

*Inspiring a Healthy Spirit, a Strong Character, and a Clear Intellect*



# BLUEBIRD BULLETIN

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**Annual Fund Pledge Reminder:** If you've pledged but forgot to turn in your donation, please do so in the office by the end of the school year.

## Class of 2011

*"It is necessary, then, to give the child the possibility of developing according to the laws of his nature, so that he can become strong, and, having become strong, can do even more than we dared hope for him."*—Maria Montessori

You are cordially invited to join us in celebrating the moving on and moving up of our 2011 graduates. **Elementary graduates will be honored on Friday, June 10 at 1:00 PM in Margaretann's classroom.**

During the week, Primary classes will also hold special ceremonies to celebrate the moving up of their oldest students to Elementary. Some classes hold the ceremonies during end-of-year celebrations and some hold them separately. Check with your child's teacher for dates and times.



## That's a Wrap!

by MIR'S GRADUATING 6TH YEAR STUDENTS

*"I don't need to teach anything to children: it is they who, placed in a favorable environment, teach me."*—Maria Montessori

In a few days, our sixteen 6th grade graduates will be on campus for the last time as MIR students. These fine young men and women have shared a productive year together in class and a fun year together as friends. In their own words, they share what they take with them and what they leave behind as they journey beyond the MIR campus. Our graduates will be attending Grove Farm School, Arrowhead Christian Academy, and Loma Linda Academy in the fall.

**Harrison Abt** began at MIR in 2004 in Dorama and Kara's Primary class

I'll take with me some skills—I draw better, I write stories better, I've learned a lot of Math and Geometry. I'll miss some of my younger classmates. I'll be remembered for the stories I would tell—the ones I would make up as I went along.

**Marin Cummings** began at MIR in 2002 in Melissa's Primary class

What I'll take with me are memories of friends, fundraisers, and field trips. I've gotten a really good education and have enjoyed the way you learn at MIR and that it's a different system and you aren't stuck at a desk. I'm leaving behind many good friends. I think I will be remembered for my energy. It will be a quieter classroom next year without me!

**Chloe DeBanff** came to MIR in 2001 in Aedin's

Toddler class

What I will take away with me is my independence and my ability to resolve conflicts peacefully. I also have gained strong values, like if someone was being made fun of, I would never be just a bystander; I care enough to get involved. I'm leaving behind some great friends and teachers, but I'll also miss the cool materials and the overall idea of the school.

**Cody Hanson** began at MIR in 2004 in Sara's Primary class

What will help me later in life is knowing how to do things in a Montessori way. I've had the chance to interact with the materials. You don't just learn to do multiplication on paper, you learn it by using the checkerboard and getting a real experience with it first. I like that I haven't had to sit at a desk, and that I get

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to go at my own pace. I'm leaving behind friends, including my brother, and the chance to finish up what I haven't yet had a chance to learn. My favorite memory is of the Bear Cabin at Pali Mountain.

*Kyrellos Ibrahim began at MIR in 2000 in Liana's Toddler class*

I've been here since I was 17 months old! I have had so much freedom of choice. And, I've had the extra advantage that if I moved faster I could go farther. I'm leaving behind two contributions to the class: work diaries instead of work summaries, and the Friday letters. And, I'm leaving Margaretann behind. She's had three years of tolerating me! And, she did it well, and in a way that was to my advantage and hers.

*James Johnson spent one year at MIR in 2000 in Melissa's class and returned in 2009 as a 5th year in Emily and Teesie's class*

What I'm taking away with me is knowledge, and what I'm leaving behind are all of my friends in the lower grades. I'll be remembered for my jokes, and for being something of a giant.

*Anusha Keshavan came to MIR in*

*2001 in Aedin's Toddler class*

I'm taking with me all of the skills I've learned, not just academic but how to be responsible for my own use of time and how to solve conflicts. I'm leaving behind all of my friends! I think I'll be remembered for keeping things light and funny, and making sure no one feels left out.

