

November 22, 2013

Dear Walden Green Community:

I hope to see many of you tomorrow in Grand Haven for the exciting collaborative called "SHOP4schools". This is a terrific opportunity to get a jump-start on your holiday shopping and earn some dollars for our fine school. There will be at least 40 different merchants participating in this collaborative and they have made it really easy for you to contribute. All you need to do upon payment is let the clerk know that you would like your 15% donation to go to Walden Green Montessori. This is a fantastic opportunity for Walden Green and I hope that you will ask your friends and neighbors to also mention Walden Green tomorrow while they are out enjoying our community. The greater our participation the greater our return!

Please also lend your voice to our choir tomorrow. Several of our students and faculty will be joining Mark Roessing between 12:00 and 1:00 in front of Jumpin' Java for a sing-a-long. We could certainly use more voices in our choir as well as enjoy seeing your friendly faces, so please come. Once you have finished singing and after you have strolled our beautiful downtown area, please look for me between 2:00 and 3:00 where I will be handing out cocoa and cookies to all the happy shoppers. I will be located close by Hostetter's on Washington. This is a great start to the holiday season.

Mark

**A link to the participating merchants.**

<http://www.triciesshop4schools.com/participating-merchants.html>

**A link to the schedule of events taking place tomorrow.**

<http://www.triciesshop4schools.com/>



#### Walden Green makes the news:

In my last newsletter, I mentioned the exciting partnership we have with the Foundation this year. Collectively we are putting forth our efforts to build two different library areas for our students. The first floor will hold shelves full of literature for our young readers (K-3). Our lower level will hold a larger collection of material that will be of more interest to our older readers (4-8). The building of this collection will take some time, but I think it is essential that we get started. Next week, I will publish a list of books that I would like to acquire. Please read the article that was in yesterday's Grand Haven Tribune for further details.

<http://www.grandhaventribune.com/article/education/704486>

#### Giving Back to Others:

An important component of Montessori's philosophy is the focus that is puts on building, supporting and maintaining a sense of community. Walden Green does a fantastic job applying these practices. Below are a couple community-based projects that are currently happening here at school.

- Kid's Food Basket – Our 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students assisted the Muskegon Kids' Food Basket division today by packing healthy snacks for students in this region who are food deprived. Our students assisted by creating and

packing a healthy trail-mix that, this afternoon, will be distributed to students in the area who will benefit.



- The Annual Angel Tree – If you would like to participate in our long-standing tradition of assisting families in need over the holiday, we can assist you. All you need to do is visit our foyer and pull a tag off from the well-lit tree. Each tag lists suggested items for needy families in the area. When you return the gift, please return it unwrapped and place it under the tree so that the Salvation Army can pick it up and distribute the gifts to local children. The deadline is Tuesday, December 17, 2013.



Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, No school - Thanksgiving Break

Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM, Board Meeting

Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 AM, Band and Orchestra concert across the street

Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM, Walden Green's Holiday performances

Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup>, No school - winter break

Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> – All return for the New Year



