

PTO Newsletter

January 2010

Coming
up

**Roundtable Discussion:
"Montessori, transitions,
and what comes next..."
February 11, 2010
6:15 p.m.**

At our February PTO meeting, we will follow up on November's popular Q&A session on choices and issues in moving from Montessori to what comes next. Pizza and babysitting provided.

Happy Birthday, MSA!

This year marks MSA's 40th birthday! And to celebrate, PTO plans to combine our Annual Fun Fair (Saturday, May 15) with a birthday celebration for the whole community. We



still need a volunteer coordinator – if you have ideas, we'll find you some help. To volunteer, please contact Julie Fischer at (entropy_wins@yahoo.com).

What's New

In-House Field Trips

Each year, PTO supports a series of in-house field trips – visits that bring educational opportunities to the MSA primary and elementary classrooms. For the primary students, these are the main "outside" activity for the school year. The next few months are packed with in-house field trip visits, thanks to the work of organizer Lisa Landis.

January: The Wildlife Center of Virginia will offer two presentations. Primary classes will learn about "Home, Sweet Habitat," or how different animals satisfy their needs for food, water, shelter, and space. Elementary students learn about food chains and how to help people and animals live in a healthy, litter-free world in "You Are What You Eat."

February: The Fairfax County Fire Department will give a presentation on fire safety tailored to kids, including a chance to see firefighters demonstrating their gear and truck.

March: Fairfax County Recycling offers two presentations to help students understand litter prevention, recycling, and composting. The primary classes will learn through the story of the "Wartville Wizard," while elementary students learn about local waste management programs in "The Rotten Truth About Garbage."

April: InterAct Story Theatre offers "Sense and Nonsense," delightful stories that turn things upside down, to the primary classes, while the elementary classes will enjoy stories of "Tricksters and Fools."

May: Fish the Magish brings a morning of magic and hilarity to MSA with two performances – and "backstage passes" for the older kids – in a show called "Building Dreams...The ABCs of Character."

Date TBD: Virginia Cooperative Education discusses healthy food choices through "The Ultimate Milk Challenge" for kindergarteners, and challenges elementary students to become "Food Label Detectives."

Calendar

Month	Date	Day	Event	Time	Lead Class
February	2	T	In-House Field Trip: Fairfax County		
	11	Th	Fire Department	6:15 PM	
	26	F	PTO Meeting	8:30 AM	
			Father's Breakfast		