*Savannah Mueller began at MIR in 2000 in Christine's Toddler class*

I've been here since I was a toddler. What I will take with me is that I've learned to be myself instead of just trying to fit in. I really enjoyed all of the art lessons. I'll miss my younger friends, the Montessori environment, and the field trips!

*Mackenzie Noon began at MIR in 2007 in Margaretann's Elementary class*

What I'll take with me are reading skills and friendship-making skills. Before I came to Montessori, I always thought I was right. Now I realize I'm not always right. It makes arguing harder, but it means I can learn things from others.

*Sydney Oliver began at MIR in 2002 in Melissa's Primary class*

What I'll take with me is my edu-

cation—we actually have materials to use instead of just sitting in front of a chalkboard all day. What I'm leaving behind are some of my friends. I've really liked all of my teachers. I think I'll be remembered as somebody who helped others and tried never to leave anybody out.

*Julien Ortega began at MIR in 2001 in Kara and Dorama's Primary class*

What I'm taking away with me is the education, obviously. I have especially enjoyed the math work, in particular the work with area and volume. What I'm leaving behind are special friends and teachers. They will always remember me for my hair!

*Michael Rhodes began at MIR in 2007 in Emily's Elementary class*

What I'm taking with me is that at MIR I learned to be independent and to take care of myself so that I don't have to rely on adults for everything. At MIR I've learned how to think about things, and the way they teach things has made it easy to understand. I'm leaving behind some really great teachers and being able to decide for myself what to choose as work.

*Maia Richards-Dinger began at MIR in 2006 in Margaretann and Den-*

*nis's Elementary class*

I've liked my experience at MIR because you get to do group tasks and you learn how to do teamwork. You get to choose and so you learn about responsibility and time management. What am I leaving behind me? My friends and my teacher—I will miss them a lot!

*Isabel Sun began this year at MIR in Margaretann and Nicole's Elementary class*

Being able to choose work has given me a sense of time and responsibility. Even though I've only been here a short time I will miss all my friends. I'm sad I didn't get to spend more time in Montessori.

*Abbey Umali began at MIR in 2007 in Kelly's Elementary class*

What I will take with me is the knowledge that with freedom comes responsibility. It has also helped me learn to prioritize and use my time well. I think I'm leaving behind at the school a greater awareness of people with disabilities, like with the Hop-a-Thon this week.

*Emmerson Wright began at MIR in 2001 in Christine's Toddler class*

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Back row: Maia Richards-Dinger, Sydney Oliver, Savannah Mueller, Kyrellos Ibrahim, Harrison Abt, Emmerson Wright. Front row: Isabel Sun, Abbey Umali, Cody Hanson, Mackenzie Noon

Left to right: Anusha Keshavan, James Johnson, Michael Rhodes, Julien Ortega, Marin Cummings. Not shown: Chloe DeBanff



## Report from the Board

by LEELA MADHAVARAU, PRESIDENT

It is unbelievable that another school year is nearly finished. It has been a busy year and the Board would like to take this chance to thank everyone for their participation in the MIR community—the children with their passion for learning, the staff and faculty for their dedication and devotion to teaching, the administration for holding everything together, and the parents for all that you do for the school and your children. Together we maintain the perfect learning environment for our children.

### Please Welcome Our New Board President

This is my last Board report as President of the MIR Board of Trustees. Former MIR parent Pamela Ford will take over as Board President and will begin writing these columns next school year. Please join me in welcoming her!

As you have probably read in previous Bulletins, the Board continues to seek members from both the MIR parent community and the local Inland Empire population. If you know someone who would like to volunteer some time to serve on our Board, please let us know.

Have an enjoyable and relaxing summer. The members of the Board look forward to greeting you at Back to School Night 2011!

