

# HEARTWOOD MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Quality Montessori education in the heart of Cary for ages 18 months to 18 years

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Oct 31: Halloween Parade

Our annual parade begins at 9:15 AM; come early to snag a good spot!

### Nov 1: Candy Buy-Back Day

Leave your leftover candy in the lobby and we'll take it to Stanley Dentistry's buy-back drive, with all proceeds benefiting the school, or take advantage of the program yourself and trade your sugar for some dough.

### Nov 9: HALF DAY & AM Bake Sale

Support the MS/HS and get a treat on this half-day. CH releases at 11:30 AM; Elementary and Upper schools release at 11:45 AM. All students picked up by noon.

### Nov 20: HW's Annual Feast

Students only, but check the kitchen door for volunteer opportunities!

### Nov 21-23: NO SCHOOL

Happy Thanksgiving!



### Dec 11: Teacher Luncheon

### Dec 19: HALF DAY: Yule Log

Join us to celebrate the season with class performances, sing-alongs, and of course, the annual Yule Log ceremony. Noon dismissal for all students.

### Dec 20 - Jan 2: NO SCHOOL

Enjoy your Winter Break!

## Leftover Candy? "Buy-Back Day" Supports Troops & Schools

*By Hollis Vaughen, LE1/UE/MS parent*

If you, like me, are already fretting about the overabundance of candy you'll have in your house in the coming days due to various Halloween festivities, take note!

A local dentist is having a candy buy-back party on **Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>** to collect candy for deployed soldiers. They will not only pay \$1/pound of candy brought in, they will also donate 50¢/pound to our school!

If you can't make it to the event, I plan to go around 4:30. If you want to leave candy in the front office, Ginny has generously offered the use of her under-desk space as temporary

storage. I will take it with me, have it weighed separately from my kids' offerings, and donate all proceeds to Heartwood. Couldn't be simpler!

Check my [Facebook event](#) for all the details, or visit the [webpage](#).



## Welcome, Mr. Pierce!

The Children's House is pleased to welcome Pierce Clawson to the team as a floating assistant for the three classes.

Pierce is a Montessori kid himself, having attended the Montessori School of Raleigh from the toddler house through 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He credits his MSR experience with giving him "the encouragement, the character, and the spontaneity" to succeed in traditional school.



This early exposure shaped his life in other ways too, leading him back to MSR in high school as a summer camp counselor for the 3-6 age group, and

then on to a position as after-school assistant for 3-6 during college.

"[It] allowed me to really touch deep on the meaning of Montessori," Pierce said of that job. "I understood the method of Montessori's philosophy after working as a teacher. I began my [certification] training to learn more about Montessori's practice ... to bring Montessori education to the world."

Visit our [Faculty & Staff](#) webpage to learn more about Pierce, and feel free to stop and introduce yourself if you see him around school.

## WE'RE THANKFUL...

*for my dog.*

*for books.*

*for all the teachers.*

*for warmth.*

*for God & my mom.*

*for video games.*

*for having food to eat every day.*

*for my life.*

*for having connected with my 6-year-old daughter.*

*that I'm good at sports.*

*for 'funyness.'*

*for my fireplace.*

*for science.*

*for being a good artist.*

*for people who have risked their lives for us.*

Source: 2017-18 Gratitude Board

## Greenery Sale Benefits LE Class

LE1's annual greenery sale returns with quality wreaths, garlands, and swags from Smokey Holler.

Proceeds will benefit projects in Ms.

Bridget and Ms. Rebecca's class.

Keep an eye out for the order form in your child's bag or folder!



## Thank You for Your Support!

Many thanks to all who have brought in their Box Tops so far, and special thanks to Sarah Ribault (Toddler House) and the Vaughn family (LE1/UE/MS) for their time spent sorting and packaging the donations for submission.

Our total for the November 1 deadline was \$126. At 10¢ apiece, that's a lot of tops! The next batch will be submitted on or before March 1, 2019, depending on how many tops we receive.

If you didn't make it all the way to the back page of the September newsletter,

you might have missed the reminder to re-link your Harris Teeter VIC card. Thank you in advance!



## Children's House Offers Heartwood Families a Morning Out

The Children's House teachers are hosting a Parents' Morning Out on **Saturday, December 1st** from **8:30-11:30am**.

The proceeds from this event will be used for enrichment activities for the Children's House students. If you have holiday errands to run, shopping to do, or any other plans requiring childcare, please consider taking advantage of this fun morning for your kids!

50 spots remain for Children's House students and their siblings (ages 3+). The cost to attend is \$20 for one child, \$30 for two children and \$50 for three children.

Please RSVP as soon as possible to hold your spot and make all final plans by 11/27 so that they can properly plan this exciting event!

### OFFICE NOTES

These cold mornings and warm afternoons generate a lot of costume changes. Label, please!

**Missing something?** Check the Lost and Found bins in the lobby cubbies (next to the front door).

## How Heartwood Gives Thanks

The annual Feast has been a Heartwood tradition almost since the beginning. As the school moved locations before settling on Byrum Street, the celebration remained a welcome constant amid the change.

