit the Orchard Day Care Centre in Blackrock (The Alzheimer Society of Ireland) on a weekly basis to bring the benefits of the Montessori approach to a multigenerational group. These visits have been the subject of coverage by RTE, The Independent and French radio.

GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Being in a Montessori school is being part of a global community – there are over 20,000 Montessori schools worldwide. We are a member of the AMI – the Association Montessori Internationale. Our staff take part in AMI training and we often welcome student teachers from abroad. Our Principal, Micaela Kuh, is an AMI International Examiner and Associate Trainer.

Maria Montessori saw children as *CITIZENS OF THE WORLD*

From the classroom, reaching out to the neighbourhood community and being part of a global organisation we aim to prepare children to become citizens of the world that will contribute to their communities in significant ways.

 Children's House Primary – Montessori school aged 3-12 Dublin
 thechildrenshouseprimary
info@childrenshouseprimary.ie www.childrenshouseprimary.ie

