



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Community Montessori Office	.....	720-561-3700
805 Gillaspie Dr		
Boulder, 80305		
FAX	.....	720-561-3701
Attendance Line	.....	720-561-5408
SAC	.....	720-561-3777
Transportation	.....	720-561-5125 (Boulder)
	.....	720-561-5126 (Lafayette)
Web Site:	http://schools.bvsd.org/communitymontessori/	
E-mail addresses:	shannon.minch@bvsd.org , Principal	
	rosa.invernizze@bvsd.org , Bilingual Liaison	
	kathy.kinney@bvsd.org , Principal's Assistant	



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 11	-----	Elementary Field Day – AM (10/20 Rain Date)
October 12	-----	Picture Retakes
October 13	-----	Parent Visiting Night (A-M 5-6; N-Z 6-7 PM)
October 14	-----	NO SCHOOL – Work Day
October 17	-----	Author Kerry Lee MacLean (Read-a-thon Kick-off)
October 18,19,24,26	-----	Parent Teacher Conferences
October 19	-----	Worker Bee Wednesday – G2T– 2:30PM Court Yard
October 21	-----	Wear Clothes w/Words on Them Day
October 28	-----	Buddy Reading/Book Bingo – School day/5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
November 2,9,16,30	-----	Nurtured Heart Classes – 6:00 – 7:30 PM
November 10	-----	Report Cards Home
November 10	-----	SAC/PTA Meeting – 5:30 – 7:30 PM – Room 114
November 11	-----	No School – Veteran's Day
November 14	-----	Vision/Hearing Screening
November 21 – 25	-----	No School - Holiday
November 28	-----	Open Enrollment Begins
November 29	-----	Public Tour – 9:00 AM
December 6	-----	Public Tour – 9:00 AM
December 8	-----	SAC/PTA Meeting – 5:30 – 7:30 PM – Room 114
December 19 – Jan 3	-----	No School – Holiday/Teacher Workday

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Dear Community Montessori Parents and Guardians,
 I can't believe it is already October! Time flies when you're having fun! This month is a busy one with Field Day, Parent Visiting Night, Parent/Teacher Conferences and the Read-a thon. We couldn't do all of these wonderful activities without the wonderful staff at CM and our awesome parent volunteers. Thank you all for your dedication to our school. We look forward to seeing you at one of these events!

Shannon Minch

THRIVING DURING THE ELEMENTARY YEARS

By Dr. Jan Hittelman

Everyone has strengths and weaknesses. Whether it's intellectual abilities, visual and auditory processing skills, or physical abilities, we all have areas of strength and areas of challenge. For elementary-age children, this is also the case in terms of academic skills. While some children excel in mathematics, others may exhibit strengths in writing. The most important academic skill, however, is reading. Reading is central to all subjects and by third grade reading level has been shown to correlate with a variety of outcomes including academic success, vocational opportunities, and college attendance. It is always sad to see a young child with reading problems who enjoys and excels in math, be robbed of that success with the introduction of math word problems that require reading ability.

We also know that parental involvement correlates with school success. A meta-analysis of 77 studies found that parents who were highly involved in their child's education, positively impacted overall education outcomes, grades, and academic achievement (Harvard Family Research Project, 2005). Furthermore, when they looked at specific components of parental involvement, reading with your child emerged as one of the most important factors. Given that parents are usually not trained in reading instruction, what is the best approach in helping your child to learn how to be a strong reader, particularly if they are already having reading challenges?

To learn more about effective parenting strategies to help your child become a strong reader, bring your elementary-age child, a fun book, and participate in the next Pathways to Parenting Success workshop:

What: Strengthening Reading Confidence and Skills

When: Monday, October 24th, 6:30-8:00pm

Where: Meadows Branch Library (4800 Baseline Road, Boulder)

Facilitator: Iris Lee, Director, Dreamcatcher Direct Instruction Centers

Cost: FREE

More info: www.BPSBoulder.com

UPCOMING PEN EVENT:

The Bully, the Bullied, & the Bystander
Breaking the Cycles of Violence and Creating Circles of Caring
Barbara Coloroso, Nat'l Speaker/Author
www.kidsareworthit.com
Wednesday, October 19th 6:30-8:30pm
Monarch High School (263 Campus Drive, Louisville)

Learn more about PEN by visiting their website: www.parentengagementnetwork.org or by contacting Paula Nelson, PEN chair (pjn6225@yahoo.com, 303-880-6030) or Betsy Fox, PEN Lead Coach, (foxbetsy123@msn.com, 720-563-7007). Dr. Jan Hittelman, a licensed psychologist, is Director of Boulder Psychological Services and the Founder of the Boulder Counseling Cooperative. Questions or comments for this monthly column can be sent via email to: jan.hittelman@gmail.com, or by phone: 720-217-3270.

