

Bruno Blast

Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy

February 2019

Reflections from Ms. Rebecca

Dear JBMA Community!

Over the years, I have had many conversations with JBMA teachers about why we choose Montessori as our most meaningful level of contribution in the field of education. Overwhelmingly I hear teachers, who themselves are avid lifelong learners, say how much they truly believe that learning comes from experiences and interactions with each other and the world around us. Learning encompasses both academics and real-world traits such as compassion and self-motivation. We are here because at our core we truly believe that Maria Montessori developed her philosophy in support of a better world for future generations.

We appreciate the community that is built when we partner with parents, students and other educators for shared learning that will lead to the best versions of all of us, both individually and collectively as a community.

Please join us for the 2019-2020 school year as we continue to grow and learn together as a group of people who are thoughtfully engaged in education and parenting in order to make a difference in the lives of the children we know and care about so deeply.

2019-2020 Sneak Peek!

One of my favorite parts of working in education is looking ahead and planning for the next new school year! Exciting things are ahead for JBMA and I wanted to let you in on a few of the things that we are committed to doing in the **2019-2020** school year.

- 1. Positive Discipline: Parent Training Session-** As you know, teachers at JBMA have been working with **Positive Discipline** this school year and will complete a formal training this summer. We are pleased to announce that you too will have the opportunity to kick off the school year with a **Parent Training Session** with Chip DeLorenzo on **July 31, 2019** from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on our school campus. Mark your calendars now!
- 2. Garden, Garden Garden!** Ms. Kimberly teaches in the Upper Elementary/Aftercare Program and is working to develop a more direct garden curriculum and will focus her attention on the educational component of gardening as she explores and engages in garden adventures with our students!
- 3. National Geographic GeoBee!** I will have the opportunity to lead students interested in taking their Montessori geography studies to the next level by participating in the 2019-2020 National Geographic GeoBee! I am personally very excited about this one and look forward to working directly with our students as we build on our extensive Montessori geography studies.
- 4. Scripps National Spelling Bee-**Our students began their language development with the Montessori Moveable Alphabet and those interested next year will have the opportunity to showcase their Montessori vocabularies and spelling skills as I will have the pleasure of leading them in participation in a National Spelling Bee.
- 5. Noetic Math Tournament-** Ms. Catherine engaged our students this year in the Noetic Math Tournament and she will build on the knowledge gained this year to elevate participation for our young math scholars who are interested in next year's tournament.

Be on the lookout for a glimpse into some new and **exciting summer experiences for this summer** that we plan to reveal soon! Here's a hint: **JBMA-"Going off Campus!"**

Parents' Night

On the evening of January 24th roles were reversed and the parents became the students. The children proudly demonstrated for their parents what they do during their day at school. The students carefully rolled out their mats, picked a favorite job, explained to their parents what they were doing and then it was the parents turn to try their hands at completing the same job.



Over the Mountain Journal Holiday Art Contest

The 2018 Over the Mountain Journal Holiday Art Contest was a fun contest for all Birmingham area public and private school students to enter. All the work entered this year was fantastic! This year representing JBMA was Liam Pope, Gaby Poczatek and Anna-Grace Tremblay-Cox. Congratulations artists!



Gaby Poczatek & Anna Grace Tremblay-Cox, & Friends



Liam Pope and J.J. McDowell

3 Upper Elementary at Space Camp

Space Camp is an exciting adventure. While at Space Camp students work as a team and confront mission scenarios that require problem solving and critical thinking.

Throughout their stay students learn astronaut training techniques using equipment adapted from NASA's astronaut program. Some of the experiences are:
Simulated Space Mission
Five Degrees of Freedom Chair
Multi-Axis Trainer



Acts of Kindness: A JBMA Makerspace Project

Our JBMA students at all levels embrace the service component that is so deeply embedded in Montessori Philosophy. In keeping with that practice, this week we are adding a new Makerspace job titled *Project Linus* that will be an ongoing "Acts of Kindness" job!

Project Linus is an organization that provides love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers."

Students will have the opportunity to collaborate at all levels or work individually making No-sew Fleece Blankets to donate to *Project Linus*. We think this is a wonderful and fun way for our students to give back to the community. We anticipate this being the first of several Acts of Kindness Makerspace jobs!

Joseph S. Bruno Montessori Academy

Mission Statement

The community of the Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy provides the opportunity for all students to grow to their fullest potential:

- Cognitively
- Socially
- Emotionally
- Spiritually
- Physically
- Aesthetically

Vision Statement

The vision of Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy is to provide children and families with an education according to the Montessori philosophy and curriculum. Our focus is not only to provide cognitive education for our students, but to also model a commitment to creating peace and care for the environment for years to come. In theory and practice, we will explore how the traditional Montessori curriculum can be combined with current best practices in education as well as technological advances in order to develop a successful group of 21st century learners. At JBMA we treat each child as an individual, building on their strengths and abilities to become life-long global learners.

The Joseph S. Bruno Montessori Academy's Core Values Statement:

Respect- We embrace with respect all students regardless of racial, cultural or religious background, gender or the physically or mentally challenged.

Peace- We create an atmosphere that will promote the development of peaceful individuals. All students will become committed to creating peace, and taking care of the environment in their homes, school, and communities.

Collaboration- We provide each child a foundation for a lifetime of learning by having multi-age classrooms and multi-level collaboration.

Independent Thinker- We foster students' development of positive self-esteem; so they will become independent thinkers and accept leadership roles in the world of tomorrow.

Joseph Bruno Montessori Academy

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We're on the Web!
www.jbma.education

Upcoming Events in March

- 1 Play, *Beauty and the Beast* 6:30 PM
- 8 Toddler & Preschool Parent/Teacher Conferences
No Toddler & Preschool Classes
- 12 PTO Meeting 6:00 – 7:00 PM
- 14 & 15 1st – 8th Parent/Teacher Conferences
1st – 8th Dismiss at 1:00
- 19 1st – 8th Spring Program 7:00 PM
- 22 Dismiss at 1:00 No Aftercare
- 25 –29 Spring Break