



Children of Integrity

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In this issue...

Speed Reading	Page 1
New Artist...	Page 2
In the Community	Page 2
Open House	Page 2
Reminders	Page 2
Dates to Remember	Page 2

Introducing...

George Stancliffe was born in Missoula, Montana. Mr. Stancliffe has been teaching Speed Reading for over 10 years. He began teaching speed reading to adults. But after seeing how well children learned to speed read, he shifted his focus to teaching children. Mr. Stancliffe is the author of the book *Speed Reading 4 Kids*, now in its 3rd edition. This manual shows parents how to teach children (from age 8 to 18) to speed read, even if the parent has no previous experience with speed reading.

Speed Reading at Children of Integrity

The purpose of teaching a brief speed reading course here at our Montessori School is two-fold:

- 1) To help train the children to use their Right-Brain a little bit more while reading. This helps them to visualize and gain better comprehension.
- 2) To help the children learn a skill that will help them throughout the remainder of their lives.

The speed reading instruction will only last about two months in each of the Elementary classes. Each week, the children will have two, approximately 30-minute sessions. By the end of this period, each student will have learned enough speed reading skills to be able to read faster as well as comprehend more. They will be encouraged to maintain the skill by using their speed reading skills for 15 minutes per day in books of their own choosing. Fun, easy books are the best ones to practice speed reading.



What is Speed Reading?

Speed reading is the ability to see and process more than one word at a time. When we first learned to read, we only knew the alphabet and read each word slowly, one letter at a time. After a few months, we got used to seeing several letters at a time as we learned phonics and simple words. After a year or two of reading, we became proficient at seeing one word (as a whole) at a time. Most people never progress beyond the one-word-at-a-time level. Speed readers learn to see two, three, or even more words at a glance and turn

these groups of words into a visualized movie inside their minds (re-creating what the author originally envisioned before he wrote the book). It takes most children a few days to a few weeks to get good at speed reading. Fortunately, this skill is easily learned, especially if the children take time to practice 15 minutes per day. While most children double their previous reading speed (with good comprehension), a few of them do exceptionally well, especially those with Dyslexia, ADD and ADHD.

New Artist on the Block

Jean Ward has spent the last 20 years teaching children of all ages while raising her own 5 kids! Now that 3 of the 5 are living all over the world, Jean joins us at our school one day a week sharing her passion for art.

As a mother and an Early Childhood Educator, as well as studying Education at Simon Fraser University, Jean brings with her a unique blend of personal and professional expertise.

Jean teaches at the Jewish Community Center in Vancouver, running a variety of art based programs for children as young as 18 months old through to elementary school aged children. She is well known for her "Meet the Masters" program which she developed and teaches at the

JCC and also at her own children's elementary school.

"Meet the Masters" is an innovative approach primarily teaching children about some of the great artists through the centuries. Jean's approach integrates art history and activities into the existing curriculum of the teachers she works with. The children are exposed to these great artists, the things that influenced their lives and their works, what was happening historically during these artists' lifetime, and learn to recognize the works of these great masters.

Now Jean will be bringing that same approach here to our Montessori school. The adventure has already begun! Using oil and chalk pastels, watercolors and a

myriad of other art mediums, your children will be experimenting and finding artistic ways for self expression.

Keep your eyes peeled for new masterpieces created by your amazing children!



Jean Ward

In the Community...

Douglas College is offering spring break camps for 8 year olds and up. For more information, please contact the office.



Reminders



Professional Day:

No school for students next Friday, February 23rd!

February Open House



Our information session for new parents will be on Saturday, February 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Please invite any of your family, friends, and neighbours.



Dates to Remember

Open House	February 17th
Parent Info Session	
100th Day of School	February 21st
Professional Day	February 23rd
No school for students	



Food for Thought

The thing always happens that you really believe in; and the belief in a thing makes it happen.

Frank Lloyd Wright

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