



November 11, 2009

### **School Pictures**

LifeTouch will be sending the picture packages to the school hopefully, within a week or two. Once you receive your package, please pay only for the pictures you are keeping and return the rest back to LFM. Checks need to be made out to LifeTouch. There will not be a day for retakes.

### **Montessori in the Home**

Tonight we will explore different ideas that you can do at home with your child and the different materials to you can have available. We will have a short social from 6:45pm to 7:00pm and the discussion will begin at 7:00pm and end at 8:00pm.

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. We hope to see you there!

This night will be held in the St. Georges Episcopal Church (the St. Louis Park school) Social Hall.

The address is:

5224 Minnetonka Blvd  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

The church and school are located on the northeast corner of Hwy 100 and Minnetonka Blvd. Coming from the west on Minnetonka Blvd, cross over Hwy 100 and turn left on Salem Ave S, right into the parking lot.

Please note that this is for parents only. Childcare will not be provided.

### **Thanksgiving Feast**

On *Friday, November 20*, Preethy will prepare a Thanksgiving lunch for the children. The children who leave at 11:30am/11:40am are invited to stay for lunch. The pick-up time for that day will be extended to 12:30pm (the Toddler Community) and 12:40pm (the Children's House). If you do not want your child to participate, please let us know and pack his/her own lunch for that day.

### **Parent Handbook Revisions**

The following is a revision for the parent Handbook beginning December 1, 2009. If you have questions, please address them to Preethy.

*Any requests for changes in your child's registered schedule must be received in writing in advance of the requested start date. A written response will be given. There is no guarantee that your child's schedule will be changed.*

### **Food Shelf Drive November 17 – November 19**

Our food shelf drive will begin on November 17 and will run for three days. Times are tough for some families. The food shelves are running low. This is a great community building event for everyone to participate in. This is a good opportunity to spend some time talking with your children on a very basic level why we help others and how it makes us feel to give something back to our community.

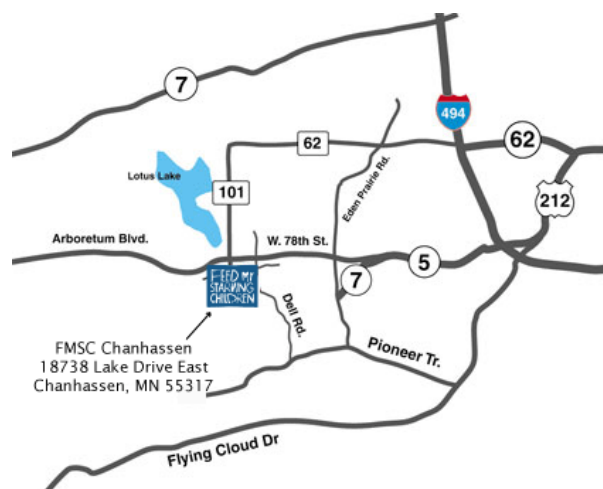
We plan to bring the donated food to:

*Emergency Food Shelf Network  
8501 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
New Hope, MN 55428  
#763-450-3871*

### **Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)**

The vision of FMSC is to reduce the number of starving children throughout the world. FMSC provided 43 million meals for hungry children in 2007. Volunteers hand pack these simple meals that consist of rice, soy protein, dehydrated vegetables and 20 vitamin minerals mixed with a vegetarian chicken flavoring. Last year there were 185,000 volunteers who packed meals.

We scheduled a community building even on December 12 from 4:30pm to 6:30pm at FMSC in Chanhassen. We are in need of 60 volunteers between both of the schools. We would love to have Little Flowers Montessori School beat the record of packing the most meals in one session.



There will be a sign up at the front desk in the beginning of December. Please note due to health and safety reasons, this event is for adults and children older than 9 years. For more information, please visit [www.fmsc.org](http://www.fmsc.org).

## **Calendar Notes**

November 13 – Kinder Konzert field trip

November 17- 19 – Food Shelf Drive

November 18 – *Montessori in the Home*: 6:45pm – 7:00pm is the social,  
7:00pm – 8:00pm is the discussion

November 20 – Thanksgiving Feast

November 26 & 27 – No school

December 12 – FMSC, 4:30pm – 6:30pm

### *A Montessori Minute*

#### **Why do we teach cursive first?**

- Cursive writing is a more natural way of writing. The pencil flows along the paper without frequent stops within words.
- There is less confusion and reversal between the cursive forms of the letters 'b', 'd', 'p', and 'q' as there is in the print form.
- Words written in cursive are clearly separated from each other. Run-on words are not as common in cursive.
- The child who can read cursive can also read manuscript, but the reverse is not true.
- Cursive is a better exercise for strengthening fine motor skills. The connecting letters help the child to produce smooth, rather than choppy, strokes with the pencil.