

The SFMS Chronicle

September 2009

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Nancy Sager, Founder

Walter Huebscher, Head of School

Dear Santa Fe Montessori School Families,

Welcome to a brand new school year! Although the children have only been back for a short time, they are already well settled into the world of learning. Even our youngest new children, the toddlers, had a delightfully smooth start. The teachers are sincerely appreciative of the positive and supportive attitude they have seen our SFMS parents modeling for their children. When your children see grown ups practice grace and courtesy in their encounters with others, they are showing them, by example, what it means to be thoughtful and courteous. Children will follow and repeat the real life examples they have observed. Truly, children learn what they live.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday
Sept. 10 PARENT ORIENTATION
Children's House — 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday
Sept. 17 **Back to School Parent Brunch**
9:00-10:30 p.m.

Monday
Sept. 21 Parents' Association Meeting—8:45 am
Middle building music room

Thursday
Sept. 24 PARENT ORIENTATION
Junior I — 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday
Oct. 1 PARENT ORIENTATION
Junior II — 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thursday
Oct. 15 **Ice Cream Social—3:00 to 4:30 p.m.**
Elementary Playground

Thursday
Oct. 15 **Ice Cream Social—3:30 to 5:00 p.m.**
Elementary

Friday
Oct. 16 **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
DAY –SCHOOL CLOSED-No Classes

Oct. 19-23 PICTURE WEEK

Friday
Oct. 23 **MINIMUM DAY**
11:30 & 11:45 Dismissals –All Levels

Thur. & Fri.
Nov. 5 & 6 PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES
Day Care is available

Wednesday
Nov. 11 **VETERAN'S DAY**
SCHOOL CLOSED-No Classes

Young Entrepreneurs Learn About Business

The JR II students will be honing their entrepreneurial skills again this year by selling pizza for lunch on Fridays once a month and selling Innisbrook gift wrap.

The first pizza day this year is scheduled for
Friday, September 25th.

Pizza sign up flyers will go home before mid-September. The flyer will also be posted on our website so you can print it out at home.

Innisbrook gift wrap catalogs and order forms will go home on September 25th.

The profit from these two services will be used to help defray the costs of the JR II week long trip away from school.

SFMS Board of Directors

The current Board Committee positions and chairs are:

Finance – Michael Akavan

Fund Raising – James Barter

Board Recruitment – Edna Gibson

Communication – Carol Higgins

School Head Performance – Cindy Jackson

Grounds – Paul Sager

Parent Involvement – Edna Gibson

Retention – Vicki Wolfrum

Facility Issues – Michael Akavan

Executive Committee – Nancy Sager, Paul Sager,
Vicki Wolfrum

President - Nancy Sager

Vice President – Paul Sager

Recording Secretary – Teresita Leimer

Picture Week

October 19-23

During the week of October 19th, all children will have their photograph taken individually and classroom group photos will also be taken. You will have the opportunity to purchase the photos in various sizes. The children's photos will be reproduced in our yearbook. Watch for the Picture Week flyer.

Suzuki Violin Parent Information Session

Learn more about Suzuki Violin and Viola programs being offered this year at SFMS on

Monday, September 21st at 7pm

in the Elementary Building.

MOMMY & ME CLASSES

These classes are for moms and/or dads and their infants—2 months to 12 months—to work together focusing on various aspects of your infants development, incorporating music, song, dance, movement games and instruments.

Classes will be held on Monday and Tuesday mornings at 10:30 starting on October 5th. Ms Corina Tellez will teach these classes. If you haven't received a flyer for these classes, contact Corina by email, misscorina1@hotmail.com.

MINIMUM DAYS

**Our first Minimum Day
is on Friday, October 23rd.**

Toddler Community will dismiss at 11:45 a.m.

Children's House:

Rooms 1, 3, & 5 will dismiss at 11:30 a.m.

Rooms 2 & 4 will dismiss at 11:45 a.m.

Elementary will dismiss at 11:30 a.m.

Minimum Days provide an opportunity for faculty and assistants to thoroughly clean the classroom environments, rotate materials, make materials, plan and communicate regarding the needs of the classroom community, and meet as levels for ongoing education regarding the implementation of the Montessori philosophy, etc.

PROFESSIONAL

DEVELOPMENT DAYS

**Our first Professional Development Day
is on Friday, October 16th.**

In order to offer a consistently strong Montessori program and to provide training for the staff on a variety of subjects that pertain to the health, welfare, and education of the whole school community, SFMS schedules Professional Development days each school year. Topics covered include Montessori principles, emergency preparedness, communication, specific issues relating to child development and creating nurturing relationships with children, staff health and well-being, first aid training, etc.

Campus Fix-Ups This Summer

This summer our crew of intrepid handy-men really outdid themselves cleaning, painting, sandblasting, replacing, removing, moving, digging, constructing and beautifying. Every bathroom in the Children's House and the Toddler community was renovated and updated. The Children's House patio fences were rejuvenated with new lumber where needed and all the main support posts were replaced and new steel posts were added to give increased support. In the next few weeks, these fences will get a brand new coat of paint. The train that has been on the middle playground for a decade or so was uprooted and re-rooted on the south playground so our Toddlers would be able to take advantage of it, which they are with great delight. The removal of the train gave us room on the middle playground to set up a brand new climbing apparatus and also the geodesic dome. The children are enthralled with the new tire swing that was installed in the pit where the dome used to reside. Our elementary children are enjoying the new coat of paint that was applied in the JR I classrooms and the entry way. Sandblasting and repainting the elementary basketball court has given it a whole new look and sure footed feel.

