



Letter from Mrs. Datzyk

Dear Families,

I feel compelled to apologize for the inconvenience caused by our January 24th closing. It is difficult to make such a decision and we do try to take into consideration everybody's needs. On that particular morning, the roads did not seem treacherous. It wasn't until I learned all the schools in our area, both public and private, were closed that I decided to close our school as well. You must bear in mind that we have teachers, and families, that live a good distance from the school. Thank you for your patience and for your understanding. At the recent PoDS meeting it was suggested that a calling chain be created—where parents can telephone one another if/when a last minute decision, such as that one, is made. If this would interest you, please attend the next PoDS meeting and let yourself be heard.

About this time each year, the question of our Summer Session arises. In the near future we will be sending a proposal of a 6-week session. We need to plan our summer staff, therefore if you are interested, it is imperative that I have your registration and payment by the close of April. If there is not sufficient enrollment by the end of April, we will not have the Summer Session.

Next on my agenda is to clarify the dates of our Spring Break. The school will be closed from March 21st through March 28th. Parent-Teacher conferences will be held April 6th, 7th, & 8th and the school will close at noon for all students on these days.

Since Inga Morales left DMS, there has been a change of hands for our Extended Care students. Mrs. Molter, Miss Ryan, Mrs. Serrecchia, Mrs. Vassallo, and myself, have been covering the 3 to 5:30 time frame Monday through Friday.

As always, I invite you to stop in, at your leisure, to observe your child at work in his or her environment. There are still some tears in the younger classes, but they don't last long. If you feel your child could tolerate seeing you come (...and go) please take advantage of this invitation.

In closing I would like to thank each and every one of you for entrusting us with the care and guidance of your children. It is a grand compliment to my staff and me. Thank you.

***“The secret of good teaching is to regard the child's intelligence as a fertile field in which seeds may be sown, to grow under the heat of flaming imagination. Our aim is not only to make the child understand, and still less to force him to memorize, but so to touch his imagination as to enthuse him to his innermost core.*”**

Maria Montessori

- Ruth N. Datzyk

Miss Ryan's Classroom

Roses are red, violets are blue, Happy Valentine's to you. We had a very busy month learning about the special holidays we celebrated. Thank you, for sending in all the yummy treats on Valentine's Day! Since February's here and gone, the month of March is full of new jobs and activities to be introduced to the classroom. We will be doing water jobs which involve some washing and scrubbing fruits and vegetables. Miss Ryan's class loves to explore with water! St. Patrick's Day and Easter will be special holidays celebrated in the classroom this month. Miss Ryan would like to welcome Aditya to our classroom this month. We are still in the "cold" season and I would like to ask parents to please donate boxes of tissues to the classroom. Thank you.



Mrs. Serrecchia's Classroom

I can't believe it's already the middle of February. Time flies when you're having fun. To date, we have just started dabbling in "water jobs." Some of these tasks are transferring water from one container to another using various methods. We will work our way into washing dishes and paste cloths. The children are diligently practicing letter sounds. We have also started a new job of identifying objects in our classroom that begin with certain letter sounds. In the upcoming month, we will begin to start a variety of seeds in the sunny windows of our classroom. We will be talking about how seeds grow as well as examining our classroom garden daily for new growth.

Reminder: Show n tell will be on a Friday. If we are not open on a Friday, it will be on the last day of the week.



Mrs. Vassallo's Classroom

During the month of February, we have been talking about the human body. We have learned about our bones and how they protect our organs and they help keep our shape. We talked about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. We are making progress with our letter sounds and language activities. The students are moving through the math equipment and we will soon introduce the beadstair in our class. We are continuing our progress with shapes and colors.



Next month we will talk about St. Patrick's Day and the season change from Winter to Spring. Hopefully, the warmer weather will arrive and we can do some outdoor activities. We have been continuing to practice Spanish on Monday's, Wednesday's, and Friday's. We have been learning the months of the year and the remainder of the Spanish colors.

Reminder for Extended Care!

Effective Tues., 22 February, Datzyk will be charging a fee to parents who pick their children up after 5:30 pm. The fee is \$5/student for every 5 minutes after 5:30 pm.



Mrs. Molter's Classroom

Mrs. Molter's class continues to learn German and the skeleton. We watched for the groundhog. Unfortunately, he saw his shadow, which means 6 more weeks of winter. So please make sure that while there is snow on the ground each child has boots and snow pants.



