E-2 Classroom Activities: In the words of Maria Montessori, “There is a great sense of community within the Montessori classroom, where children of differing ages work together in an atmosphere of cooperation rather than competitiveness. There is respect for the environment and for the individuals within it, which comes through experience of freedom within the community.” The E2 classroom often has this atmosphere of collaboration and cooperation. This week students were partnering on math problems, editing works that needed correction, and spending time together outside doing their nature journals. In this way students can learn from each other as they learn the basic skills of team work. The classroom is working as a team to block each scene of the play. Some are coordinating the props, some are acting on the stage, while others are acting as prompters and assistant directors. Our cooperative community stretches beyond the classroom as well. Some of our fourth year students were able to support E1 in the Holiday Gift Shop. What a wonderful opportunity to be mentors and to be of service. The students are getting excited about entering into extended community with their family and friends this winter break. They have all earned a needed respite from their studies so that they can enjoy the close relationships of family. We hope everyone has a relaxing and joyous time together this holiday season.
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.

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**Calendar 2019**

- **December 23-January 6**: School Closed- Winter Break
- **January 7**: Students return
- **January 16**: Follow the child 6pm-8pm
- **January 17**: Book report due
- **January 21**: Technical rehearsal for Greek Play
- **January 22**: Greek Play performance

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We really appreciate our volunteers for our annual plant/bake sale this year: Crystal Burkhart, Hilda Parajon-Coffey, Anna Merserova, Nicole Muckenthaler, Jumana Bataineh, and Erica Smibert. Also, a huge thanks to all who contributed delicious baked goods for the sale. We couldn’t have done it without you!

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**Mystery Math**

How do you go from 98 to 720 using just one letter?
January Book Report Book
Poster Due: Jan. 17, 2020

This book report will be in the form of a book poster. It should have the following items on it:

1. **The title of the book** - The title should be large enough to be legible from 10 feet, attractively lettered, handwritten or computer printed.

2. **The author's name** - This should be. Under the title in smaller letters.

3. **A short summary of the plot**. The summary should include the main problem in the plot and how it was solved. Paragraph of at least five sentences would be enough.

4. **An excerpt** - An excerpt is a passage from the book. It should be an especially exciting one. Please include the page number at the end.

5. **A recommendation** - Your recommendation should spark the interest of others to read this book. For example: "If you like tales of adventure, humor, courage, and friendship, then, *The Book of Three's* is for you."

6. **Introduction of a character** - For example: "Meet Taran, a bumbling assistant pig-keeper who grow up and learns the true meaning of courage." This should be at least a paragraph.

7. **An illustration or other kind of art work** - Your illustration should represent an important event from your story. It is important that the drawing is carefully rendered.

**Guidelines:**

Refer to the example on the back of this page for one possible way of arranging your poster. Presentation is an important component of this report. Take time to edit all written parts, to mount the different parts of you report on colored paper, to cut the paper straight, and to compost it all in an attractive way.