Reflection on a Year

It’s hard to believe that the school year is quickly coming to a close. It always amazes me how June just sneaks up on me and we how busy this time of the year is. It is during these busy times of the year that I like to remind us all (myself included) to find the time to breathe, reflect, enjoy the longer days and most importantly, enjoy your children and family.

In my own quiet reflection I give thanks for being a part of our community. It is an honor to represent a group of parents, board members, teachers and staff who respect and understand the importance of Oak Grove and its mission. It has been a tremendous year! I am truly grateful to everyone who has given their time and resources. The generosity and good will in every gesture, every gift, and in every hour has added up to the success of this year. A true reflection that the whole is only as strong as all of its parts!

Please Join Us in Celebration

I love seeing the relationships at Oak Grove grow and develop over the years. The children make friends that they will have forever, and parents, we too, develop lasting and meaningful friendships, as we support each other and watch all of the students at Oak Grove grow. And boy do they grow fast! We blink and they are standing before us as graduates and either moving up to the next classroom or graduating from Oak Grove and moving on to middle school. I am so proud of our community and how we are supportive of each other.

I encourage everyone and every family to join us for all three of the graduation ceremonies. These three ceremonies represent so much to, not only the graduates and their families, but to our entire community. It is a special time to share in the culmination of hard work, commitment and dedication to a Montessori education. These ceremonies are a time for us to strengthen our commitment to Montessori education for all of our children. When the culture around us shouts for us to go faster, we push back because children require us to slow down. We learn to be patient, understanding and accepting. We treat our children with respect and we honor their differences. These three graduation ceremonies are a perfect reminder that Oak Grove is dedicated to educating young children, helping them construct themselves, guiding them toward their place in the world, and watching them as they transform themselves into the people they are meant to become. Their time here at Oak Grove has not been in preparation for a test, but in preparation for the future, whatever that future holds. I am so proud of all of our graduates in our three classrooms. Please join me to witness their commencement and to share in a celebration of Montessori education and to celebrate our school that is rich in tradition with unmatched commitment to community.
9-12 Classroom Senior Trip

Each year the seniors raise money for their senior trip through pizza lunch. We all get a wonderful pizza lunch every other Friday, and the seniors have a three day and two night field trip. They plan and design and implement their trip. This year Atticus and Molly planned their trip to Boston. Hannah, David, Atticus and Molly had a great adventure. Some of the highlights were: Lego Land, Behind the Scenes Tour of Fenway Park, The Blue Man Group Show, Boston Aquarium, Duck Boat Tour, and Freedom Trail. This past Friday was their last pizza lunch. They trained and handed over the pizza lunch reigns to Teagan, Gavin, James, Miles and Max - another sign that the school year is coming to a close.

Shakespeare’s "As You Like It"

Months of practice paid off! The 9-12 Class wowed us all with their interpretation of Shakespeare’s play As You Like It. It was clear that this group of actors really understood the play. The audience was blown away! An absolute wonderful production. Kudos to all the hard work from Hannah and David and the entire class of actors!

All School Grandparents/Special Persons Day

It was a special day for our students to be able to show off their classrooms and their work. It is incredible to see the support and interest so many adults have in our children’s activities. Thank you to all those special people that made the time!

A huge shout out and thank you to Derek for an amazing music concert. Each classroom performed separately and then the grand finale with all three classrooms coming together on stage for the final musical numbers!
**6-9 Classroom**

The third year students in the 6-9 classroom, Greta, Hattie, Zack, Serena and Hudson, have been studying Victorian Times and Victorian Willimantic. They have had a few recent trips out to further their knowledge and experiences. Each of these students has picked an area of interest to study such as: housing, clothing, animals, musical instruments, and machinery. They will be presenting their in depth knowledge on these subjects at the 6-9 Class Graduation Ceremony on June 14th at 6:00. We hope you can all come and see their wonderful work.

**The 1st and 2nd year students spend time on the nature trails and studying the vernal pond and its habitat.**

These pictures are from a recent trip to the Harriet Beecher Stowe House and the Mark Twain House Museums in Hartford.

**3-6 Classroom**

The 3-6 classroom is finishing the year strong! So much to do and the kids are focused and working hard. They had a successful and fun field trip to the Lutz Museum last week (a big thank you to the parents that helped with the driving)!

The 2nd and 3rd year students in the classroom are working so hard on getting their research projects prepared to be ready to present at their graduation ceremony. They have been enjoying a lot of outside time in the warm weather and working hard in the greenhouse and garden. There has been no slowing down for this group!!