

ATHENA MONTESSORI ACADEMY

*July/ August
2010*



Sweet summer smiles: Gwen and Lily enjoying the sunshine

“Growth is not merely a harmonious increase in size, but a transformation.” -Maria Montessori

What a summer! African adventures, new songs, dance, acting, yoga, gymnastics, and two much-anticipated field trips: the exotic animal zoo and the Nature Center! We enjoyed lots of splash days - ones that we scheduled and ones that nature gave us. Best of all, we made some new friends and got to spend time with old friends, too. Here's to a

great summer and a wonderful new school year!

We bought the lot next door! Our students aren't the only ones growing here at Athena - our school is growing, too! You've probably seen some of the work on this land in progress. We are excited to give the children more room to run! Thank you for your patience as we work on building a new pathway and making the land next door a beautiful, useable space for our sweet children. We will also be paving the parking lot and making it accessible for friends with disabilities. We will keep you updated as to construction plans and changes that will affect you.

Back to School Night
Mark your calendars for our Back to School Parent Orientation on Wednesday August 18, from 5:00 to 7:00pm. There will be no childcare provided this evening.

upcoming free parent workshops:

"Ready, Set, Go"

Help your child have a successful start to the new school year
Saturday, August 14th, 2010
10am-12pm, Primary 2 Classroom

"Loving Limits"

How to say "no" with love and respect, and why it's important
Saturday, October 16th, 2010
10am-12pm, Primary 2 Classroom

"Parenting Together"

Building strong parenting partnerships
Saturday, February 26th, 2011
10am-12pm, Primary 2 Classroom

Workshops presented by:
Bethany Prescott, M.A.
Parenting Coach, Workshop Trainer, School Consultant
(512) 775-5160
www.bethanyprescott.com

These free workshops are offered as part of our 2010-2011 Parent Workshop Series - a gift from Athena to our parent and waiting list community.

Important Dates

July 23

Gates of Life graduation ceremony 9:00 am in the gym

August 23

First day of school for returning students

August 25

First day of school for new students and Pre-Primary Graduates



Emma and Gabbie
blast off on the swings



Eliana and Elizabeth
in Creative Day

Parent Committee

If you're interested in participating on our parent committee for volunteer opportunities, teacher appreciation, community events, and fundraising efforts, please contact Lisl and/or subscribe to the parent committee Yahoo Group:

AthenaVolunteers-subscribe@yahoo.com

Summer Graduates

Ava Genden, Alexa Squire, Sunny Christianson, Nevita McCormick, Brynna Cormie, Callum Scott, Ben Abel, Evy Spruill, Levi Haller, Erin Spears, Libby Kubacki, Madison Horvath, Reed Schneider-Burkett, Dylan Lauro, Mae Stone, Ian Ramirez, Cole Scott, Sakura Willingham, Calvin Schloz, Henry Burress.

We enjoyed having you at Camp Athena 2010!

Athena T-Shirts

Each student receives one school T-shirt each year - if you didn't pick up a new one during summer camp, you can pick up yours anytime in the office.

Babysitting

Need child care during the break? Some of our staff are available and would love to watch your wonderful children.

Meaghan Sanders: 558-1333
Holly Earnest: 407-760-9046
Brenda Sheffield: 281-605-0867
Lindsey Helden: 618-977-6307
Liz Hudson: 512-785-4897

Nicaragua Update

During their trip to Nicaragua over the holiday break, Ms. Keyla and Ms. Laura visited the Ivan Leyvraz preschool serving children ages 3-5. We were moved by the story of the dedicated teachers at this school making a difference in the lives of their students while working with such limited resources.

This fall, we raised enough money for some much-needed toilets for the students, for new school furniture including child-sized tables and chairs, and for physical improvements to the school campus. Some of our own dedicated staff will travel to Nicaragua at the end of July to help carry out these improvements and build relationships with fellow educators. We will continue to update you on this story and are excited to share photos from the upcoming trip. Thank you for your support!



Amelie, Max, Bella and Eliana working on some masterpieces

Recommended Reading

Visit our library in the front office to check out this and other titles.

The Magic Years

by Selma Fraiberg

From amazon.com: "The Magic Years is almost 40 years old, yet this book still offers a wonderful way of looking at how kids think, and why they act the way they do based on their cognitive and emotional abilities. This book is used in many child development courses, but is a good read for anybody wanting to understand the young child's mind as he grows, acquires knowledge, and moves into more logical thought patterns."



Elijah, Ayden, and Anders hard at work in P1

Cabo Bob's

Cabo Bob's restaurant generously donated \$120 to our school from their June Fundraiser. Thank you, Cabo Bob's!

Thank you! Thank you to Jade Greene, Ilan Levin, Kiki Fountain and our other parent volunteers who donated African artifacts and volunteered their time talking with the children about their experiences!

Happy summer!

-Lisl and the Athena Team