

ON THE HILL

Oak Hill Montessori School (OHMS)

6720 Oak Hill Blvd.
Tyler, Texas 75703

A note from our Head of School:

We have had a wonderful summer chasing bugs and learning how spiders build their beautiful webs. Our students have learned many interesting things about insects and spiders. **Did you know:**

- Night butterflies have ears on their wings so they can avoid bats.
- Honeybees have hair on their eyes.
- The average housefly lives for one month.
- A mosquito flaps its wings 500 times a second.
- Only male crickets can chirp.
- About 80% of the Earth's animals are insects.
- A snail can sleep for 3 years straight.
- The female black widow spider's poison is 15 times deadlier than a rattlesnake's poison.
- A butterfly has its taste receptors in its feet.
- There may be as many as 3,000 different kinds of insects, more than all other animal and plant species combined.

As you can tell, we are having an amazing adventure discovering many things about insects and spiders. With this knowledge, we are painting and creating our individual interpretation of insects and spiders. We invite you to take a tour of the **INSECT DIORAMA MUSEUM** in Rooms 401 and 402 on August 3rd. Museum hours are from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. and admission is free. The elementary students will tell about their creative insects, which are on display, from 12:30 until 1:00.

Guiding one heart, one mind, one child at a time.



Louise

IMPORTANT DATES

August 3: Insect Diorama Museum

Open: 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

Elementary Students will be in the Museum to discuss their Creative Insect from 12:30 until 1:00 p.m.

Admission:

Free to parents and friends

August 12: Last day of Summer Semester

August 15-19: Staff Development Training Week

August 16-19: New students transition into their new environments each morning. The guides will give each family a schedule for the week.

August 19: OPEN HOUSE 2-3:30 p.m.

August 22: The fall semester begins with all students attending.

Purpose: To provide a carefully planned, stimulating environment with an enriched Montessori curriculum which will help the child develop within him/herself a foundation of habits, attitudes, skills and ideas which are essential for a lifetime of creative thinking and learning. To enable a child to become a compassionate, responsible contributing member of society who is respectful of others and the environment.

Logo: Our logo is a single Oak tree which symbolizes strength. The Oak tree begins life as a single acorn and blossoms into a beautiful, solid tree with numerous branches bearing fruit. The acorn is symbolic for our students because, through Montessori education, they will blossom into beautiful well rounded adults that bear knowledge.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR 2015-2016 DONORS

Please look for our 2016-2017 sponsors
in the next newsletter.

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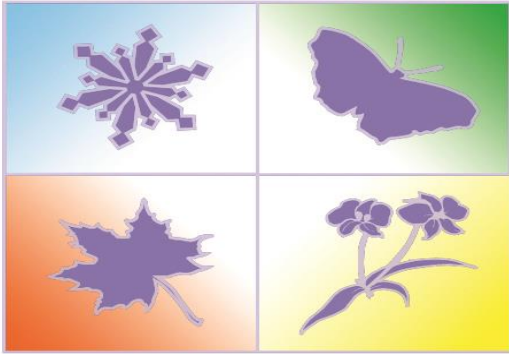
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OTHER IMPORTANT REMINDERS

CARPOOL: Please take advantage of our carpool system. Through the years we have found carpool to be the best for children. It is an easier transition for them to leave you than for you to get out of your car, walk your child in, etc. This prolongs the separation and makes it more difficult for your child. Utilizing the carpool service is less disruptive to the other students working in the environment as

well. Please pull up and let one of our staff members get your child out. Remaining in your vehicle allows the carpool line to run smoothly. Carpool ends at 8:15 and classes begin. Please have your child here by 8:15 so he/she does not miss lessons.

IF YOU ARRIVE AFTER CARPOOL YOU MUST COME IN AND SIGN YOUR CHILD IN. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO GET OUT AND WALK IN BY HIS/HERSELF. THIS IS A STATE GUIDELINE AND A BEST SAFETY PRACTICE.