Leela MadhavaRau

Outgoing President, Board of Trustees

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*(Continued from page 2)*

I went to public school for a few years. There you just did what the teacher told you to do. You couldn't even get up except to use the bathroom or sharpen your pencil. It was a lot more fun here to interact with the work. You understand a lot more than just facts. And you don't have to go as slow or as fast as everyone else. So I'll take that knowledge and understanding with me. I'm leaving behind some great friends and a great teacher. My favorite memories are of



### Curriculum Matters will return in September. Have a great summer!

PETER DAVIDSON,  
ASSISTANT HEAD OF SCHOOL



## A little bird told me... PTM News and Notes

### Thank you for a successful year!

A special thank you is being sent out to all parents who assisted in participating with PTM sponsored events! Our goal in enriching our children's experience at MIR this year could not have been done without the support from parents and teachers.

We also extend a thanks to all PTM room representatives for all of your dedication both in your classrooms and with PTM events: Kellie Bergendahl, Jen Burrows, Sara-Frances Clemens, Anuradha Diekmann, Kate Harris, Sylvia Hitchcock, Jenny Juncaj, Jennifer Keller, Mary Anne Klenske, Kathleen Liess, Penny Lundgren, Rika Minami, Abba Ramsaran, Annie Rumarly, Coby Smith, Mara Smith, Gabrielle Symmes, Serena Villalobos, and Amarah Yusuf. An enormous thanks goes also to Jill McDermott for her constant editing, answering questions, and reminders, which have been essential to PTM's success.

*Thank you to our current and outgoing PTM Board Officers:*

Shelley McCarthy, Vice President: Thank you for your thoughtfulness, organizing key events, and for always being willing and able. Thank you for your two years of service; you will be missed!

Malinda Greene, Secretary: Thank you for being timely with meeting minutes and with the *Bluebird Bulletin*, remembering teacher birthdays, and for always lending a hand. Thank you for your two years of service; you too will be missed!

Heather Florida, Treasurer: Thank you for being budget conscious, making purchases, and keeping the books in order. You are meticulous in every way and extremely helpful.

Jean Bonner-Drinkwine, Teacher Liaison: Thank you for all you do! You have been a great mentor and inspiration!

On a last note, I want to thank everyone for allowing me to be of service. I have enjoyed my first year as PTM President and I look forward to another great year. See you all next year and have a great summer!

### Don't Miss Bluebird Skate Night at CalSkate

Join us at CalSkate on Monday, June 6, 5-7 PM. Tickets are \$6 if you buy them in the MIR office or \$8 at the door. Family and

### PTM Announces New Officers

Thank you to everyone who voted in the recent PTM elections! We're happy to report that Elementary parent Kathleen Liess will be the new PTM Vice President and Elementary parent Vanessa Causley will take on the role of Secretary.

# BIRTHDAYS



## students

Veritus Miller	6/1
Emmet Asker	6/3
Paxton Brockart	6/3
Lincoln Brockart	6/3
Gavin Herford	6/5
Nicholas Ormsby	6/6
Korben Wroolie	6/8
Anagha Satish	6/9
Gareth Haire	6/11
Paul Zakarian	6/11
Abigail Cheng	6/12
Albert Leandro Alvarez	6/13
Kayla Asker	6/15
Vincenzo DeVito	6/15
Wesley Levesque	6/17
Campbell Burrows	6/18
Cody Hanson	6/18
Ramya Saravanan	6/18
Ava Mabudian	6/21
Violet Leslie	6/23
Toby Rice	6/23
Nidhi Pidaparathi	6/25
Strawberry Wroolie	6/25
Maya Rocque	6/26
Andrew Harris	6/27
Yahya Salman	6/29
Garen Zakarian	6/29
Benjamin Chun	6/30
Aidan Spangrud	6/30

## staff

Sarah Horvath	6/2
Camilla Bodnar	6/7
Kim Montague	6/11
Rachel Mickelson	6/12

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## Camp Out at Camp Montessori

Camp Montessori will be held Friday, June 10 starting at 6:30 PM. We will pitch tents under the trees of MIR, cook hotdogs and hamburgers, sing songs, and tell stories. In the morning everyone will enjoy a pancake breakfast. Children ages 5 to 12 are welcome on their own; children under 5 must be accompanied by a parent volunteer.