GARDEN TO TABLE



A big thanks to all the families that worked hard at last week's Worker Bee Wednesday (WBW). We accomplished a lot:

- **Saved plants and bulbs to be replanted when Peace Pole is relocated.
- **Weeded and beautified classroom gardens on the west side of the school.
- **Harvested chard and kale and weeded the vegetable garden.

It was a lot of fun -- **please join us at the next WBW on Oct. 19th**. We'll turn some new compost into the garden and put it to sleep for the winter.

Jenny & Christina's Lower El. classrooms have been out in the garden identifying plants and their related health benefits. They also have collected seeds to save for spring planting. Patti's class harvested over 11 lbs of vegetables, researched how much they would cost to purchase locally and then shared the tasty treats with other classes.

And finally, we donated 5 lbs of chard and kale to the EFAA food bank!! Thanks to the Huang family for bringing in the donation.



READ-A-THON AND BOOK BINGO SOCIAL

The Read & Write-A-Thon is coming up in October and you should expect to see information coming out in your child's Friday folder in early October. The objective of the Read & Write-A-Thon is to support literacy in the school in a fun manner while raising funds for our wonderful school's many needs.

Each classroom will have their own in class activities planned, but here are some key dates to remember for Read & Write-A-Thon activities:

Friday, October 7:

- Information and Pledge packets come home in Friday folders. Our goal is to have each child get 10 pledges! So have your child start making a list of people you can ask for support - Neighbors, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, friends, etc.

Monday, October 17:

- Kerry Lee MacLean, author of the "Pigs over Boulder" series of children's books, visits the school, holding writer's workshops with the each grade.

Friday, October 21:

- My Favorite Book Reports displayed in the Hallways - These Book Reports will be written by the children during class. Make sure you let your child show you theirs!

- Wear clothes with words on them day! Many of the day's classroom activities will be centered around this fun activity for the day.

Friday, October 28:

- All-School Read-in on the Soccer fields (Gym if the weather is bad). The children will be buddy reading for 20 minutes along with the staff and several volunteers.

- The Read & Write-A-Thon will culminate with an All-School Book Bingo Social on Friday evening from 5 - 7pm in the Gym - Come dressed as your favorite book character and join us for an evening of Bingo where you can win books as prizes. Dinner will be available to purchase.

We need tons of volunteer help with the Read & Write-A-Thon and the Book Bingo. Please contact Jane Breetzke at 720-320-7100 or janiebreetzke@comcast.net if you'd like to help out.

If you have any books you no longer need that are new or gently used, please donate them to be used as prizes for the Book Bingo. There is a collection box outside the office.



FIELD DAY!

This **Tuesday**, October 11th, 8:45 AM - 10:45AM
For elementary grades 1-5, on our fields out back

Students should wear: - Tennis Shoes - Sunscreen and Hat **& Bring:** - Water Bottle

In case of bad weather, Field Day will be rescheduled for Thursday, Oct. 20th.


Popsicles: If you would be willing to provide popsicles for your child's class this year, please contact your room team.

Coolers needed: If you have a good-sized cooler (we need at least 14: 9" x 16" **or larger**), please let Karsten know (Karsten.Roell@bvsd.org).

We hope to see you there!