Thank you to Ci-Jie's mother for helping us learn about Chinese New Year. It is now Year of the Rooster. Our Valentines were shared on the 14th. We are now learning about Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. We have been discussing North America. Soon it will be time for shamrocks and rabbits.

Mrs. Datzyk and Mrs. Turrisi's Classroom

Greetings to one and all!

With the winter practically behind us, we are all feeling a touch of **Spring Fever!** We hope, now that most of the snow has cleared, to venture over to Trexler Park. Sadly, because of insufficient waterproof outerwear, we were unable to go to the park as a group when the ground was still covered with snow.

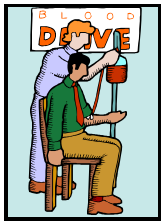


After a dazzling Chinese New Year presentation by Ci-Jie Tuan's mother, Elsa, we took a flying leap into Asia...Thank You Elsa! We invite any parent with interest or knowledge in Asian culture, to please step forward and share with our class your valuable information.

Going hand-in-hand with our study of Asia will be a study of poetry. We will explore various styles and then compose poetry of our own. On March 2nd is the birthday of the late great Dr. Seuss, you can be sure that we will read some of his works and also try some DMS silly-williness!

It has been, and certainly is, a pleasure to spend time with each of your children. We thank you for this opportunity. We look forward to meeting with you during conference week, April 6-8.

Blood Drive



There have been a number of families this school year with loved ones that have suffered car accidents. In recognition of this and in support of emergency care, the Miller-Keystone Blood Bank would send a mobile unit to our school IF we have the commitment of at least 20 donors. Please take a moment to write a note to your child's teacher if you are willing to donate. Thank you.

Update on School Pictures

School pictures are available!! Please look in the folders between Mrs. Molter's and Miss Ryan's rooms. Do not take the folders from the school so that all parents can view the pictures. A price sheet was distributed in mid-February. There is one correction to the price sheet. That is, the proceeds will not be given to PoDS. This is a mutual agreement between Datzyk and PoDS in an effort to keep the prices as low as possible.





Welcome New Students!

Miss Ryan's room — Aditya

Mrs. Datzyk & Mrs. Turrissi's room — Grayson

New Page on the Datzyk Website

It's been one month since we introduced the new Parents page on the Datzyk website at www.datzykmontessori.com. It has a school calendar, chat room and recent newsletters.

Your feedback is appreciated. If you have comments or suggestions on the web site, please leave them in the PoDS mailbox at Datzyk.



Special Thanks!!!

- Elsa Chen, Ci-Jie Tuan's mother, for conducting a special Chinese New Year presentation and sharing a special gift with the children.
- Thank you for shopping at Superfresh! Datzyk received \$50.00



Coming Events

07 Mar: PoDS Meeting; 7-8pm in Mrs. Molter's room

09 Mar: Teacher Meeting—Volunteers needed 12:15-1:15pm

21-28 Mar: Datzyk closed for Spring Break

04 Apr: PoDS Meeting; 7-8pm in Mrs. Molter's room

05 Apr: Teacher Meeting—Volunteers needed 12:15-1:15pm

06-08 Apr: Parent /Teacher conferences (noon dismissal)

Parents of Datzyk School (PoDS) Update

As mentioned in the January newsletter, PoDS will focus our efforts around strengthening communication between the Datzyk staff and Datzyk parents. We are in the early stages of planning some activities for National Teacher Week in early May and for the Datzyk Spring Picnic in June. We may be creating a yearbook; it will depend on parents' interest in assisting and buying one. Finally, we are currently working with the teachers to determine if PoDS will fund a one-time enrichment class this spring as a supplement to curriculum. The suggestions include an art class presented by Allentown Art Museum, an animal show presented by Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, or an animal show presented by Trexler Game Preserve. Other suggestions are also welcome.

We look forward to seeing you at the next PoDS meeting on Monday, 07 March 7-8pm in Mrs. Molter's room.

Easy Ways to Help Datzyk

When you shop at the stores below, give these account numbers & Datzyk gets rewards.

- **Superfresh** Account: 444441027—Datzyk gets cash quarterly
- **Office Depot**: 5% School Id: 70084861—Datzyk gets store credit
- **Box Tops for Education**: Datzyk gets cash semiannually; Don't forget to cut the Box Tops for Education icons off General Mills products and put them in the box in your child's classroom. Each top could be worth 10 cents!
- **SchoolPop.com** Account: 0171602

