



MONTESSORI

Charter Public School

Date: September 13, 2006
To: Parents/Guardians
From: Melanie Wilson, Manager of Teaching & Learning
RE: Wednesday Notes

September 14 Board of Trustees Meeting – 6:30 pm
September 21 Health Advisory Committee – 6:30 pm
September 18-21 Terra Nova Tests grades 3-5
September 25 CP Meeting – 6:30 pm
September 28 ½ day Noon Dismissal– Parent Conferences BAS
September 29 NO SCHOOL STUDENTS – Parent Conferences BAS
October 4 Curriculum Night
October 5 School Pictures
October 9 No School

NS - No School BAS - Before/After School (registered students only)

Correction: Before School Drop-off

There was an error in the notice in the August 30, 2006 Wednesday Notes. **The student drop-off time starts at 8:25am not 8:20am.** Please keep your children in your cars until the teachers are ready to bring them in. We are always concerned with the safety of our students. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your understanding.

Some Thoughts about Classroom Observation from Melanie Wilson, Manager of Teaching & Learning

Observation is an important part of Montessori philosophy. Maria Montessori was first a scientist, before becoming an educator. As a scientist, she observed and recorded the world around her in great detail. She advocated that the way to know and understand children the best was to observe their movements, their speech, their choices, their social interactions, and anything that caused them to pause and wonder. Through observation, we are able to learn about children in ways that are quite different from having them in lessons or having conversations with them. We look for: concentration, coordination, independence, self-motivation, order, self-direction, adaptability, respect for others, and love of work. When you observe, you will see students working independently while others are involved in a lesson with the teacher.

Beginning in October, we welcome you to observe in your child's classroom. You may also want to observe in the classroom that is at the next level to be aware of what's ahead. When you come for your observation, we will provide you with "Observation Guidelines and Points" to ensure that you get the most out of the experience. Please call the office, anytime to set up an observation at HVM.