



# CV MONTESSORI NEWSLETTER



## AT A GLANCE

- 12/25 - 01/02 Winter Break
  - No School
- 01/02 Governance Board Meeting
  - 6pm School Library

Stay up to date with all the school happenings by following us on [Facebook](#), joining the [CVMCS Parent Group Facebook](#), and checking our [school calendar](#).

## IN SCHOOL

### RECESS LAP CLUB

Maybe your E2 student has come home talking about all of the laps they're walking/running at recess. That's because we've got a new program at Montessori to get the kids active—it's the Recess Lap Club!

Students in 4th and 5th grade had the opportunity to join the lap club. They tally the laps they run or walk at recess and then we track their progress. Students can work towards 100 laps, 200 laps, or more! We'll be tracking their miles on a map in the E2 stairwell and we're excited to see how far they'll make it across the country. In the first 20 days of the program, the students logged 1,152 laps or 144 miles. We've almost made it to Madison already!

If your student wants to participate but hasn't signed up yet, there's still time! Students can join the program at any time. We're hoping it'll be another fun and active way for the kids to spend part of their recess breaks—especially as the temperatures drop.



## AT HOME

Next week is Winter Break!

While it is a time for relaxing for some, other families need action! If you're looking for something to do during Winter Break here are a few ideas:

- [LE Phillips Public Library](#) has lots of activities during [Winter Break](#)
- Check out [Volume One Events for things happening in our area](#).
- [Volunteer in the community](#) \*Please note the [Youth Volunteer Policy](#)
- Enjoy an evening drive to see our very own Mr. Tony's display in the [CV Parade of Lights](#).
- Take a page out of the Montessori Recess Lap Club. Take a walk each day and track your distance.
- Or stay home and have a Family Game Day or Reading Marathon

Don't forget, that you can use the [Parent Group Facebook page](#) to connect with other CVM families.

Have a great break!



# FROM MS. CARLING

## »»» ONLINE LIBRARY ACCOUNTS

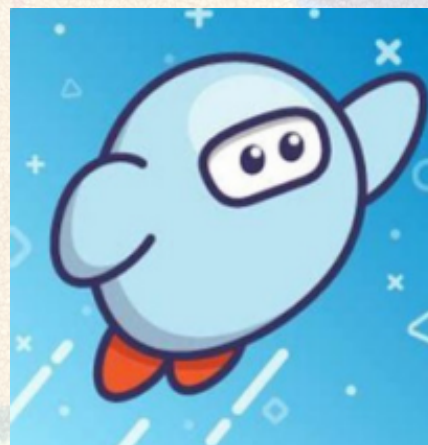
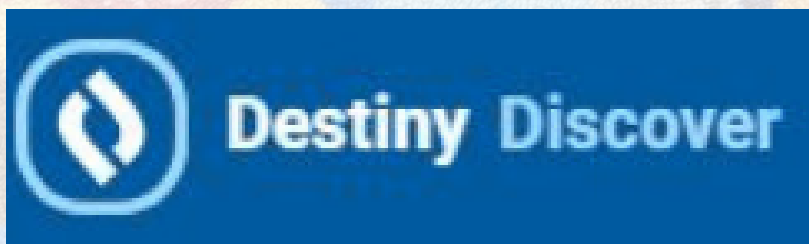
Interested in learning more about the books your child is reading?

Ask them! Common starters are: "What was your favorite character in the story, and why?" "Why do you think the author wrote the book?" "Why did you choose to read this book?" and "What was something interesting you learned?"

ECASD students also have online library accounts (both for print and digital materials), which give them access to Destiny (District Print catalog) and Sora (District Digital catalog). Custodial parents or guardians of a student who is under the age of 16 may choose to access their student's library account.

If you wish to get a copy of your student's login information or if you have any further questions, please contact Ms. Carling, your Librarian.

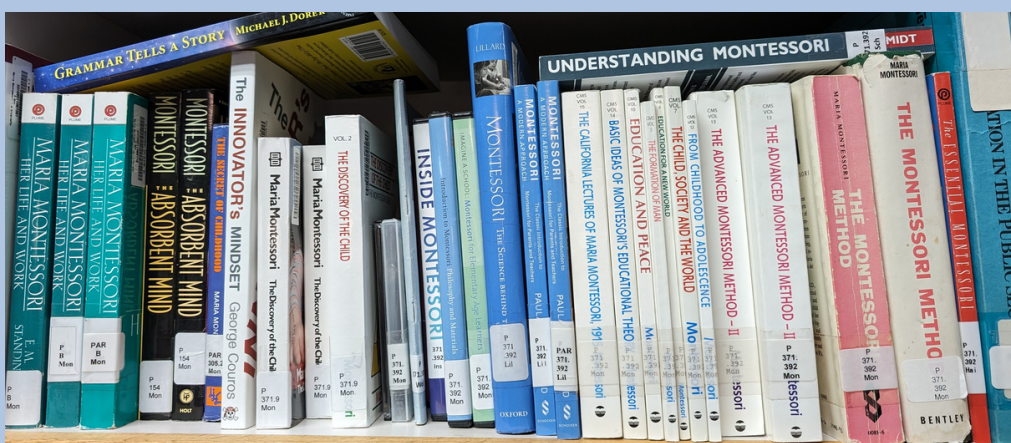
## INSTRUCTIONS



## THE MONTESSORI WAY PARENT EDUCATION & RESOURCES

»»» We had a great Parent-Ed Night in the fall and we're hoping to have another before the end of the school year.

