“If education is protection to life, you will realize that it is necessary that education accompany life during its whole course.” — Maria Montessori

E2 Classoom Activities: As Montessorians, we know that stories are the vehicle with which to make information not only accessible but exciting. Hence, Maria Montessori based all of her key lessons and many of her other lessons on a story format. At the Upper Elementary level, we become actors and personify the stories of history as we did recently in the Greek Plays. In the area of creative writing, students write their own stories by writing dialogues that become short plays. This was the focus of this week’s work. The E2 class enjoys collaborating so the first task was to organize themselves into partnerships. Student partners began with a pre-writing sheet that identified an idea, plot sequence, setting, and characters. Then each group used a dialogue paper to write the rough draft of their plays. The students were delightfully engaged in a buzz of activity as they worked very hard to get their ideas onto paper. Plays were then typed and eventually submitted to the FST play writing contest. Montessori writes about the importance of children producing their own plays by first writing and then performing their work. Students of this age are particularly interested in drama so this is a compelling way to encourage children to hone their writing skills. Students have also been encouraged to engage in random acts of kindness this week. Some were kind to others in the classroom while others volunteered in other classrooms to be helpful.
Our big class trip is this year is to Sea Camp in the Florida Keys. The dates are May 6, 7, and 8. The remaining balance of $635.00 is due November 15th. There will be some additional costs which we will share with you closer to the trip.

Calendar 2020

February 24 - Literature circle week 3 assignment due

February 24-28 - Montessori Education Week

February 27 - Cell project due

February 28 - Schoolwide Celebration - 5:30pm

March 13 - Half day dismissal

March 17-21 - No School—Spring Break

March 23 - No School—Teacher work day

4th The Tale of Despereaux
Week 1 p11-p66
Week 2 p67-p130
Week 3 p131-p195
Week 4 p196-269

5th Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh
Week 1 p3-p60
Week 2 p61-p119
Week 3 p120-p177
Week 4 p178-p233

Mystery Math

There is an empty basket that is one foot in diameter. Can you tell the total number of eggs that you can put in this empty basket?
Plant Cell Construction
Homework- Due - Thursday Feb. 27

Please create a **3-D model** of a plant cell using objects that you have at home or that you purchase inexpensively. Be sure to **label** the parts of your plant cell using the diagram below as a guide. Short definitions should be included in some way on or with your project. Materials can be items like cardboard, painted macaroni, cereals, grains like rice, clay, beads, yarn, buttons, etc. The model should be about the **size of a shoebox** and you should be able to easily carry the project. **Be creative.** Think of interesting and fun ways to construct your model. If you are looking for ideas- look on Pinterest and Youtube.

![Diagram of a plant cell with labeled parts](image_url)
Plant Cell Construction Homework-

Due - Thursday Feb. 27

Definitions:

Cell Wall- Encloses the cell
Ribosomes - helps make protein
Mitochondria - helps plants breath
Chloroplasts-makes food
Vacuole-regulates fluids
Nucleus-brain of the cell
Plasmodesmata -channels connecting cells
Golgi apparatus - folded membranes for transport of fluids
Endoplasmic Reticulum-helps make protein and fats

Not pictured (optional)

Chromosomes-passes on genetic information
Nucleoli-helps cells divide
Plasma membrane- holds cytoplasm
Cytoplasm - supports the organelles