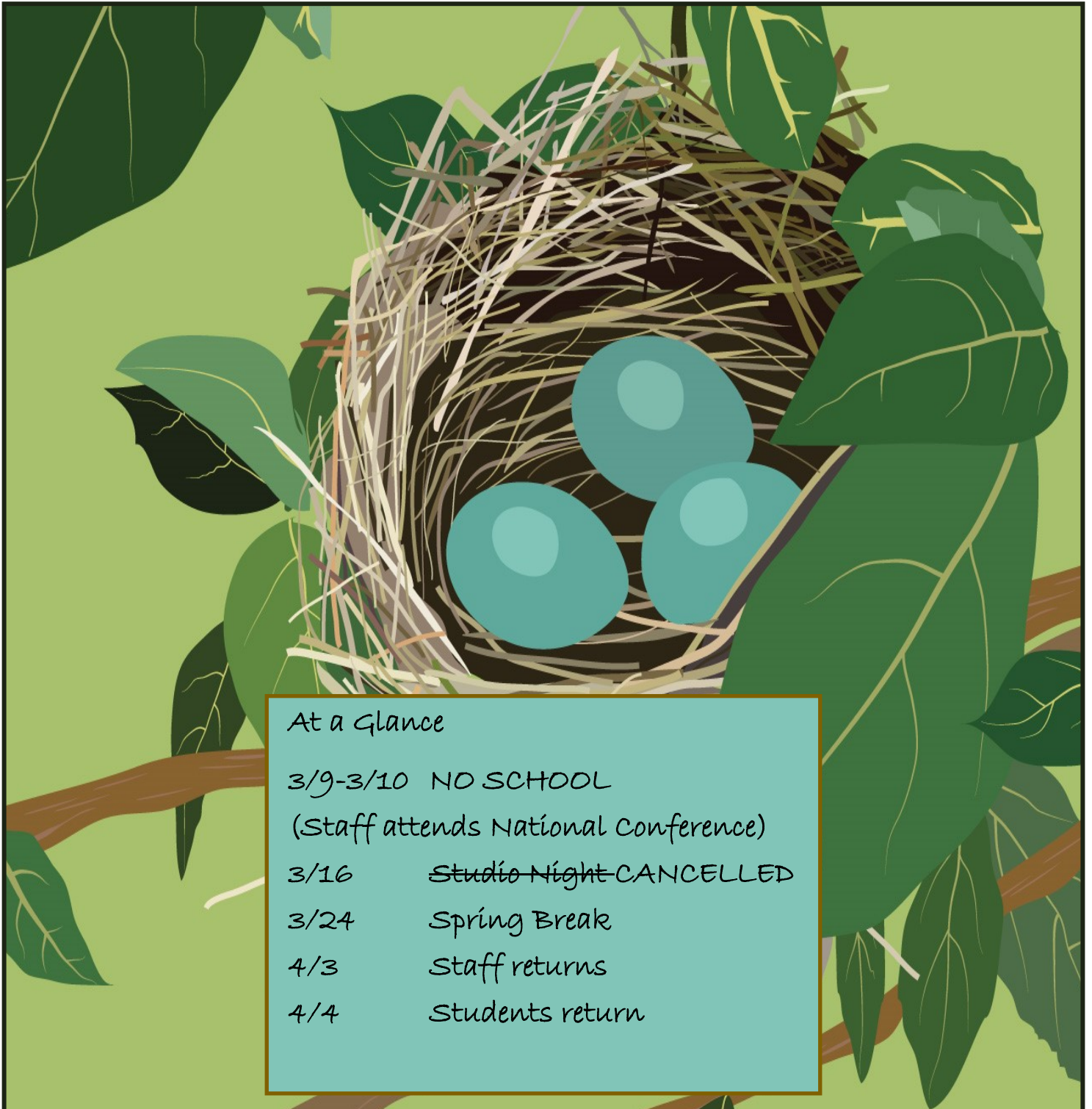


GARDENnotes

March 2017



At a Glance

3/9-3/10 NO SCHOOL

(Staff attends National Conference)

3/16 ~~Studio Night~~ CANCELLED

3/24 Spring Break

4/3 Staff returns

4/4 Students return

Revisiting the Reggio-Emilio Approach by Bekke Howell

CGMS is a nurturing community of children, families, and teachers, guided by the Montessori Philosophy and influenced by the Reggio Philosophy that educates young children and inspires a life-long love of learning. That is our mission here at Children's Garden.

As a staff, we are Montessori trained. We follow the Montessori curriculum and we furnish our classrooms with Montessori materials. We practice the tenets of Montessori philosophy by connecting children to the environment, cultivating independence, and allowing for freedom of choice with limits. We speak easily about what it means to be a Montessorian, as we mindfully follow the practices clearly laid out by our founder, Maria Montessori.