If you weren't able to make it or you can't wait for the next one, we have parent education materials here at the school. These resource books are available for you to check out from our school library.





# SCHOOL SCOOP



**E1 Blanket Project - E1** students are practicing their fleece work. They will be making blankets that will be donated to Mayo before winter break.



**Students as Teachers** - It was wonderful to welcome families into classrooms. Students loved the opportunity to show their grownups what they've been working on.



**Enjoy a Cup of Tea** - Nothing like a hot drink to add something special to the day.

**Student Teachers** - Not only do we support the learning of children, but also developing professionals. The role of student teacher in the classroom is a special one!



**Library Display**- Come and see our collection display in the library. The display contents rotate. If you have a collection you'd like to share reach out to Ms. Carla!



**Children's House** - Students are confidently navigating the classroom now and are able to dedicate their time to focused work.



# FROM GOVERNANCE BOARD

## >>> GOVERNANCE BOARD & PARENT GROUP

What's the difference between the Governance Board and the Parent Group?

Great question! And it's one we get a lot on the school level. Most schools only have a PTO-type organization but because we're a charter school, our bylaws call for us to have a Governance Board that functions as a mini-school board in a lot of ways. The basic difference between the groups:

- The GOVERNANCE BOARD is the group that is responsible for overseeing the operation of our school and works closely with the administration to ensure policies are followed and school goals are being met. Currently, the group is working towards long-term goals related to maintaining our Montessori identity and boosting diversity in our student population. The Governance Board also collaborates with the principal when it comes to ongoing communications and annual reporting back to the Eau Claire Area School District in addition to handling negotiations when our charter contract is up for renewal.
- The PARENT GROUP is responsible for building community through hosting family events and supporting our school through fundraising efforts. Parent Group helps parents get to know each other at Stay & Plays and coffee socials, organizes the End of the Year Carnival for students, and supports teachers by providing food during conferences and teacher appreciation week. The funds raised through the Parent Group go back to the school in a number of ways including funding field trips, offering classroom stipends to the teachers, maintaining our school garden, supporting curriculum goals, and more

Both school groups are volunteer-run and work closely together. They require substantial participation from school families and community members to provide valuable resources and support to the school.

For more information on what makes our Montessori school unique, click here for our [\*\*FACT SHEET\*\*](#).

## E2 TEA COMPANY

### >>> STUDENT BUSINESS

If you are interested in supporting E2 Tea Company, you can send donations (suggested donation \$5) in your child's folder or drop them off in the office.

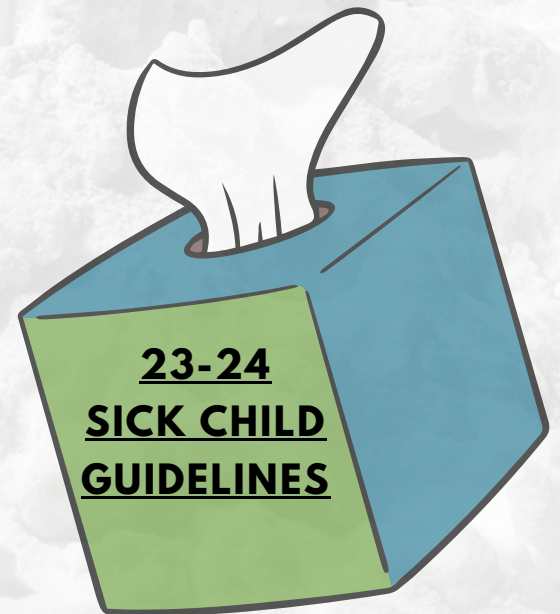
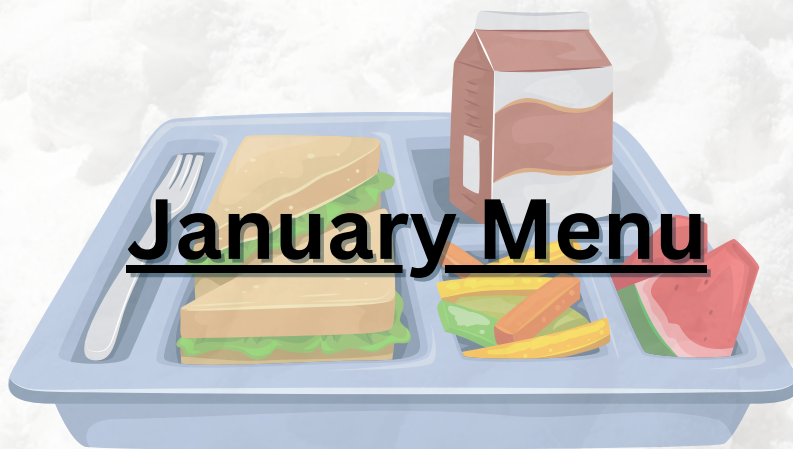




AT THIS TIME OF YEAR, WE REFLECT ON WHAT WE HAVE AND RECOGNIZE THOSE WHO TOUCH OUR LIVES. WE ARE OFTEN ASKED HOW FAMILIES CAN SHOW GRATITUDE FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE DEDICATED MONTESSORI TEACHERS AND STAFF. IF IT IS OF INTEREST TO YOU, PLEASE FIND THE SCHOOL WISHLIST BELOW:

## Staff Wishlist

# INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES



## Join the School Garden Group

Help plan and take care of the school garden.





