



## Columbus Montessori Education Center Friday Notes August 19, 2011

### In This Issue

[Mission Statement](#)

[Upcoming Dates](#)

[Back to School](#)

[Background Checks](#)

[Electronic School Calendar](#)

[Parent Association News](#)

[Important Reminder](#)

[Compassionate  
Communications](#)

### Columbus Montessori Staff Prepare for Back to School



Duan Cannon prepares her Toddler Preschool environment

This week has been busy at Columbus Montessori as teachers prepare their classrooms and administrators organize their workspaces and common areas.

We are excited to welcome you all back next week!

### Our Mission

Columbus Montessori Education Center's mission is to nurture and develop the whole child through magnified learning and quality care in a diverse community.



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### UPCOMING DATES

**August 22: Parents and Teachers "Meet & Greet",  
4pm - 6pm**

**August 23: First Day of**

### Caring Communities Birth - 3 Successfully Completes Year 2!

This week JKC 1 and 2 teachers celebrated completion of their second year participating in the Caring Communities: Birth to 3 initiative along with the other partner schools. Each school presented a project showcasing their work this year. CMEC teachers created a game, based on Monopoly, that can be used as a training tool for infant toddler teachers working in a multi age setting. The project was well received and has already been given to one of the event's attendees to use with their staff!

### Background Checks Now Required for All Parent Volunteers

To make our community as safe as possible and to comply with our day care licensing rules, a new policy is being implemented this year. All parents who want to volunteer in classrooms, drive or accompany students to Camp Willson or on fieldtrips are now required to submit to a background check. Parents may get a background check on their own and have it mailed to Columbus Montessori but as a convenience, Verifl.D. will be at the Meet and Greet on Monday from 4-6 to take fingerprints. If someone has lived in Ohio more than seven years then they only need the BCI, if not, then both BCI & FBI are required. Verifl.D. is offering us a special rate for our parents. They will accept cash, credit card or a check. The cost is \$39 for just BCI or \$60 for BCI & FBI. It only takes two minutes and it will be set up

### School for most children??

**August 23:** Toddler Preschool "Meet and Greet", 8:30am - 11:15am

**August 24:** First Day of School for 5 day Toddler Preschool/Wed-Fri Toddler Preschool

**August 29:** First Day of School for Mon-Tues Toddler Preschool?? /Children's House PreK AM & PreK Academic Day

**September 1:** New Parent Orientation

**September 5:** Labor Day, Center Closed

Join Our List

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in the new conference room by the Astor door. Thank you for helping keep our school environment as safe as possible! Questions? Please contact Lori at [lsachs@columbusmontessori.org](mailto:lsachs@columbusmontessori.org)

## 2011-2012 Academic Calendar for Parents



Elementary students participate in May talent show

In your packets, the 2011-2012 Parent Calendar was provided as a hard copy for the school year. The calendar is also available electronically and we have enclosed a link below for your convenience! This will keep you informed on the events and activities we currently have scheduled.

[2011-2012 Parent Calendar](#)

## Parent Association News



### **Now Recruiting Room Parents!**

Room Parents are an important part of the Columbus Montessori community! They serve as a liaison between parents in each classroom and the teachers. They also keep parents informed on the activities of the Parent Association.

If you are interested in learning more or would like to sign-up to be a room parent, please email [Joanna Helon](mailto:Joanna.Helon@columbusmontessori.org) or [Linsey Moffett](mailto:Linsey.Moffett@columbusmontessori.org), co-chairs of the Parent Association.

The Parent Association will assist room parents by providing timely information, templates for sign-up sheets and ideas of how to make being a room parent easy and fun!

## Important Reminder to Parents

Parents can make your child's first day back to school as smooth as possible by filling out the required paperwork ahead of time. You can either mail it or drop it off during the "Meet and Greet" on August 22. Please contact Rekha Kohli with any questions about your packet ([rkohli@columbusmontessori.org](mailto:rkohli@columbusmontessori.org))

\*\*Remember that your child cannot enter the classroom unless their paperwork is up to date.

## Compassionate Communications Offering Series of Events for Parents!

"Parenting from your Heart: Teaching and Raising Children with Compassionate Communication."

Columbus Montessori Education Center is pleased to announce a series of events for parents that will help them to create more meaningful connection with their children, and also to complement what children are learning at school. These events will also be promoted once school has begun.

The CMEC faculty has been in training with Compassionate Communication facilitators since March of 2011. We are hoping to involve as many parents as we develop a common language around Compassionate Communications.

We are offering twice-monthly free events in Compassionate Communication: The Language of the Heart, presented by a local nonprofit organization, Compassionate Communication of Central Ohio ([www.nvcoho.org](http://www.nvcoho.org)).

The events will help parents to learn the art and science of how to create family communication that incorporates everyone's needs, speak with honesty and empathy, and teach children how to express their needs and wants in a constructive way.

LOCATION: Columbus Montessori Education Center

DATES and TIMES:

Thursday, Sept. 8: 9 am - 11 am

Tuesday, Sept. 13: 6:30 pm - 8 pm

Monday, Oct. 10: 9 am - 11 am

Wednesday, Oct. 12: 6:30 pm - 8 pm

Thursday, Nov. 3: 9 am - 11 am

Tuesday, November 8: 6:30 pm - 8 pm

Monday, Dec. 5: 9 am - 11 am

Wednesday, Dec. 7: 6:30 pm - 8 pm

BENEFITS: Compassionate Communication training will help parents to:

1. Prevent, reduce and resolve conflicts with children peacefully.
2. Use respectful parenting skills that are neither punitive nor permissive.
3. Speak authentically in a way that inspires understanding and compassion in others.
4. Engage children in an exchange of mutual respect and consideration.
5. Form a heart-centered connection with children.
6. Inspire children to support other family members willingly and joyfully.
7. Support the development of children's self-esteem.
8. Remain centered when hearing hard-to-hear messages from others.
9. Reinforce the Montessori principles children area learning at school.

10. Practice self-care and create a balanced life amidst the challenges of parenting.

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