



MONTESSORI RADMOOR
Educating children since 1968

Alumni Newsletter



January 2017

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Dear Jamie,

Nearly 50 years after Montessori Radmoor School opened its doors for its first students, the hallways still ring with the sounds of children learning and laughing, of a community being formed through a shared commitment.

About 150 students are enrolled this year at the school, from the toddler program through primary and elementary. As alumni, you and your family were once part of that scene.

The memories of students from their years at Radmoor seem as varied as their interests, and that is part of the strength of Montessori education - like building on your strengths, facing those challenges and growing the whole child into the world.

It's what we do at Radmoor each day. We *thank you* for being a part of it.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OPEN HOUSE

January 21
10:00 am-Noon

Prospective families are invited to attend to learn more about our school and programs..

INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

May 19
5:00-7:00 pm

Come visit and explore our many continents as presented by each of the classrooms!

Transitions and Celebrations

Friday, June 9, 2017 from 4:30-7:00 p.m.

It's time to celebrate our High School seniors - we are proud of all you have accomplished.

We plan to honor you with a gathering at the school on Friday, June 9. Come reconnect with your friends at the school that started your journey.

More details will follow!

All alumni - high school age and older - are welcome to attend (even if you are not graduating).

Photos from the 2016 Celebration



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

This winter we focused on alumni who are in high school and how Montessori Radmoor influenced their education and life.

Cameron Moy

Okemos High School Freshman
Primary 2, Elementary 2 through 6th Grade



The most important aspect of the elementary program is the deep and lasting friendships that develop. There is an amazing community at Radmoor that ensures that you interact and work with every individual every day. The friends I had at Radmoor continue to be my best friends today. Over winter break, we spent over half of the vacation scheming ways to spend time together and interacting via cell phone when we were apart.

I am grateful for my Radmoor education - I was prepared for middle school and high school and am doing well in all of my classes. I think the best part about the elementary program was being able to explore whatever topics I wanted to, in depth (including mummifying a chicken and hours of math). I remember a time when I wasn't fond of reading and Miss Christine showed me a book about shoes

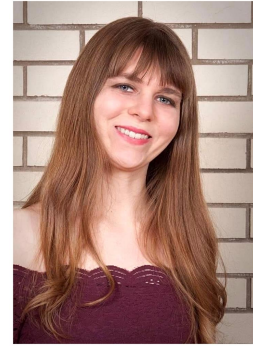
- I ended up reading the entire book and making Roman Sandals (it also involved a lot of math).

Catherine Russell

Williamston High School senior
Elementary 2 through 6th grade

What I loved about Radmoor was that they emphasized language and speech, and that helped focus and encourage my love of language and geography. We learned about other cultures, and exploring those helps promote the love of different people and their cultures.

In lessons and in class at Radmoor, we learned to work with everyone, and that includes people who weren't the same age as you were or the same grade level. Now, when I have group projects at school, I know how to work with others and work together. I have been involved with Model United Nations for four years in high school, and we work together to try to solve problems. There is a lot of learning to compromise, and that skill is not elaborated on in public school as much. At Radmoor, we learned to speak respectfully and to see others' strengths.



Andrew Stephenson

Okemos High School senior
Primary 1 and Elementary 1



Montessori education at Radmoor helped me have a better work ethic. Whatever we did study, we studied in depth. With the grammar and parts-of-speech lessons, for example, we truly focused on those, and my writing skills improved. The time between the teacher and the student was important.

The smaller group setting meant that we all interacted together, even if we weren't all in the same grade.

Independent learning is so important in Montessori. The teachers walked us through how to learn independently. It's a balance with having kids learn by themselves and the lessons and the teachers. Because our work day was more open, you had to find something to do and learn. There was an expectation that we were taught to work and we would know how.

Sam Winkler

Okemos High School junior
Primary 3 and Elementary 1 and 2

Montessori Radmoor taught me a world-view, a belief in the brotherhood in the world, that people are people and you shouldn't alienate them.

The world needs people who compromise. We need to see the other sides of issues, and we need to be people who take the first step. Love breeds love.



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE SCHOOL

Bake sale helps to fund gifts for children in foster care

The Elementary Students staffed a Bake Sale in December, selling delicious treats in order to fund the purchases of gifts for kids in foster care in Ingham County.



This year, nearly \$700 was raised and elementary assistant Sheena Stachelek took Upper Elementary students shopping for gifts and then the children wrapped them.

Primary student - created flag takes an overseas journey

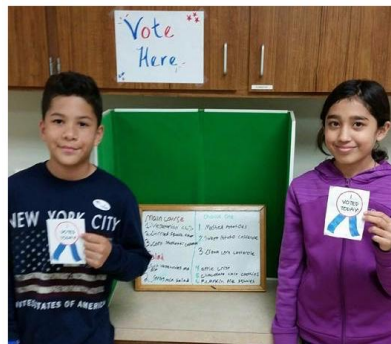


The Danish flag flies high!

For those who think those flags you make in elementary and primary are just art work - think again. During a recent military commitment in Denmark, a Radmoor grandparent took along a paper flag that Thor Jorgensen made in P3.

The grandfather of Thor and Bjorn Jorgensen, General Gregory Vadnais met the royal family and had it signed by the princess!

Election Day isn't only for adults!



Draven and Anjali voted!

Elementary students practiced voting when they decided what to eat for the annual fall Harvest Festival.

They even used "I voted" stickers!



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Support Montessori Radmoor School

There are many ways you can give back to Montessori Radmoor. For more information, please visit our website

*below or contact **Mary Lam-Rodrigues, Director of Development & Marketing** at (517) 351-3655.*

[WAYS TO GIVE TO RADMOOR](#)

MONTESSORI RESOURCES

- **Videos:** Last spring Alumnus Patrick Hyatt created and produced two videos for Montessori Radmoor. These videos have been a wonderful resource for the school. We also hope that these videos will be helpful for any prospective families that you might know.
 - [Why Montessori?](#)
 - [The Full Montessori Cycle](#)
- **Classes for prospective families:**
 - Montessori 101 is a class offered for those families interested in finding out more about the Montessori philosophy of education. These classes are offered throughout the year, and are listed on our web site.
- Want information on our school and its happenings? Visit our web site: **www.montessoriradmoor.org**
- Did you know that you can support Montessori Radmoor while you are shopping for items you already need or want through **[Amazon Smile](#)**? (When using Amazon Smile, we are listed as Michigan Montessori Internationale, our business name).

Do you have an idea for a story or want to be featured in the next issue of our Alumni Newsletter? Please let us know. We'd love to hear from you!

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This newsletter was written by Michelle R. Munson, the parent of two proud Radmoor alumni.