# WINTER BREAK ACTIVITIES



**December 26–30**

ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

## Event Schedule:

- ✦ **Color Bash** PreK–GRADE 6  
 Tuesday, December 26 • 1–2:30 p.m. • Youth Program Room  
 Drop in and colorify your day with light experiments, prisms, and colorful crafts. No registration.
- ✦ **Dabble Box Open Lab** ALL AGES  
 Tuesday, December 26 • 2–4 p.m. • RCU Dabble Box Makerspace  
 Wednesday, December 27 • 10 a.m.–Noon • RCU Dabble Box Makerspace  
 Stop by and see where your creativity takes you! Equipment and supplies for all ages.
- ✦ **Animanga Club** GRADES 7–12  
 Tuesday, December 26 • 6:30 p.m. • Carnegie Room  
 Watch anime, create themed projects, and socialize with others who share a common interest. Registration required.
- ✦ **Ice Bowl** PreK–GRADE 6  
 Wednesday, December 27 • 1–2:30 p.m. • Youth Program Room  
 Brrr! It's cold in here! Join us for ice experiments and snowy crafts. Excavate objects from ice, test whether salt melts ice faster than vinegar, design a snowflake, and more. No registration.
- ✦ **Knotty & Nice** GRADES 7–12  
 Wednesday, December 27 • 2–3:30 p.m. • RCU Dabble Box Makerspace  
 Join us for a cozy afternoon of macramé and hot cocoa. Choose your project (snowflake, gnome, or feather) and hot cocoa toppings, then settle in to knot and hang out with other teens. Registration is required.
- ✦ **Pokemon Club** GRADES 3–6  
 Wednesday, December 27 • 4:30 p.m. • Youth Program Room  
 Meet up with other Pokémon fans to play, talk, and do Pokémon-themed activities. Registration is required.
- ✦ **Family BINGO** KIDS (ALL AGES) & THEIR FAMILIES  
 Thursday, December 28 • 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. • RCU Dabble Box Makerspace  
 Play BINGO at the library! Families are invited to stop in and play BINGO for fun and small prizes. No registration is required, but space is limited.
- ✦ **Perler Beads** GRADES K–6  
 Friday, December 29 • 1–2:30 p.m. • Youth Program Room  
 Join us for an afternoon of Perler bead fun! Adult participation encouraged for children under the age of 8. No registration required. While supplies last.
- ✦ **Teen Cookie Decorating** GRADES 7–12  
 Friday, December 29 • 2–3 p.m. • Innovation Lab  
 Make art you can eat! Use icing and sprinkles to create a cookie masterpiece. Registration is required.



## WHO:

All current 5th grade families who plan to attend Northstar next fall

## WHEN:

Tuesday, January 16,  
2024 5:30-6:30 pm

## WHERE:

Northstar Middle School Commons  
2711 Abbe Hill Drive

## TOPICS COVERED:

Middle School Transition  
ARCTIC Zone vs. Teacher Teams  
Music Overview  
Registration Process

## ADDITIONAL INFO:

- All family members are welcome
- Registration materials can be returned this evening

[www.ecpubliclibrary.info](http://www.ecpubliclibrary.info) • 715-839-5007 • [ysstaff@eauclaire.lib.wi.us](mailto:ysstaff@eauclaire.lib.wi.us)

More info



 L.E. Phillips Memorial  
Public Library

**CHECK OUT THE PUBLIC  
LIBRARY'S CALENDAR  
OF PROGRAMS AND  
EVENTS FOR DECEMBER  
& JANUARY.**

## Having Small Talks to Make a Big Impact

Short, frequent conversations with your kids about preventing underage drinking and other drug use can make a big impression. This winter holiday season, talk with your kids about the risks of substance use and set expectations for them.

Visit these resources to get tips on how to starting talking:

[www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov](http://www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov)  
[www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/small-talks](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/small-talks)

## Why Small Conversations Make a Big Impression

- ✓ Short, frequent discussions can make a real impact on your child's decisions about alcohol.
- ✓ Talking can build an open, trusting relationship with your child.
- ✓ Many little talks are more effective than one "big talk."





# Family Engagement Newsletter

*Eau Claire Area School District*

## SAVE YOUR STUFF!

Organizing toys, books, clothing, miscellaneous household items before or after the holidays?  
Help us by saving your donations for our  
thrift sale in the Montessori gym.

**DROP OFF: MARCH 15**

## THRIFT SALE: Saturday, March 16



Watch for more details about times coming soon!  
All proceeds benefit Chippewa Valley Montessori Parent Group.