Maria Montessori was a scientist first, and an educator second. She looked at the world of education, and asked questions about what the best way to educate young children might be. She developed tools and techniques, and tried them out in classrooms. She observed the children, questioned the process, and refined her materials; over time developing a curriculum that was easy to pass along to other teachers who were interested in trying new ways of educating children.

However, CGMS is not just a Montessori school. We are also influenced by the Reggio-Emilio Philosophy. The R-E philosophy offers a research-based approach to learning that focuses on social constructivism and creative expression within a cultural context. The founder "Malaguzzi had an original vision of permanent professional development for teachers; development which included openness towards culture in general." While it is easiest to see this process of learning taking place in the Studio, we try to embrace it throughout the school. Because the R-E philosophy places a high value on collaboration, our teachers co-teach in the classrooms rather than functioning under the usual head teacher with assistants model found in most Montessori schools. Additionally, we view children as capable, competent, curious, relational. We embrace the idea that they communicate through 100 languages, and strive to deepen their learning through the process of documentation.

R-E Philosophy is difficult to define and is not a curriculum that we can put into practice. Every year, we need to explore its concepts through different lenses. We work to understand how to combine these different ways of working beside children, stretching our own understandings of teaching and education. As a staff, we are working to make this process visible. As you come into the school over the next months, you will notice our research questions posted throughout the building. These are the beginnings of where we are as individuals and as teams in this process. We look forward to bringing you along on this journey!

Reggio Emilia, Italy

Thank you Virginia and Sean Cahenzli for the German game and the fuse-bead activity. Emily Stone made the staff her yummy cinnamon rolls - thanks! The Cahenzli family donated child-size kitchen work station, doll house and puzzles to the school. Sarah Weily provided Starbucks and bagels for the staff February Birthdays and Alexis Hart treated us to pastries from Whole Foods. We are so spoiled!



Please take a moment to check the Lost and Found. You might get lucky and find that missing mitten!

Camp Registration is coming in March!

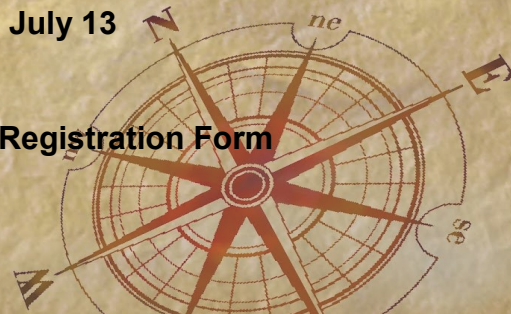
EXPLORERS AND PIONEERS

TODDLER & PRIMARY CAMPS

Session 1: June 10 - June 29

Session 2: July 3 - July 13

Additional Details will be on Registration Form



CGMS Annual Unbirthday Party

Sunday April 9th 11 am - 1 pm

Dardano's Gymnastic Studio

2250 Kearney Street

Be sure to join us for this family event! There will be refreshments, kid-friendly entertainment, and gymnastic activities. Families are welcome to bring a favorite book to donate to the school library.

SAVE THE DATE

Children's Garden Dine to Donate

April 19, 2017



LOCAL EATING HOUSE

(20% Going back to Children's Garden)

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to
the 2016-2017 Annual Fund

Borgen Family Foundation

Eichler Charitable Fund

Jerry and Margot Ladd

Jake and Bryann Nourse

Reed and Sarah Weily

Russell and Fara Bowler

The Lawrence and Linda Meyer Foundation

Ryan and Genevieve Tedder

The Carson Foundation

John and Diane Lindholm

Jonathan and Courtney Ringham

Jon and Brook Borgen

Eric and Jenny Holtze

Phil Johnson and Lou Raders

Make and Barbara O'Shaughnessy

Alex and Amy Figge

Jerry and Carolyn Gaddis

Charles and Julie Gordon

Libby Kirkepatrick

Scott and Jennifer Johnson

Daniel and Olivia Louis

Eric and Cristina Schmidt

Letty and Bill Bass

Tom and Barbara Filippini

Rick Ridder and Joanie Braden

Toby and Susie Sutherland

Christine Stone

Bjorn and Kathy Borgen

David and Betty Arkell

Nancy and John Jurcheck

Robert and Bonny Cundiff

Tom and Bekke Howell

Tom and Emily Filippini

Ed and Catherine Ramey

Neil and Jamie Boes

Lorraine Carter

Kirsten Haveri

Vida West

John and Michelle Bower

Kimberly Gomez

Justin and Claire Jackson