



HIMIS

Monthly News

ARTICLES, EVENTS, PHOTOS, & MORE!

June

2023





HMS Summer Bucket List

The countdown to summer is on! When my kids were younger we would make a summer “bucket list” and would be sure to hang it on the wall with lots of options, simple things like blow bubbles, go to the park, touch a caterpillar, and bigger things like ferry rides to Seattle, camping trips, etc. At some point along the way we stopped with our bucket list, but we do still find joy in both the big and small things for the summer. Even though they are officially adults now, we have a few things planned to do as a family this summer—a trip to Ireland being the highlight! When I’m not traveling with family, I’ll be spending my time at HMS where we are checking off items on our proverbial summer bucket list, too. We have some big dreams that are becoming reality this summer!

As you know we purchased the Montessori Farmhouse School—we are just waiting for our closing date, hopefully June 30th. Once we have that we will be busy getting that campus set up for fall. We have a team of people spending the summer getting it prepared. While it will be a lot of work, there’s so much enthusiasm around this project!

Construction is also happening in Building A this summer as we put in a couple of new offices and convert my current office into a small multipurpose room which will act as a quiet library/workspace for students, a general meeting space, and a place for some of our admin to call home, as well. The new construction will reconfigure our Maple classroom, the square footage will be closer to the Spruce classroom (as you know the Maple classroom is quite large) and with that new configuration comes some flooring and bathroom upgrades. It’ll be beautiful. Last, but not least, we will be converting the current jr high space back into a multipurpose space over the summer.

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Even in these busy times, things will be as normal as possible for the students who are with us this summer. We have a full house for our summer program this year and Rachel has a lot of fun activities up her sleeve. In addition to a variety of themed lessons, and opportunities to do traditional Montessori works, our summer program will have a lot of outdoor play, some special guests and some really fun field trips. I can't wait for the zoo trip! Summer is also looking like a lot of fun at our Tracyton campus with a lot of outdoor play and fun themes, as well.

Things will be busy this summer, but we are looking forward to all the positive changes and the amazing possibilities ahead for all our students. Onward and upward!

I look forward to seeing many of you over the summer and even more of you when we are back to school in the fall. For those of you who will not be returning to HMS next school year, you will be missed and we wish you the very best!

I hope everyone gets to check some fun things off your summer bucket list.

Enjoy the sunshine!

Aimee



Upcoming Events

**May 28th -
June 5th**

2023-2024 School Calendar Pre-Orders Open!
Order here: <https://forms.gle/nDRbPcNfkwyZKFDX8>

June 1st

Jr. High Only - Noon Dismissal for Conferences

June 3rd

Gig Harbor Maritime Parade
Be sure to wear your HMS gear!



June 8th

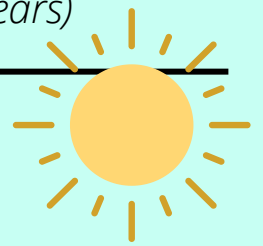
Early Childhood Art Walk

June 9th

Sock Hop - Hosted by Cedar 6pm-8pm

June 12th

Moving on Ceremony Evening
(For Kindergarten, 3rd years, 6th years, and 8th years)



June 14th

Last Day of School - 1pm dismissal
(infant/toddler regular schedule)

June 15th - 16th

School Closed - Teacher Inservice

June 19th

Closed - Juneteenth

June 20th

Summer Program Begins

July 4th

Closed - No Summer program - 4th of July

The Joy of Nature

By Nadine Peacock, Oak Room Teacher



There are so many valuable aspects of the Montessori method of education! One that especially stands out to me on our approach to summer is that it inspires our children to love learning and to be constantly fascinated by and inquisitive of the things that we see, smell, and touch. In our class, we frequently have conversations about what the students did over a weekend, and our conversations often feature many of the amazing discoveries and simple pleasures that the students experienced during their forays into nature. The Montessori method shifts the focus of learning from a teacher-driven, external rewards model to a intrinsic, self-satisfying approach that is guided by the internal rewards of mastering a skill, increasing independence and self-sufficiency, and the joy of discovery.

This love of learning and discovery becomes especially notable in the natural world. The more our children explore and learn about the natural world that they inhabit, the more their discoveries encourage them to explore their part in it. During the summer months, the more our children are exploring and discovering nature, the more connected to it they become. It is this connection to the universe that guides children to the discovery of their cosmic task. This task encourages children to think not just of themselves but of the world: the environment, the communities, and the people, plants, and animals all around them. Spending time in nature encourages children to truly notice their connection to the world and to become respectful, knowledgeable, and caring custodians of planet earth.

Summer is the perfect time to bring nature into our daily lives. There is a world full of meaningful, engaging, and fun activities for children to do using their creativity and their imaginations! So...go visit that ocean rock pool, pitch a backyard tent and sleep outside, make a wildlife pond or pollinator garden, read a book under a tree (or better yet, read a book under a tree that you've just decorated), harvest and cook from nature, help birds avoid windows, build a Mason bee barn...the possibilities are limitless!

Enjoy your summer!

Since it has been ... necessary to give so much to the child, let us give him a vision of the whole universe. The universe is an imposing reality, and an answer to all questions.... All things are part of the universe, and are connected with each other to form one whole unity. The idea helps the mind of the child to become focused, to stop wandering in an aimless quest for knowledge. He is satisfied having found the universal centre of himself with all things.

– Maria Montessori, To Educate the Human Potential



Around Campus



Board Corner

June is here and I can't believe how fast this school year has flown by. And what a wonderful school year it has been. The greatest accomplishment by far was the NWAIS accreditation given to or I should say, earned by our school.

Thanks to Aimee and Brint Sagle who spearheaded the accreditation process. So much hard work and time went into this effort. I also want to give a shout out to the admin team, the staff, the parents, and the trustees who also contributed to our success.

If you are wondering why this accreditation is so important to us. It's because accreditation through NWAIS ensures schools have the leadership and resources to support their missions into the future.

Their peer review process fosters a professional network of educators that results in great teaching and learning. NWAIS also offers support and professional development opportunities to Aimee, the staff and to the HMS Board. Their workshops are very supportive, sharing current trends and topics.

We feel very grateful to have this opportunity for our children.

On behalf of all the HMS trustees: Brint, Nina, Faye, Danielle, Brandon, Sarah and Nancy, we would like to thank all the HMS families for your support of the school.

Have a wonderful summer! See you in September.

Wendy Holt
HMS Board Chair



Around Campus

