

Turtle Talk

May 2021

UNBREAKABLE BONDS

May Dates to Remember

Mon., May 17th - Fri., May., 21st
Testing Week (Kindergarten & Older)

Thu., May 27th
West Campus Graduation

Fri., May 28th
Last Day of School!

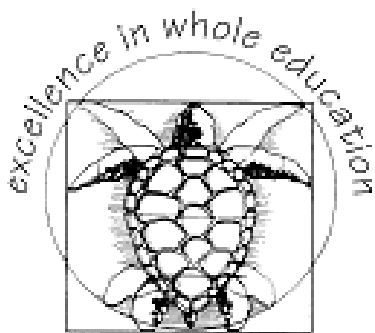
Have a Great Summer!



TRM Alumni at Bowlero

Last week, a small group of the families who participated in the TRM Middle School cultural trips got together at Bowlero in Jupiter. The kids traveled to Red Rocks, Utah, Tulum and Chichen Itza, Winter Carnival in Quebec City (in January!!!), and Costa Rica... and reminiscing about these special trips deepened the already existing bonds experienced by our special TRM families.

Our TRM Middle School takes a cultural trip that ties into their year-long curriculum. Memories from these are some of their best school memories ever. As the bus drops everyone off at school after the trip is over, tears start to spill as we say goodbye and realize just how precious the time was with our TRM families.



UNBREAKABLE BONDS



Anthony Frigo, Alec Donaldson, Mateo Fiz, Milek Patel

Mateo arrived at TRM in first grade from France. Anthony was the first friend Mateo met in the Oak Room, and although Mateo spoke no English, the two became friends. They played together on the playground and did their Montessori math lessons together- silently. As Mateo started to learn English, these two began strengthening their friendship through a different form of communication. Fast forward NINE years later, and Anthony and Mateo are still best friends. They are more like brothers now. They've started a business together, attend the same high school, are members of National Honor Society and hope to attend Georgetown University together.

TRM is a school like no other. The close-knit school community has been forged by our fearless leader, Ms. Bubli. Her beautiful spirit permeates everything and everyone, and when you walk around the West Campus, you will observe the compassionate and gentle way she interacts with our children. Her kindness, generosity and thoughtfulness are unparalleled.

It is with this spirit that our school community was started, and because kindness has a hard time being contained, it has attracted hundreds of like-minded families, who have joined together and become part of the TRM family. Many of our moms have become best friends, spending holidays and birthdays together every year. And some families have actually gone into business together. The connections are deep and long-lasting.

Chris Ferguson states in his article, "The School-Family Connection: Looking at the Larger Picture," "When family members commonly engage with teachers or other school staff, students adjust more easily to classroom activities and their teachers at both the elementary and secondary levels, resulting in improved student performance."

The importance of family involvement in schools is the focus of the book, [Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships](#). "Partnerships among schools, families, and community groups are not a luxury—they are a necessity." This is because, as we've mentioned in previous newsletters, that, "Countless studies demonstrate that students with parents actively involved in their education at home and school are more likely to earn higher grades and test scores, enroll in higher-level programs, graduate from high school, and go on to post-secondary education."

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In addition to all of the academic benefits that stem from strong family-school partnerships, TRM has nurtured forever friendships that were born and blossomed out of our loving community.

Most of the families at the reunion started their children at TRM when they were very young, and fondly reminisced about all of our special events at TRM. These special events are the seeds that once planted, go on to bear fruit, in later years. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, most of our special events have had to get placed on hold in the last year, but through the flexibility and adaptability of our teachers, faculty and staff, the Cultural Peace Festival and the Mother's Day Tea were able to take place. It is always so thrilling to see the joy in our parents' and children's eyes on these special days.

CULTURAL PEACE FESTIVAL

Over one hundred years ago, Dr. Maria Montessori wrote, "The child is both the hope and a promise for mankind." Montessori children are introduced to peace education and a world view from a young age, realizing that they are part of a larger community. Maria Montessori's goal was to promote values of global citizenship, respect for diversity, and personal responsibility, and she argued that these values must be both an implicit and explicit part of every child's education.

TRM's Cultural Peace Festival takes place in the spring each year. This year, TRM celebrated its 22nd Peace Festival. This special festival gives our children the opportunity to study and celebrate either peaceful events in history, or cultures from different lands. During cultural studies, students immerse themselves in various customs, research and the preparation of the culture's food, clothing, and authentic traditions.

Poinciana: Students researched, wrote a script, and performed a reenactment about the Christmas Truce of 1914. During the unofficial ceasefire on this day, soldiers on both sides of the WWI conflict emerged from the trenches and shared gestures of goodwill. They also performed the song "Imagine" by John Lennon on the ukulele for parents, and then later for the school.

Cedar: Students demonstrated a peace timeline of Native Americans and Colonists, from the birth of our nation, through the Civil Rights era. They had fun painting, preparing props and dressing up to show the audience how peace was cultivated during such turbulent and challenging times.

Magnolia: As part of our course of study on ancient civilizations, the Magnolia Room learned all about the Native Americans of the Great Plains. They read legends, studied their culture, researched notable Native Americans, and learned about the geography, flora and fauna of the region. In writer's workshop they learned how to use symbolism in their writing. After they sufficiently understood how to write a story in "symbols," students translated a Native American legend, *The Gift of the Sacred Dog*, into symbols on "buffalo skins" that were created from paper bags. In addition, students recreated a Plains village complete with all the traditional jobs of the tribe.

Mangrove: The Mangrove Room studied The Seminole Tribe and North American Biomes. Besides studying the animals and people of the biome, they learned some local history by reading Charlie Pierce, the American Jungle, in preparation. The first and second year children researched an animal and then wrote a legend about the animal to honor the Seminole storytelling methods. Third year students researched various aspects of Seminole life and then helped build a chickee outside of the classroom. Ms. Jill taught the students a Native American pow wow dance.

Banyan: the Banyan Room researched the Native American tribes from the Southwest States. Everyone created poster boards to demonstrate their understanding and made crafts such as pottery, dream catchers and necklaces, and studied the significance of these artifacts. After the Festival, they sampled food from this region. We cooked cheese quesadillas which were served with tortilla chips, salsa, and queso.

Pine: The Pine room studied the indigenous people of Australia known as Aboriginal Australians. The students focused on their beautiful Aboriginal Dot Art, learning how they often told stories or held hidden meaning and messages. They also had fun creating their own version of Dot Art.

CULTURAL PEACE FESTIVAL



Cultural Peace Festival– Mangrove Room



Cultural Peace Festival– Magnolia Room



Cultural Peace Festival– Cedar Room (Harriet Tubman on left)



Cultural Peace Festival– Poinciana Room

MOTHER'S DAY TEA

One of our favorite annual events is the Mother's Day Tea and this year, we were able to host it safely outdoors! Our amazing teachers transformed the playground and everyone enjoyed iced tea and snacks. It was beautiful.



TRM Partner Page

Enrolling NOW for Summer Camps!
(click on the logos below)

