

HEARTWOOD MONTESSORI SCHOOL

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 5: Curriculum Night: TH

Learn more about HW's toddler program. [RSVP](#) for childcare (ages 3+)

Feb 7: Curriculum Night: MS/HS

Learn more about HW's Middle and High School. [RSVP](#) for childcare (3+)

Feb 8: MS/HS Bake Sale

Treats and coffee, all \$1.00!

Feb 12: Teacher Luncheon

Thank you to the UE Class for hosting!

Feb 12: Curriculum Night: CH

Learn more about HW's preschool program. [RSVP](#) for childcare (ages 3+)

Feb 18: NO SCHOOL

Presidents Day / Teacher Workday

Feb 22: MS/HS Bake Sale

Treats and coffee, all \$1.00!



Feb 25: RE-ENROLLMENT FORMS DUE TO OFFICE

Current families should submit their [re-enrollment form](#) by this date in order to guarantee a spot for the 2019-20 school year.

Forms are available online or in the lobby and may be returned via email or to the yellow folder on Ginny's desk.

Open Houses Spread the Love

Our Kindergarten, Lower Elementary, and Upper Elementary Curriculum nights are in the books. See the schedule at left to sign up for our Toddler, Children's House, and Middle & High programs.

Thank you to our fabulous teachers, whose passion shines in their presentations, and thanks as well to all who attend, ask questions, bring friends, or otherwise help us spread the Montessori love.

Want to learn more? Stay tuned for a discussion of the "Cosmic Curriculum" in our March newsletter, and watch this space for more Parent Education opportunities in the coming months.



We invite all our families, as well as any other interested community members, to join us for **Open House Curriculum Nights** this month with our **Toddlers, Children's House, Middle and High School classes**.

Visit [our website](#) for the full schedule and childcare information.

Clean Out Those Boxtops!

The next deadline for Boxtop submission is coming up! If you'd like to contribute, please drop off your tops in the lobby by **Friday, Feb 22**.

Non-expired tops can be counted in bags of 50 or just dropped in the big glass jar on the bookshelf.

Many thanks to all who contribute as well as our amazing volunteers who count and sort the submissions!!!



Re-Enrollment Due This Month

Thank you so much to all who have re-enrolled for the 2019-20 school year! We're so excited to share another year of education with your families.

If you already know your plans for next year but haven't gotten around to submitting the form, please take a minute to let us know! This is also the time to add any sibling applications.

Forms are available in the lobby and [online](#); you can return them via email or hand them off to us in carpool. You can also find [tuition](#) information and the [2019-20 calendar](#) on our website.

Enrollment opens to the public on February 26. Thank you for being part of the Heartwood family!

OFFICE NOTES

Summer Camp 2019

We still have limited space available for [Heartwood Summer Camp](#)! Camp runs weekly from June 3 until July 26 (except the week of July 4), from 8am - 5pm, with partial days available as well. It is open to current and rising Heartwood families, ages 3-6 years old, and is led by our own beloved teachers and staff.

Check our website for dates and more information, or to [register](#).



Thank You!

Many thanks to all who have lent their support to our dear friend and colleague, Ranny Mast, in her fight against recurrent ovarian cancer. Your support means the world to Ranny and her family.

Ranny's [gofundme](#) campaign is still active as she pursues treatment for her condition. If you feel moved to contribute, please give it a look, and thank you -- from all of us.



Montessori: International Teaching

By Ray McClure, MS/HS Director

If you were to walk into a traditional classroom in different countries throughout the world, you would certainly see many differences. A traditional classroom in the United States looks very different from one in China or Poland, because culture, national standards and measurements of educational success guide what is being done in these classrooms. This means that children around the globe are educated in very different ways.

Common Ground for Growth

Dr. Maria Montessori developed the Montessori method as she observed the way children naturally learn and develop. From her observations, she founded the Casa dei Bambini in San Lorenzo, Rome, Italy. She traveled the world as a distinguished lecturer to share her observations and to train educators.

Educators quickly realized that since the Montessori Method was based on the natural development patterns of children -- patterns which are consistent no matter where the child lives -- it could be applied in any country and any culture.

My Polish Experience

I have the honor of traveling to another country frequently to educate educators in this method developed by Dr. Montessori -- the beautiful country of Poland. In my travels, I have had the opportunity to observe in both traditional Polish schools as well as Montessori schools throughout the country.

