Sue's News  
April 2014
It was a long, cold and snowy winter. A winter that just kept on giving and giving! I want to thank the teachers, staff and parents for being very creative and very patient as we slowly made it through those long, cold, dark months. I want to share with you all some of the wonderful things that happened over the past months that kept us laughing. The quiet (and sometimes not so quiet!) work that happens inside the classrooms here is amazing. The amount of knowledge that is shared and learned, the subjects that are explored, the questions that are debated, the opportunities that arise each day are all a part of a Montessori Classroom. The teachers guide, share, enlighten, encourage and inspire all of our children each day - fall, winter, spring, warm, cold, rain or snow. This is what they do, and yes, they do it so well!! You have had some opportunities during this school year to spend time in the classrooms and as we close out this school year, you will have many more events to join that will showcase all of your children's hard work and successes.

Aside from the incredible lessons and classroom work, here are a few things that we all did (children, staff, parents, friends) to help get through this long winter...

We celebrated New Year's(s) and birthdays. We read together, we skated together, we laughed together, we cooked together and we ate (oh yes, we ate a lot!) together. We even made dumplings on Chinese New Year and apple pie on National Pi Day! We played board games and made fairy and woodland creature houses. We sang together. We got creative with art projects during school and after school. We winter gardened outside and we began planting our seeds inside. And yes, Oak Grove is always up for a fair, so we Winter Faired and we History Faired and we are always in the middle of planning a fair!

I am sending a huge thank you from me to all of you (parents and teachers) for keeping us smiling and laughing through the long winter months!

After April vacation, things will be busy and fun! And before we know it, we will be saying ta ta for the summer.
When we return from vacation we will be hit the road running. So, here are a few things to look forward to in the next few weeks...

- **Tuesday April 22nd** is Earth Day. We will be celebrating this day with some very fun all school activities - parade, scavenger hunt, and an all school lunch!

- **Saturday April 26th** from 1-3pm we will host an Open House for prospective new families. If you have any friends that have expressed interest in seeing our school or are thinking about next school year, please let them know that this will be our last Open House of the year.

- **Tuesday April 29th** at 6:00pm please join us for An Evening of the Arts at Oak Grove. The Lower and the Upper Elementary Classrooms will be performing their spring chorus concerts, sharing poetry and stories, and showcasing their amazing artwork. This will be a fun night for kids of all ages! Please join Kimmie and Hannah and all of us in celebrating the incredible artistic accomplishments your children have had this year.

- **Thursday May 8th** we will say bon voyage to the graduating 6th graders, as we send them off on their three day field trip to Washington DC. We want a full report when you return!!

- **Thursday May 15th** 5:30pm - PA Meeting - Please join us for an evening with Una Berry. This event has been rescheduled more times than I have rescheduled my dentist appointment! But with no more snow days and confirmations from both ends, I think we can safely say that this evening is on for May 15th! Una is an amazing speaker and will share so much information about Montessori in and out of school. There will be time at the end for questions and answers. I encourage you all to come. We will provided day care if needed.

I would like to thank Cindy and Joe Henry and the few UCONN volunteers for joining me last Saturday here at school for many hours of raking, shoveling, sweeping, dusting, window washing and pizza eating! Thank you!!