



Montessori Minutes

Corpus Christi Montessori School

October 2, 2017

CCMS LOVES THEIR STUDENTS

What a busy month September was. With our Hurricane evacuation to our first all school field trip to the National Seashore. We have been so in awe of our students with their compassion and overwhelming generosity to our neighboring communities. Our community raised \$567.00 which was presented to the Rockport Volleyball team by our Volleyball team on Friday. They also brought in items for the hygiene drive for Girl Scouts to help the Hurricane Harvey victims. Our lower elementary students are planning on helping animals effected by the Hurricane. Middle School students have plans to volunteer during their Service Week to organize donations for another organization gathering supplies for these neighboring communities. In other news, our Chess Club is learning and having fun. Our team tied for 2nd place in the Middle School division and some of our students new to Chess participated for the first time in a local Chess Tournament. Our 8th grade Volleyball Team won 3rd place this past weekend at a local Volleyball tournament. A big thank you to Coach Jacob, Coach Ronnie, Ms. Katrina and our parents who

spent their Friday and Saturday accompanying and encouraging our students. We are looking forward to supporting our CCMS Eagles in their future endeavors.

This week we have a four-day weekend for our students. We look forward to seeing everyone back and refreshed on Tuesday morning. Next Friday begins our Fun Friday. The students will be rotating through activities in Science, Art, Writing, Spanish, Exploration, Math and Cooking/Gardening. We are excited to begin. Please mark your calendars for our PTO meeting and the school wide field trip to Rockin' K Maze.

Corpus Christi Montessori School is going paperless or mostly paperless.

Our goal is to reduce our papers in Monday folders to almost "0" by December 1st.

Not to worry all items will be emailed and placed on the CCMS website.

Paper copies will be available by request in the office.

Upcoming Events

- October 2nd **Report Cards home**
- October 5th Breakfast available by Middle School Business \$3.00 for bagel, cream cheese, fruit and juice
- October 6th **Holiday**
- October 9th **Staff Dev. Day**
- October 13th **No School**
- October 13th Fun Friday
Pizza available by Upper El. \$2.00 per slice
Middle School Drive thru Lemonade & Watermelon Fundraiser
- October 17th **PTO Meeting, 5:30**
Childcare, pizza, drink, games provided by MS \$5.00 per child
- October 20th Breakfast by MS for \$3.00
Pizza available by UE for \$2.00 a slice for lunch
- October 21st **Parent/Staff Workday**
8:00 – 12:00
- October 25th **Board Meeting-12 p.m.**
- October 26th Middle School Drive thru Lemonade & Watermelon Fundraiser at dismissal
- October 27th Late Start – 9 a.m.
Field Trip to Rockin' K Maze

Montessori is an education for Independence, preparing not just for school, but for life. - Maria Montessori

Brains Need Plenty of Quiet Time

Written by [Maren Schmidt](#)

A sign in my father's office read, "Sometimes I sits and thinks, and sometimes I just sits."

Ungrammatical, but it captured the essence of my father. My dad spent a lot of time thinking and planning, but he didn't hesitate to take the down time of "just" sitting and doing nothing. Dad understood what was good for him, as well as for all the grandchildren that loved to sit on his lap, and just sit.

Children need opportunities to simply sit, rest, observe, quietly explore and be. My dad understood a child's need for this quiet time. With our children we need to balance activity with tranquil and undisturbed time.

Our children today seem to be hustled off to gym class, to swim, to dance, to lesson after lesson to try to maximize their learning or, heaven forbid, prevent them from being bored. Instead of trying to cram learning with activity after activity, it is better to have an environment where children can explore, investigate and inquire with help from a guide. If a child is interested in looking at rocks, an adult to offer a bit of information by perhaps pointing out the different structure of the rocks—igneous, sedimentary or metamorphic—and then to retreat, offers the child the quiet opportunity to do further exploration, thinking or simple

consolidation of new and old information.

A child's learning is deeper when it comes from within versus being crammed in by using flash cards, worksheets, questioning and on and on.

If we each look at our individual style of learning, we'll perhaps see that we learn best when we choose our activity, do it to our satisfaction and then have a period of rest or contemplation to unify our thoughts. My grandmother resisted numerous attempts to buy herself a dishwasher, saying that washing the dishes by hand gave her time to think. My grandmother enjoyed that half-hour to reflect on the day's events and to begin looking forward to the next activities.

Children's brains need this time to consolidate new experiences and then to choose what activity to do to create meaningful learning. By the process of selecting what to do, our children reveal to us who they are. With time to choose, learning becomes personal and powerful. Through their choices, our children are telling us their likes, their dislikes, their interests, their passions, their weaknesses and their strengths. It all begins with being quiet and having time that is unencumbered with activities that aren't evaluated, judged or prioritized by adults.

When we fill up our children's days with busy work that does not tap into the brain's powerful way to learn through quiet reflection and choice, we do our children a disservice.

Our children need this valuable unstructured time for contemplation and true learning.

The brain for proper development needs quiet time, to sit and think and sometimes to "just sits." One could say that a child and a child's brain need time on grandpa's lap.

Before School Care

7:30 – 8:15 \$ 50.00 per month

Drop in fee \$ 5.00 per child

After School Care

4:00 – 5:30 \$100.00 per month

Drop in fee \$ 25.00 per child

Late Start Days

Drop in fee \$ 5.00 per child
unless already in Before Care

Drop off Procedures

Drop off is from 8:15 – 8:30 a.m.

If you plan on walking your child to class please note they must be in the classroom by 8:30 a.m.

Also, just a friendly reminder this is not a time for parent/teacher conferences. Staff is required to be engaged with students.