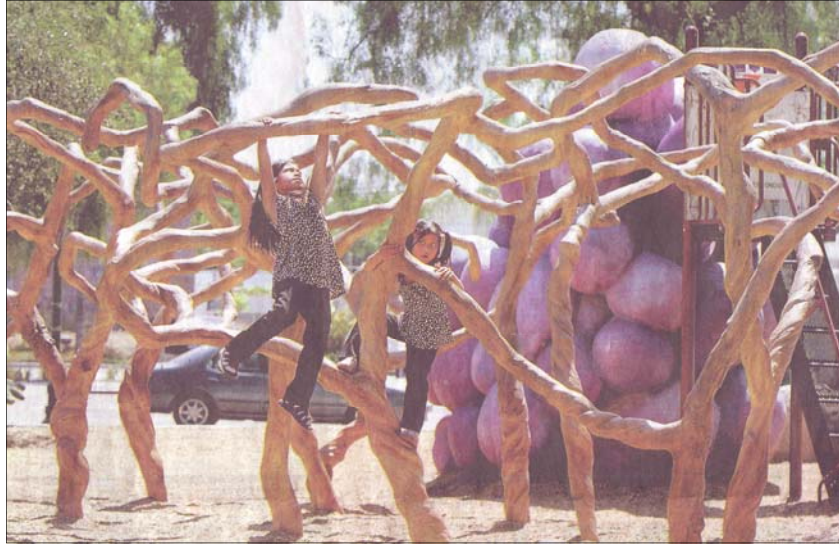
This is the only hardcopy issue of the Chronicle you will receive.

All future issues of the Chronicle will be sent to you via email.

Current and past issues of the Chronicle are always available on our website, www.santafemontessori.org.

Vinehenge

A unique new concept for a playground structure



SFMS is exploring the possibility of having the creators of Vinehenge build a similar climbing structure for our elementary playground. The creators of Vinehenge, Valerie Salatino and Nancy Moran of Nature Works, Inc. visited SFMS this summer and they are looking forward to the possibility of creating an exciting new climbing structure especially for our elementary children.

The next step in the process is to have our elementary children visit Vinehenge and try it out for themselves. Their input is needed to insure the success of this project.

All elementary families are cordially invited to
bring their children to Grape Day Park in Escondido on
Sunday morning, September 27th, at 10:30 am
to explore Vinehenge.

Vinehenge creators, Valerie and Nancy, will be there to answer any questions we may have.

Vinehenge is located at 321 North Broadway (between 3rd Ave & 4th Ave) in Escondido.

The website for Grape Day Park is www.grapedaypark.org.

For directions go to this url, <http://www.grapedaypark.org/directions.html>

Nature Works, Inc. website is, <http://www.natureworksinc.net>.

“Education is not what the teacher gives; education is a natural process spontaneously carried out by the individual, and is acquired not by listening to words, but by experiences upon the environment. The task of the teacher becomes that of preparing a series of motives of cultural activity, spread over a specially prepared environment, and then refraining from obtrusive interference. Doing so, she will be witness to the unfolding of a New Humanity which will not be the victim of events, but will have the clarity of vision to direct and shape the future of human society.”

Maria Montessori

SFMS-Parents' Association News

September 2009

STAY CONNECTED

Are you connected with SFMS, the website, the Parents' Association (PA)?
Do you know all the easy ways to contribute your time and donate funds to SFMS?

The theme this year ***STAY CONNECTED*** is to remind you to stay in touch, ask questions, help out, offer opinions on new ideas, and be a part of our school community. There are many easy ways to do this. The first easy way is to attend the Parent Brunch on September 17, 2009 at Lomas Santa Fe Country Club starting at 9am. At the brunch, you will learn all the ways to ***stay connected*** at SFMS. Please send in your RSVP as soon as you can. You won't want to miss this!

The Parents' Association has exciting things planned this year. We are busy working on some new ideas for T-shirts for the school. Be on the lookout in the upcoming months for your chance to vote!

PA EVENTS CALENDAR

Parents' Association Meeting
Monday, September 21
8:45am

Middle Building Music Room

(Don't worry if you can't make this one, we will have an evening meeting in late October.)

Welcome Back To School Ice Cream Social
Thursday, October 15, 2009
From 3:30pm-5pm.

*Please send in your PA volunteer and sponsorship forms—the forms are available on the SFMS website. They may be given to your teacher or to Conny. THANK YOU to those who have already sent them in!!

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Brunch.

LeAnn S. Rytz
Parent Association President



*You are cordially invited
to attend the
Santa Fe Montessori School's'
**Back to School
Parent Brunch***

*on
Thursday, September 17th
9:00—10:30 a.m.
at*

*Lomas Santa Fe Country Club
(Located on the south west corner of
Lomas Santa Fe and Highland)*

Kindly RSVP to Conny no later than Friday, September 11th

Parent's Name(s): _____ Number attending: _____

Child's room number: _____