

N O V E M B E R 1 5 , 2 0 1 0

# ORCAS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 4



## Calendar

**November 18:**  
**Parent Night**  
5:30 at the Library

**November 24:**  
**Bake Sale**  
**Island Market**

**December 11:**  
**Spiral Walk**  
**Odd Fellows Hall**

**December 20-31:**  
**Winter Break**  
**No school**

## ✧ Share a Talent, Lead a Group! ✧

Hello parents and friends! Now that the class has settled into a comfortable rhythm, and the new faces have become familiar friends, I wanted to put out an invitation to you all. As you may know, we gather the children for a large group time twice each day, generally around 10:30 am and 2:30 pm. These gatherings last about 20 minutes, during which we share stories, sing songs, talk about the weather, practice elements of grace and courtesy, make note of upcoming events, and discuss any issues that arise amongst the community. While these group times are not mandatory, they are enjoyed by all, and present a wonderful opportunity for parents to take a more active part in the classroom.

So, if you play an instrument, come lead us in a song or two. If you dabble in the arts, bring in something you have made. Show off a couple of dance moves. Read a favorite story or poem. Pass around a souvenir from your travels. Indeed, we would welcome anything you would like to offer. Of course, the staff will be on hand to help as needed. Think about it, and if you are interested, please talk with me about scheduling a time to come in and how to best present your unique gift to the room.

*Head Guide Tom Rubottom*





# Organic Apple Crisp Sale

Thanks to all of you who peeled, cut, measured and packed, we made 157 delicious organic apple crisps to sell! Early reviews of the crisps have been excellent, and sales are already strong, with 516 dollars brought in so far. All Montessori School families are being asked to sell at least four crisps to their friends and neighbors. If we have any left by Thanksgiving week, we'll sell them at our Island Market bake sale on November 24. Sold frozen, ready-to-bake for \$16 each, they are going fast, so anyone who wants one should contact the school right away. Thank you to Heidi Hudlet for her expert help on this project!

## *Bake Sale at Island Market* The Day Before Thanksgiving!



We were lucky to snag the date of Wednesday, November 24th, for a bake sale at Island Market. This is historically a great day for successful bake sales, as shoppers look for something sweet to add to their Thanksgiving feast. We will be selling any apple crisps we have left, our holiday wreaths, and also the usual dizzying array of beautiful items baked by

our families and friends. We plan to offer more large items this time, like whole pies and cakes. You will find a sign up sheet in the school foyer. Please plan to tie on the apron, and bake or take a shift at the table. Thank you!

## **Spanish Language Bilingual Book Lending Library – Coming Soon!**



A generous anonymous donation has allowed us to purchase 60 bilingual books. Next week, we'll have these books available to lend, and each child may take home two books per week. We're grateful for this donation, with the joy and new knowledge it will bring to our students.

## ***Budgeting for Families***

Past parent Julie Brunner will soon be offering a course in managing family finances. More details to come!

# ★ Here Come The Wreaths!

The Orcas Montessori's 16th Annual Holiday Wreath Sale is now underway. Our 900 piece mailing is on its way to our past wreath customers, flyers are posted around the island, and the website is set to take orders. You may have seen the articles in the Chamber blast or the Sounder. Our Airstream "sale headquarters" is onsite, and the wreaths arrive this week.

Our goal is to raise \$6000. To achieve this goal, we will need everyone's help. If you are a parent of a child at the school, hopefully you've had an opportunity to pick up your wreath packet from your mail cubby. We are hoping that each family will commit to sell a minimum of 6 wreaths. Consider wreaths as gifts for family, friends and clients. Spread the word to your social clubs and church groups. Additionally, there are numerous tasks that need to volunteers, and there is a sign up sheet posted on the school door. Our sincere thanks to those parents who have already stepped forward and signed up.

24", 35", and 40" holiday wreaths are available this year for \$25, \$35 and \$55 respectively. Our wreath prices have remained the same for over 5 years. US Shipping is also available for the 24" wreath for an additional fee. We are now taking orders, with our school sale site opening November 22nd. Our website, [www.orcasmontessori.org](http://www.orcasmontessori.org), also provides an excellent online sales and information tool.

Please take a look at the various wreath sale tasks presently at hand. Contact Tara Linnes, volunteer coordinator, or Cathy Faulkner, project lead to sign up.

Tara: 376-5795 [greentarialinnes@yahoo.com](mailto:greentarialinnes@yahoo.com)

Cathy: 376-2434 [me@cathyfaulkner.com](mailto:me@cathyfaulkner.com)

# ★ Volunteer Tasks ★

Nov. 15 - Nov. 19 - Volunteers needed to place reminder phone calls to businesses

Starting Nov. 19 - Volunteers needed to bag wreaths, either at school or at storage unit

Starting Nov. 19 - Volunteers needed to bag ribbons, at home

Nov. 23 until sellout - Volunteers needed for 2 hour shifts at wreath sale site at school.

Airstream will be open Tues., Wed., Thurs. & Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Contact Cathy Faulkner to schedule a shift.  
376-2434 [me@cathyfaulkner.com](mailto:me@cathyfaulkner.com)



Nov. 23 & 24 - Volunteers needed for wreath delivery to local businesses and individuals with special needs. Occasional deliveries for special needs customers throughout sale.

Nov. 24 - Volunteers needed for Island Market bake sale and wreath sale

Nov. 29 - Dec. 15 - Morning assistance needed, for taking wreaths to UPS for shipment

Nov. 29 - Dec. 10 - Volunteers needed to phone past customers – reminder calls

Dec. 4 and Dec. 5 - Wreath Sale at Island Market.  
Volunteers needed for 2 hour shifts

*Cathy Faulkner*

# The Candlelight Spiral Walk A Beloved Tradition For 20 Years

Come walk the evergreen spiral, light a candle and transform the darkened room into a tableau of light. The 20th annual Candlelight Spiral Walk will take place on Saturday, December 11, at 3:00 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall. The entire community is invited to join us for this event, hosted by our school, along with Salmonberry School and the School of the Salish Sea.

This is an opportunity for children and adults of all ages to experience a quiet reverence for the beginning of the holiday season. Teacher Tom will emcee the event, and our Director Teresa will provide live music along with past parent Fabrice Van Putten. A suggested donation of \$5 per family at the door, or a gift of nonperishable food for the Orcas Island Food Bank is warmly appreciated.

A few volunteers are needed for set up and clean up, including somebody with a pick up truck; please let Teresa know if you are available.

*Photo by Kurt Thorson*



*Artwork by August:*

*Above: Nisha and August  
with Pet Cheetah*

*Below: August as "Bumblebee Girl"*



## Parent Night To Feature Montessori Math

Parents, please join us next Thursday, November 18th, at 5:30 p.m. at the public library meeting room, for an in-depth look at the mathematics area of the Montessori curriculum. We will have the materials there for you to look at, and touch, and will demonstrate how the beginning materials lay the foundation for the more advanced materials. You will see the progression from the simple to more abstract. It's truly fascinating! Through the examination of these brilliantly designed materials, some of the concepts we memorized when we were in school are demonstrated so clearly. Last year we presented the language materials at a parent night and feedback from the parents was enthusiastic.

Childcare will be available at the school, including a simple supper for the children. If you would like childcare, we request that you sign up on the door by Tuesday of next week so we can be sure to have adequate staff present. See you there!

*Director Teresa Chocano*