Fees are \$30 per child, \$15 for children accompanied by a parent volunteer. Sign up in the office. Payment is due at sign-up. Parent volunteers will be asked to help with cooking, clean-up, and activities.

## Parent Work Day is June 11

Help keep our campus in great shape for the summer! Join us for Parent Work Day immediately following Camp Montessori, 8:30-11:30 AM on Saturday, June 11. Many hands make light work!

## Turn in Your Annual Fund Donations

If you made a pledge to the 2010-2011 MIR Annual Fund and have not turned in your donation, do so now. **All pledges should be turned in by June 30.**

## MIR Hop-a-Thon Supports Muscular Dystrophy Assoc.

On Friday, June 3, MIR is teaming up with the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) to hold a Hop-A-Thon in honor of MIR graduating student Abbey Umali, MDA goodwill ambassador. Right after the Bluebird Assembly, MIR students will "hop for children who can't hop for themselves" for two minutes. The goal is to raise funds for children suffering from muscular dystrophy. Toddlers, Primary, and Lower Elementary students will hop while Upper Elementary students count. Thank you for your pledges and support!

## JUNE 2011

<b>30</b> School closed for Memorial day. No school, no childcare.	<b>31</b> Field Day with water play (Primary & Elementary) Last day to cancel or make changes: SS1 & SS2 Lango classes	<b>1</b> Recital for Yang Chen's music students, 12 PM (Kelly's classroom)	<b>2</b> Maria's Class Father's Day Breakfast, 9:15 AM Dorama/Kara's move-up celebration, 11:30 AM Kelly's end-of-year celebration, 10 AM-12 PM Lango classes	<b>3</b> Bluebird Assembly, 9:15 AM Hop-a-Thon, 9:30 AM Emily/Teesie's class pool party, 10 AM-3:30 PM
<b>5/6</b> Sunday—Kelly's Class Art Show @ Farm Artisan Foods, 3-6 PM  Monday—PTM Family Skate Night, 5-7 PM	<b>7</b> Margaretann's class pool party, 9 AM  Lango classes	<b>8</b> Nicole's class end-of-year pool party, 9 AM Liana's class end-of-year party @ Brookside Park, 9:15-11:15 AM Aedin's class ice cream social, 10:30-11:30 AM Emily/Teesie's Wizard of Oz performance @ Redlands East Valley High, 6-8 PM	<b>9</b> Maria's class end-of-year celebration @ Brookside Park, 9-11:30 AM Nikki's class end-of-year pool party, 10 AM-2:45 PM Sara's class end-of-year potluck, 11 AM-12 PM Emily/Teesie's 6th year graduation ceremony, 4-5 PM Margaretann/Nicole's talent show, 6 PM	<b>10/11</b> Dorama/Kara's class end-of-year celebration @ Brookside Park, 9:30-11:30 AM Christine's class end-of-year party, 10:30-11:30 AM Emily/Teesie's class end-of-yr slideshow 10:30-11:30 AM Jean/Maryhelen's class ice cream social, 11 AM-12 PM Margaretann's 6th grade celebration, 10:30 AM <b>School Closes @ 12 PM</b> 6th years graduation, 1 PM Camp Montessori 6:30 PM  SATURDAY—PARENT WORK DAY, 8:30-11:30 AM
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
School closed for staff in-service. No childcare.				
<b>20</b> Summer Session I begins	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Primary field trip to California Science Center
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Elementary field trip to California Science Center Last day to make changes: SS 3 & SS 4 <b>ANNUAL FUND DEADLINE</b>	<b>1</b> Summer session 1 ends