SIGNING IN AND OUT: As you know, we are regulated by the Department of Family and Protective Services. Children are required to be signed in and out EACH day. If you participate in carpool your child will be signed in/out for you. If you bring your child in and/or come in to pick your child up it is extremely important that you sign him/her in and out. **Parents and students that arrive after carpool need to come in, sign your child in, take a Parent Pass and walk to the classroom.** Thank you again for helping us with compliance!

STUDENT RECORDS: All OHMS students must have all of their paperwork turned in to the office. This includes the contract, enrollment agreement, handbook return form, immunizations, physician's statement and hearing and vision, if applicable. Turning your paperwork in early allows us adequate time to get all of your information in the system and distributed to the staff. We want the beginning of the semester to go as smoothly as possible. Please let us know if you have any questions.

STUDENT TAKE HOME FOLDERS: Each OHMS student has a take home folder at the front of the building entrance. If your child is an extended day student please be sure and check your child's folder each day. If you participate in noon or 3:00pm carpool the teachers will assist your child in checking their folder and will bring the information out to your car. These folders contain important information and we do not want you to miss anything.

CHANGES OF CLOTHING: Please remember students in the Pre-Primary classes must have two changes of clothing and all other students must have one change of clothing in their bin. Also, please remember to LABEL all items and return OHMS labeled clothing.

UNIFORMS: The Oak Hill Uniform Shop is operated by the PTO. It is open every day and carries both New and Re-sale items. The PTO buys back gently used uniforms after your children have outgrown them. All profits from the Oak Hill Uniform Shop go to the organization to help fund the Enrichment Programs and Activities for the school.

REFERRAL PROGRAM: Don't forget our referral program. If you refer a student to OHMS you will receive a \$300 credit on your account. Please call the office for details

TRANSITION VISITS: Parents of current students and new students that are **moving to new classrooms** will be contacted to let you know the day and time when transition visits will begin.

TUITION EXPRESS: We know life is busy and we want to make things as easy as possible for you. Therefore, OHMS offers Tuition Express. This is an automatic bank draft program that drafts on the 1st of each month. You will no longer have to worry about sending a check for tuition, lunches, uniforms and you will be able to avoid late fees. You may choose to draft out of your savings account, checking account or you may leave a credit card to be charged each month.

PTO Information

Parent-Teacher Organization funds:

- ❖ FALL FEST
- ❖ BOOK FAIR (Including Grandparent's Luncheon)
- ❖ FIELD DAY
- ❖ PTO MEETINGS
- ❖ 2-3 TEACHER APPRECIATION EVENTS each year
- ❖ 2 Montessori TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS last year
- ❖ Donation to annual ELEMENTARY OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP
- ❖ KINDERGARTEN/ELEMENTARY INFORMATION LUNCHEON
- ❖ THE PE PROGRAM FOR PRIMARY AND ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

There will be more information in the next newsletter related to activities that will be sponsored by the PTO

What's happening at OHMS?



Room 302: Using color in the materials creates an interest in the lesson. With this lesson, the student is developing eye-hand coordination, fine motor control and concentration in preparation for academic learning.



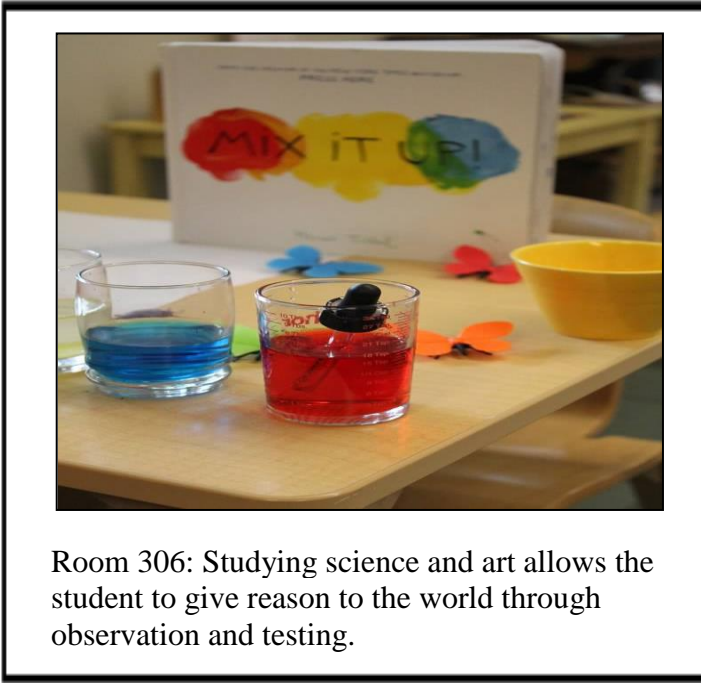
Room 305: Social graces are as important as academics in our Montessori community. Care and respect are two vital components in the social graces. This summer was filled with fun activities where we share interests including eating watermelon.



