

#### TERM 2

Dear Montessori Eco School Community,

As we reflect on the first half of the school year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the journey we've taken together.

Our children have blossomed in so many ways, embracing the Montessori principles of independence, curiosity, and a love for learning. They have not only mastered new academic skills but have also grown in their social and emotional capacities, demonstrating empathy, cooperation, and respect for others.

In this newsletter we bring you some highlights of our children's achievements, stories of their creativity, and updates on the exciting events that have taken place this term.

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to share that we have many exciting initiatives in the works, aimed at enhancing our educational offerings and ensuring that our Montessori environment continues to be a place of joy and discovery.

My heartfelt thanks to our wonderful parents and teachers for your unwavering support and involvement. Our partnership is invaluable, and together, we create a vibrant community that celebrates the uniqueness of each child.

Thank you for being a part of our Montessori family.







**MES NEWSLETTER 2024** 



### THIRD GREAT LESSON: The Coming of Mankind

The third of our Montessori Great Lessons revises the necessity of plant and animal adaptations to their environment for 'survival of the fittest' and introduces the scientific theory of human evolution.

So far, we have explored: archaeological discoveries of skulls and skeletons – comparing and matching photographs these to artists impressions of the different Hominidae; evidence of early tools – studying samples and trying to making these from natural materials in our garden; recognition of rock art - imagining and recreating the stories it tells.

Interlinking other areas of the curriculum - children are learning to read, spell, define and exemplify key terminology in language lessons.

To support their individual cultural projects for this term, based on the history and timeline of humans, they will be writing their own autobiographies, and we ask you to assist them with their own family history and mapping out a family tree.





## SCHOOL ELECTIONS

Correlating with the Presidential Elections, children have experienced democratic voting at their own level - to develop their playground with either a Netball Court, Swimming Pool or Zip Line. Parties were fanatically formed and representatives nominated to give persuasive speeches as to why their choice of playground equipment should take precedence over another. There was an excited energy and creative spirit with mantras and marketing dominating break times. In order to register to vote, children completed an ID with their own details, inspiring some interesting discussions into the vital importance of knowing these personal details by heart, even in this digital era. In mathematics, the children analysed real data taken from the number of seats, and used the concrete Montessori materials to explore these in terms of fraction and percentage.

A voting station was set up, and on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May the children had the opportunity to cast their vote, and the count showed most support for the Netball party. This is aptly timed to encourage the newly formed netball team as they participate in their their first friendly match against other schools on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June.



**MES NEWSLETTER 2024** 



## CHESS

From early morning, until the sun was setting, it was an emotional graft, but the relief was real when we won!" Bukhali reflects on the chess tournament on the 25<sup>th</sup> May at St. Peter's School.

Bulumko adds that their performance in the rapid tournament was amazing, with him and Bukhali achieving ratings of 1106 and 1086 respectively. Bulumko has been ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the league. Sean-Michael, representing Lower Elementary, also won his match. Chess meets every Wednesday after school, come 'check' out the tactics that have led to these boys' awesome achievements!



## VEGETABLE GARDEN

The lessons of the Second Great Lesson of life cycles and investigations into 'what plants need', resulting in successful germination, followed by tender loving care of seedlings, is paying off, and there is produce periodically ready for picking.

In case you have missed it, it is available for sale at 2pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, by the Primary collection point. Please do try to bring small change and your own bag to take your delicious purchase home in.





## **TEACHER CONNECT**

It was wonderful to meet so many parents at our coffee & croissant morning. Some thought provoking questions were raised. If we could not answer independently on the day, we will reflect upon as a team and endeavour to answer timeously.

It was especially precious to see how excited the children were to guide you through their environment and share their work with you. We will be making more opportunities for this.

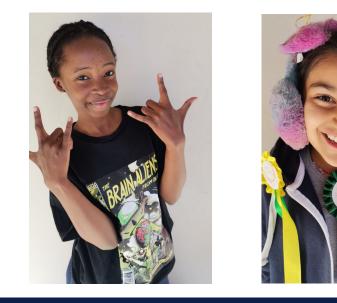


## THE RESULTS OF HARD WORK

Thingo Adesanmi - qualified to go to Talent Africa Nationals for Hip Hop.

India Maharaj Rugubeer - three times Clear Rounds in her second ever horse jumping show.

Malkia Kogo - qualified for the Dance, Talent and Model Association Gauteng awards and qualified for provincials in Lyrical solo, gymnastics duet and contemporary group.





**MES NEWSLETTER 2024** 



## SOCCER & NETBALL MATCHES

We are so proud of how our sports teams took on the challenge of playing matches against other schools with only a couple of weeks practice, and especially of how they conducted themselves, representing Chartwell House Eco School away from home.

We look forward to future sporting events.





## **MOTHERS DAY**

The children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to serve their moms as they prepared pressed flowers for the 'Candle Craft' and thoughtfully arranged the garden for picnic spaces.

The adoration shown when wording their cards or poems was touching... mothering may be tough at times, but know that you are the lights of their lives!

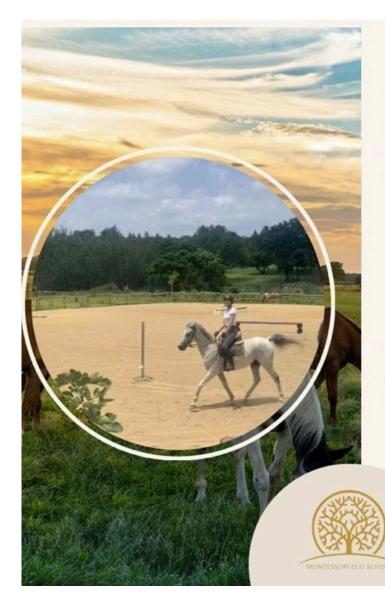




#### **UP COMING EVENTS**

This month's Events 14<sup>th</sup> June – Father's Day Event 20<sup>th</sup> June – Lower Elementary Pyjama Day 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Colour Run 28<sup>th</sup> June – Close at 12pm for Mid-term break 8<sup>th</sup> July – School reopens

#### **RIDING SCHOOL**



#### Chartwell House RIDING SCHOOL

Join our Riding School for hours of therapeutic fun! Learn the basics and progress into Show Jumping and Dressage!

Pre-school R200 per half hour Primary School R250 per half hour (Please note that stable yards in the area charge R350 per half hour and up)

BOOK NOW

MICHELLE WEINMANN 0796754194



#### EXTRA MURALS



# LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL: MOMENTS

