

Queensville Montessori Academy

September 2009
Newsletter

Welcome!

The first week of school has come and gone and our programmes are in full swing! We would like to welcome all of our new families as well as our returning students. This is going to be an exciting and fun filled school year. We look forward to watching your children progress physically, artistically and academically.

P. A. Day

Our first P.A. Day is Friday, September 25, 2009. The school will be closed that day.

Lunches

We are continuing to offer a hot lunch programme, lunches that are prepared at the school. For those unfamiliar with this programme, it is completely elective and a menu is sent home on a monthly basis for you to select the hot lunches that your child would like to receive for that month. The cost of each meal is \$5.00. Please return a cheque payable to Queensville Montessori Academy for the amount of lunches ordered together with your order. Please return orders by the date specified on the back of the order form.

If you are packing a lunch for your child, we ask that the lunch contain nutritious, healthy foods. At the back of your Parent Handbook is a copy of the Canada's Food Guide for your assistance. All items in your child's lunch bag should be labeled with his or her name. A freezer pack is also required to help keep your child's lunch from spoiling. If your child's lunch contains something that is to be served warm, we ask that you heat the lunch at home and place it in a thermos to remain hot. We do not have access to microwave ovens in our classrooms. Please remember to pack cutlery as well.

Environmentally Friendly

We at Queensville Montessori Academy are trying to do our part in being environmentally friendly.

In order for us to cut down on the amount of garbage that we generate, we are asking that the children's lunches be stored in reusable containers, labelled with their name, that will be returned home daily.

Peanut Free

Queensville Montessori Academy is a **peanut free** environment. We currently have a child with a life threatening peanut allergy, so please read your labels before sending the food to school. If a product is labelled "may have come in contact with peanuts", "manufactured in a plant that handles peanuts", "contains peanuts" or "may contain traces of peanuts" the product will be sent home. Please understand that this is a serious safety concern and thank you in advance for your cooperation throughout the school year.

Scholastic Book Orders

Queensville Montessori Academy supports the Scholastic Book Club programme. Each month book order forms will be sent home with your child. You are not required to purchase books. However, it is a great opportunity as it gives the children a sense of ownership and encourages them to read. If you wish to purchase any book(s), please tick off the form on the back of the Book Club pamphlet and send exact change or a cheque made payable to Scholastic Canada.

This month's orders are to be returned by Thursday, September 17th, 2009.

Before and After Care

Our Before Care Programme begins at 7 a.m. If you are requiring care, we ask that you inform your teacher as to what time you will be dropping your child off at. You can also let us know the time of drop off by e-mailing us at queensvillemontessori@rogers.com. When dropping them off, please use the front (blue) door and assist your child in hanging their belongs on any of the available cubby hooks.

The After Care Programme begins at 3:45 p.m. If you arrive after this time for pick up your child will be in the front room of the school. Please enter through the front (blue) door to pick up your child. If you know in advance that you will be requiring this service, please let us know so we can have your child prepared and they are not waiting and or worrying about when they will be picked up. The Before and After Care programme is available to all our families and may be used regularly or just occasionally. Either way, please understand that there is an additional cost to you. If you use this programme you will receive a monthly invoice for the amount of time you have used the programme. Just

let us know how we can be of assistance. If your child is going to be in after care, we ask that you send them with a snack to enjoy while they are in after care .

Birthday Book Programme

Queensville Montessori Academy has enjoyed great family participation in our Birthday Book programme. This programme is designed to enhance your child's birthday celebration and will also support the development and growth of our school library.

If you would like to participate, simply send in a new book on the day closest to your child's birthday. If your child has a favourite author, illustrator or topic, it would be fun for them to share their favourites with their friends.

The "Birthday Book" will then be read by your child or by the teacher to their classmates. A personalized bookplate will be placed in the book to commemorate your child's special day. The book will remain in your child's class for a few days and then it will be added to our library for your child and others to enjoy in the future. This is an optional programme.

Doing our Part in Our Community

Save Your Pop-Tabs for Wheelchairs

Did you know it takes roughly 1,000 aluminum pop tabs to make up a pound? March of Dimes gets 60¢ for every pound. Last year the March of Dimes collected about 2,200,000 pop tabs. After Ministry of Health Funding, the approximate cost of a basic manual wheelchair is \$700 and an electric wheelchair is \$2,500. The Pop Tab Fund is part of the March of Dimes Assistive Devices Programme. (Pop tabs only are accepted; no other metal should be included, as it will reduce the price they receive.) Funds raised from pop tab collections are used to help purchase mobility aids (such as wheel chairs, bath aids or even equipment repair) for people in financial need. We would greatly appreciate it if our families would save pop can tabs and send them in to the school. If you would consider sending in a glass or clear plastic jar, the students will decorate them at school and then bring them home for collection. When the jar is full, simply send it in and the student will add it to our large collection container. At the end of the year we will donate the tabs to the March of Dimes. This is an easy way for our students to get involved in working together towards a common goal. Who knows, we may even collect enough pop tabs this year to cover the cost of a wheelchair! If you have family members or neighbours who are willing to participate, please send in as many collection jars as you would like and the children will decorate them and return them home.

Jump Rope for Heart - Heart and Stroke Foundation

We will once again be participating in the Jump Rope for Heart campaign that is run by the Heart and Stroke Foundation. We participate in The Jump Rope for Heart campaign biannually in order to promote exercise through a variety of activities and to help the children understand the need for us all to have a healthy heart. We have not confirmed the date as of yet but the event will take place sometime in late April or early May. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Adopting a Family

Once again, we will be adopting a family in need this coming Holiday Season. Further information will be distributed closer to the season.

Thank you!

Every year, our student population has grown. Every year, Queensville Montessori Academy has expanded it's curriculum and opened new vistas. Our thanks to the people who make this possible - our encouraging and nurturing staff, our Queensville Montessori Academy children and their loving, supportive, families!