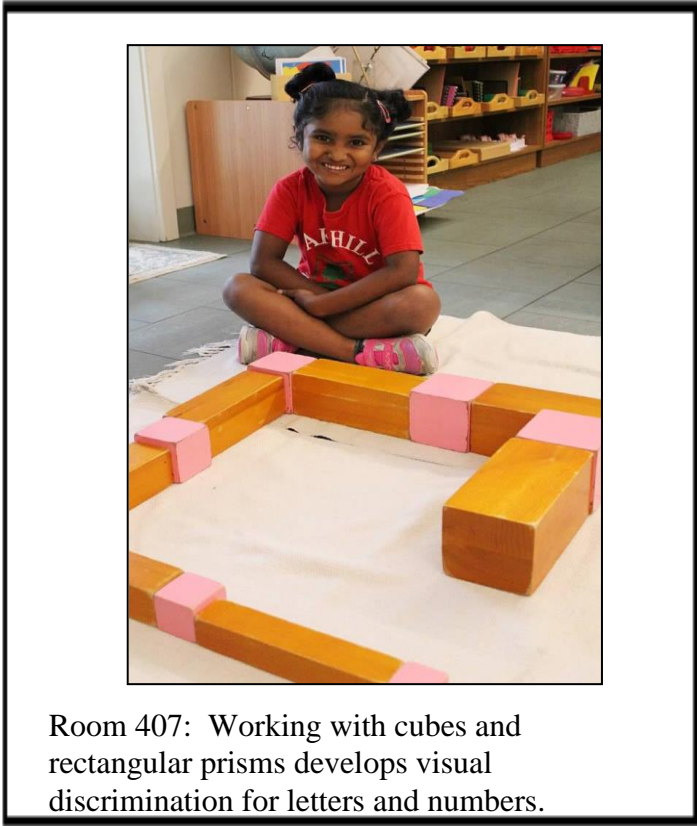
Room 408: Public speaking is an integral part of the Montessori curriculum with Show and Tell. Students bring educational materials and at circle time and tell their friends about the item.



