

February 11, 2015

Dear Walden Green Families:

This particular issue of our newsletter encompasses some of the best aspects of what our school is all about. Throughout the topics below, you will note individual learning, a strong sense of community, service projects, the arts, academic growth and a value of respect and input. We have had a great first half of our school year and are so very happy that your family is here being a part of it.

Most Sincerely,

Mark Neidlinger
Principal
Walden Green Montessori

Market Day Will Be Extended:

Today is Market Day here at Walden Green. This is an annual tradition for our 4th grade students. The objective is to put together a business plan, take out a small loan if needed and learn the concepts behind building a small business model. Today's market featured hand made objects that included shell necklaces, colorful play-doh, sun catchers, tubular flying paper, acrylic hockey pucks and much, much more. All items range in price from 25 cents to \$4. We will be extending the sales for an extra 45 minutes tomorrow from 8:45 to 9:30am, so please feel free to send your child with some money or stop in yourself. Our students have put together a fantastic Market experience and we want them to be able to showcase their good work.

Old Boy's Fundraiser:

We had a terrific crowd for our Old Boy's Brewery afternoon. The entire back of the restaurant was filled with Walden Green families enjoying the afternoon together. Thank you all for coming out and supporting our school. A special thank you to Amy Hart for securing the date and the location and to Angela Butler for being our guest bartender for the afternoon. This was clearly a hit with Walden Green families. Please look for this sort of event to happen again in the future.

Girl Scout Service Project:

Our Girl Scout troop has decided to sponsor the Harbor Humane Society and could use your help with donations. Our troop #2336 will be collecting the following supplies until the end of February. You can place all items just outside of the main office. If you have a large quantity of items, you can contact Carlene Horness at 231.327.0853 to make arrangements.

Cat and dog food and treats, cat litter, toys, paper towels, hand sanitizer, dish and laundry soap, garbage bags (all sizes), two-pocket folders, air freshener, dryer sheets, batteries, peanut butter, dry erasers, old towels and blankets and any

cleaning supplies. Also gift cards to Meijer, Walmart and any pet shops (should probably give them to Patty).

Middle School Immersion Week:

One of the tenants of any good Montessori Middle School program is the education that happens outside of the classroom. Today our Middle School students went to Oak Crest Retirement Home to work with a group of senior citizens on a variety of craft projects. Our students received praise not only from the residents, but also from the employees. We are looking for a variety of immersion experiences – places that our students can go in the local area that will exhibit a sense of leadership and civic pride within our students. If you have any great ideas, please feel free to send them my way so that we can add them to the mix.

AIMS Montessori Conference:

Next week starts the Association of Illinois Montessori School conference. This is a really great conference that is open to teachers, administrators and parents. The conference started out only servicing Illinois schools, but in recent years has grown to service anyone who wishes to attend. I will be presenting at the conference next weekend on the topic of Montessori in the Public Sector. If any of you are interested in attending this conference, openings are still available at:

<http://www.illinoismontessorischools.com/register>.

Important Dates:

Friday, February 13 through Monday, February 16th – no school, mid-winter break

Friday, February 20 – Family Breakfast 8:15 – 9am

Saturday, February 21 – AIMS Montessori Conference

Saturday, March 14 – Barnes and Noble Fundraiser

Wednesday, March 18 – Half day for students