Over the years, we've added grade levels and enrollment, but the spirit of gratitude remains the same.

You can find more about our Feast tradition on our [blog](#), or share our favorite moments with a glance through the lobby's yearbook archive.

This year's Feast will take place on Tuesday, November 20. Due to space

constraints, it's a "student only" event, but volunteers will be needed to set up, serve, and clean up.



Mrs. Williams checks the mac & cheese

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the kitchen door, or you can email the office staff to add your name.



The food line when it rains



In the early days, before we moved to Byrum Street



Many hands make a great feast!

Our sincere thanks to all who serve, clean, move tables, and assist in the classes. We're grateful for YOU!

## Heartwood Gear: New Styles and Old Favorites

Spiritwear returns to Heartwood this month with the soft-style shirts and comfy hoodies we already love, plus new offerings like embroidered baseball caps, fleece-lined beanies, reusable grocery totes, and vinyl decals suitable for display on everything from water bottles to cars.

In lieu of the "gradient tree" design seen in the



past few sales, expect classics like the "Peace Ambassador" logo for youth sizes and simplified text-only designs

for adults. ("Peace Ambassador" is available on adult sizes by special request; email Ginny once ordering begins.)

Keep an eye on your inbox for more information. Items will be delivered before we leave for Winter Break.

## HW Lobby Library

Didn't make it to the Positive Discipline workshops?

*Feeling in need of some self-care during the holidays?*

Check out our many parenting resources in the lobby, including *Nurturing Nellie's Interactive Journal for Women*

which the author generously donated to Heartwood, or contact Jean directly: (908) 432-2794

## LEARN MORE

[2018-2019 School Calendar](#)

Also available as a PDF on our website

[Our Montessori Philosophy](#)

Or why we do what we do!

## FIND US ONLINE

[HeartwoodMontessori.com](http://HeartwoodMontessori.com)

Our official school website

[Heartwood on Facebook](#)

Our official page on Facebook

[HW Families on Facebook](#)

The unofficial community group for Heartwood families



## QUESTIONS?

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## CREDITS

[Christina Rose Studios](#)

Selected photos throughout this issue, plus the portrait of Pierce Clawson.

# Will You Share Your Story?

By L. Marchitelli, High School student

**“Art is the weapon.”**

~ Gerard Way

Recently I’ve been thinking about each individual’s importance to humanity, and how each of us have small, defining differences.

These crucial, creative differences cannot be represented as a number. A lot of humans try to categorize, and monetarily gain from others’ differences. I find other people’s differences exceptional and beautiful.

You should not try to repress or reprimand yourself or your creativity for a number or anything else. Be unapologetically you.

***I would like to create an art piece that incorporates our individuality into a collage, representing each of us as a small piece of something bigger.***

This project is to bring light to what others think about and appreciate that society may deem as “unimportant,” whether that thought be a quote or a leaf that inspired you personally to think about anything.

***I encourage you all to give me an object that inspired you to think, whether that be of beauty or pain or anything in between.***

You do not have to write about why that particular thing inspired you to give it to me, but I would like to read your reasoning about and thoughts behind your object.

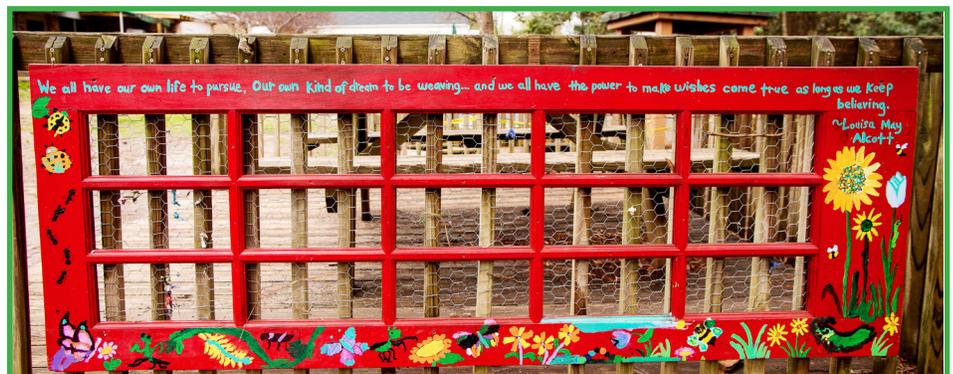
This project is completely optional and up to you whether you participate, but your voice and your object will be valued and appreciated.

***If everyone ignores this, it won’t happen.***

I feel like this project as a whole can represent life, a blank canvas that you choose to fill with things; whether you make your life meaningful and great is up to you. Whether you choose to participate and make this blank canvas meaningful and great, it’s up to you.

I really hope every individual will read this and take something out of it, whether they choose to participate or not.

***Your voice matters always; it just depends if you make it heard or not.***



[Ed. Note: Submissions will be collected in the lobby until further notice. Thank you for supporting LI!]