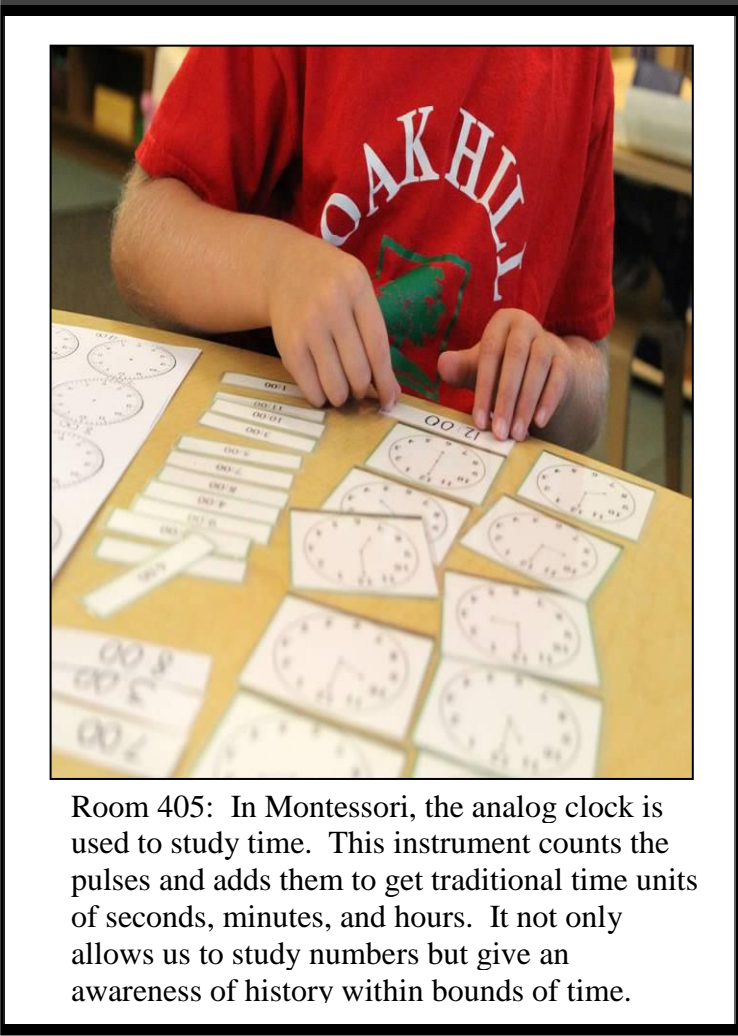
Room 306: When building concentration and eye-hand coordination through punching, this activity develops writing and retention of information.



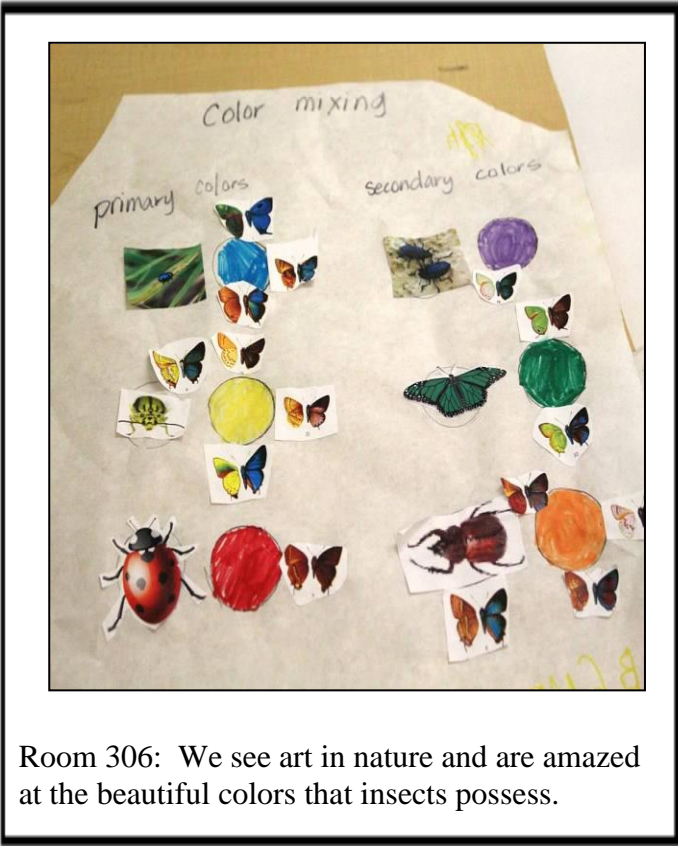
Room 306: Studying science and art allows the student to give reason to the world through observation and testing.



Room 407: Working with cubes and rectangular prisms develops visual discrimination for letters and numbers.



Room 405: In Montessori, the analog clock is used to study time. This instrument counts the pulses and adds them to get traditional time units of seconds, minutes, and hours. It not only allows us to study numbers but give an awareness of history within bounds of time.



Room 306: We see art in nature and are amazed at the beautiful colors that insects possess.