



**From the Head of School
Ms. Susan McGinty**

Welcome back to school! Hopefully, everyone enjoyed a peaceful and restful holiday break. It is so nice to have the children back in school. We find that the children are happy to be back and eager to work. There is much growth and development this second semester as the children are familiar with the routines, comfortable with their teachers, and excited to learn.

Wednesday, January 18, is an **Open House** for prospective families from 9:30 – 12:00. If you have friends or colleagues looking to make a change in their child's education, we hope you will consider sharing this information with them so they can come take a look at our wonderful school. This is also an opportunity for you to visit the next class level for your child.

"Donuts and Demos for Dads" is scheduled **January 26 and 27**. It is an opportunity



for the children to host their Dads (or other significant adult) in their classrooms while demonstrating work, and serving donuts and juice. Dads, we hope that you are able to take time from your busy schedules to attend this special event. You can plan to spend about 30 minutes with your child that morning. Check you child's calendar on the website or classroom board for more details and times.

We hope that you will join us on Tuesday evening, **January 31, at 6:30 p.m.** for the PTO meeting where the teachers will take you on a **"Montessori Journey,"** showing the progression of the Montessori method, starting with the Pre-primary and moving through the Upper Elementary level. This presentation will enhance your understanding of the Montessori philosophy and of what your students do each day. Child care is provided by the PTO and you should plan on the event concluding around 8:15 p.m.

Protected enrollment for current students for the **2012-2013** school year is February 1 through February 20. Open enrollment starts February 21 with applications being accepted from those interested in joining our school community. Stay tuned for further details.

In observance of **Martin Luther King Day**, there will be no school on **Monday, January 16**.

On **Friday, February 3**, students will enjoy a **holiday from school** while the staff attends a lecture in the morning by Barbara Colorosa, internationally recognized speaker and consultant, who will present **"Understanding Parents and Working Effectively with Them."**



In the afternoon, the entire staff will take the opportunity to renew our First Aid Certifications.

TIP: As parents and educators, we have to wear many different hats. Sometimes we have to be a bit of a detective, asking questions of our children in order to find out what is going on in their lives. It doesn't stop there though, because, we also need to be translators of their answers. You might ask your child how recess was and in response hear, "No one played with me today," which actually means, "No one wanted to play what *I* wanted to play today." "I'm bored, there's nothing to do," may just mean the child needs some help in figuring out *what* to do. Listen closely, ask questions, and decipher the code that your child may be using. Stay on your toes though, because as sure as you think you have it figured out, they change their code!

Best regards,
Ms. Susan