As expected, the traditional Polish schools are quite different from schools here in the United States. The Montessori schools, however, are almost exactly the same as those here in the United States

or any other location in the world. This is because the Montessori Method, including the materials and the classroom arrangement, does not vary because of culture or location.

A Universal Language

Not only are the materials and principles the same, students at Montessori schools are taught the importance of being a global citizen and understanding of cultures that are different from their own. In today's economy and society, this is a huge benefit to students who are educated using the Montessori Method.

The beauty of this methodology has been evident in my travels. I have had the pleasure to walk into many classrooms in many different cities in Poland and can do so comfortably. I may not be able to speak or understand the language of Poland, but I do understand the language of Dr. Montessori.

Building Global Community

No matter the country, the culture, the language, we as Montessori educators speak the same language. I can sit down in any Montessori classroom with any child, in any country, from any culture and comfortable and confidently give lessons with no worries about language or cultural barriers. How beautiful, how perfect this educational method.

Dr. Montessori developed an educational method that has withstood the test of time and culture. It has survived countless global crises and has thrived. Why? Because the Montessori Method is rooted in our biology. What an amazing educational and developmental discovery!

Ray's wife Missy introduced him to the Montessori Philosophy eighteen years ago; he observed her classroom one day and was immediately hooked. Ray began his journey as an assistant in the Children's House, then taught at the 6-9 and 9-12 levels before founding Heartwood's Middle School in 2006 and High School in 2015. Since 2010, he's also served as an instructor with the Center for Guided Montessori Studies and the Center for Montessori Teacher Education of North Carolina, sharing his love of the Montessori Method.

Ray says, "I was lucky enough to study mathematical physics through the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and love to share my passion of math and physics with everyone. I've been married to my wonderful wife for 20 years now and we have a 19-year-old son. In my spare time, when I can find some, I enjoy reading (particularly history and science), and spending time with my family."



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

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 photography, Missy's portrait

Spiritwear Update & Thanks

Thank you to all who contributed to a successful spiritwear drive! All orders should have been delivered by now. If you ordered something and haven't received it, please email Ginny ASAP.

Missed out on the drive? Some items are still available in the lobby.

Currently in Stock:

- **Zip hoodies in Toddler & Youth sizes (4T; XS-M)**
- **Assorted singles (bags, pullovers)**
- **Magnets & decals**
- **Colored short-sleeve shirts in sz. 4, Youth S-M-L, and Ladies 2XL**
- **White shirts (perfect for tie-dye!), short and long sleeve in Toddler, Adult, and Ladies sizes**
- **Colored adult long-sleeve shirts in size 2XL**

One grey mitten,
 One small shoe,
 One forgotten jacket...

Do they belong to you?

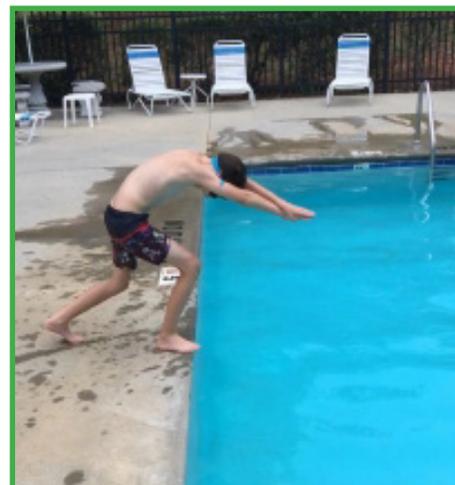
It's an NC winter tradition -- bundle up in the morning, shed in the afternoon. We have a number of "singles" and unnamed belongings that show up on the playground. Some are claimed by their owners, but more simply disappear into Lost & Found drawers.

If your child is missing something, please feel free to stop by and look.

As a sidenote: mittens are notoriously hard to label, aren't they? Parents say they've had good luck with Sharpies on the tag and name labels on the wristband or inner cuff.



Summer Reading Intensives



Heartwood reading specialist Tamara Hoxie will once again offer her popular "Plunge into Reading" summer camps in her home for intensive and fun reading instruction.

Camps last one week and include swimming lessons. Each is designed for a specific reading level and are kept small to facilitate maximum opportunity to practice.

See the [brochure](#) for more information. To learn more about each camp and how your child may benefit, email Tamara at tthoxie@hotmail.com.