UPDATES



- ☞ **Safety Concern:** A number of parents have been leaving a child unattended in the car to come into the school to pick up their student. It only takes 5-10 minutes for something devastating to happen. With hot or cold weather, this can be a dangerous practice. We want all of our students and future students to be safe.
- ☞ **Playground Cleanliness:** Let's work together to keep the playground clean if you use it afterschool or on the weekends. Thank you.
- ☞ We have a few openings for volunteers to assist in the **Library Media Center**. We are shifting and relabeling our nonfiction section while keeping up with the daily sorting/shelving that arises from processing approximately 700 books every week. Even a few hours' time would be a big help. We offer fun and benefits (OK, the benefit is that you'll feel good inside, and become familiar with the collection, but we ARE fun). If you're interested, please contact Colleen at 720-561-3710 or email colleen.jiron@bvsd.org. Thanks!
- ☞ **Background Checks** – if you have completed yours – please let Denise know so that we can have a list of volunteers who are eligible to be in classrooms when our teachers ask. Thank you!
- ☞ **Halloween:** To continue our tradition for the past years, we will not celebrate Halloween at school. We have noticed our students are focused and engaged in learning and not distracted by costumes. Not celebrating Halloween is becoming a common trend across the country. Thank you for your understanding.
- ☞ **Access to the building:** We are directing all entrances to the building to the main door; before, during and after school. If you are on the playground with your child after school and they need to use the restroom, please escort them to the front door of the building. We are training all people to use the front door and children to be supervised in the school after hours. We are also training teachers to not open the door, even if they recognize you. We will not open other doors to let people in, so please do not knock. For safety purposes, we are working to have limited access points to the building, so we know who is in our building and for what purpose.
- ☞ **Meetings with teachers:** Before and after school are important planning times for teachers. Our teachers are here many long hours going above and beyond their required time to provide the best learning environment for your child. They love to meet with parents, but drop in meetings do not work. Please contact the teachers to make an appointment through their preferred method of communication.
- ☞ **Lost & Found** items will be on display during Parent/Teachers Conferences. Please check carefully to see if any items belong to your family. Everything that is still in Lost & Found after October 28th (Book Bingo Night) will be donated to a worthy cause.
- ☞ Heads up! **Garage Sale Fundraiser** is planned for Spring of 2012...so please don't clear out your garages just yet! Hang onto everything for just a little longer and support this huge fundraiser!
- ☞ Having trouble keeping track of when to add money to your student's meal account? Tired of getting negative balance reminder phone calls and emails? With www.payforit.net you can set up a low-balance email reminder for when your student's account gets below a level you choose. This is a free service, with no obligation to use Payforit to add money to your student's account. Best yet, there is no transaction fee if you choose the convenience of online payments. Visit www.PayForIt.net and set up your account today!
- ☞ **Box Tops for Education** October 31st is the first Box Tops submission deadline so...Remember to get all your Box Tops submitted by the last week of October!!! The collection container is on the Parent Information table outside the office. 

👉 Please note that **Head Lice** has been identified in some students in some classes in our school. If you or your child has an itchy scalp or you have a suspicion of lice, please contact our health room para at 720-561-3709 or nicole.matarazzo@bvsd.org. She has information to make available to you.

👉 **Impact on Education -**

1. Nominate for Impact Awards! **Online nominations open on October 1.**
2. Apply for Classroom Innovation Grants! **Online application accepted starting October 3.**
3. Volunteer to read and evaluate nominations and/or applications!
4. Mark your calendars:

Classroom Innovation Grants

- Deadline to submit online grant application - **Monday, October 24**
- Registration deadline to become a volunteer reader - **Friday, October 21**
- Evaluation Period - **Friday, October 28 - Monday, November 7**
- Recipients Announced - **Wednesday, November 9**

20th Annual Impact Awards

- Deadline to submit Impact Award Nomination - **Tuesday, November 1**
- Registration deadline to become a volunteer reader - **Monday, October 31**
- Evaluation Period - **Friday, November 11 - Monday, November 21**
- Recipients Announced - **Friday, January 13**

5. Find them...www.ImpactOnEducation.org Questions? Email or call 303.524.3865.

👉 **If you are handy at hooking up computers** and would like to offer your expertise to other families, please let Rosa know at rosa.invernizze@bvsd.org or 720-561-3721.

👉 **If you would like to tutor Orchestra/Band students**, please contact Rosa at rosa.invernizze@bvsd.org or 720-561-3721.

👉 **Growing Up Boulder event on October 15** This annual fall event celebrates community involvement by youth and encourages participation in the Growing Up Boulder initiative. This year's event will take place on Saturday, October 15 at the North Boulder Recreation Center, from 2-5 p.m. The theme is children and youth rights. The celebration will include:

- interactive youth-run booths to present findings and gather new ideas about a children and youth bill of rights in Boulder
- inflatables (obstacle course, inflatable sumo wrestling, and more)
- raffle prizes including a \$50 iTunes gift certificate
- delicious food
- fun classes like kickboxing and hip hop dancing
- all free!!!!

👉 We will be participating in **Share-a-Coat** again this year! We will have a collection box available around the middle of October. The pick-up dates are 11/3, 11/17 & 12/1. Please bring in coats you no longer use to be distributed to those in need. Thank you!

👉 Please see the attached **Composting with Worms workshop** flier.

👉 The **Thrive Newsletter** is available on the BVSD website at <http://www.bvsd.org/parents/Pages/ThriveNewsletter.aspx>.

👉 **BVSD Food Services Department seeking smiling friendly faces!**

- Are you looking for part time hours?
- Do you want to be more involved with your child's school?
- Would you like to work the same schedule as your BVSD student?

Here's your opportunity to be part of the team serving delicious healthy food to our kids everyday! Becoming a Food Service Assistant is fun, fast paced, and rewarding! Apply online at www.bvsd.org - many locations available.

Food Service Substitutes positions available also. For more information: Please call Sarah Acker @ 720-561-5049