

## MPA Meeting Notes from November 1, 2016

In addition to our regular meeting, Bay Farm's Director of Education, Liz Titus, gave a 30-minute presentation called *Homework and the Work of the Home*. Liz discussed how parents can support their children's homework and other types of work using a Montessori philosophy to encourage a child's independence, organization, persistence/resilience, self-confidence, and time management. An online version of this presentation is being created for the Bay Farm parents' website and we will inform parents once this is live.

Some tips discussed during the presentation included:

- Encourage chores and value the child's effort rather than the result
- Break work into chunks
- Demonstrate your own work ethic in the home
- Show children your calendar and to-do list to demonstrate how you manage your time
- If your kids are having success, let them overhear you compliment them to a third party
- Promote organization by giving children sorting activities, including putting away their work and toys and organizing clothing; reinforce that everything has its place.
- Ask children how long they think it will take them to complete homework to get them thinking about time management. Listen to them if they say they don't have time or are too busy to do homework.
- Have your child use a planner for work assignments. Use post-it notes for tasks and activities so that your child can move the tasks around as needed to manage his time.
- If your child puts off doing work, let her see the natural consequence of doing so.

### Bay Farm Updates

- The 12th Annual Royce Whitaker 5K Run by the Bay was a success with more than 150 runners.
- Scrip fundraising is doing well with \$826.80 raised so far. Thank you for supporting the MPA. With your help, we are able to fund special events and activities throughout the year.
- The Box Tops fundraising has resulted in 1,985 box tops collected so far, contributing \$198.50 to the MPA (\$250 raised in Box Tops last year).
- A beautification day was held on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who attended to help paint the hallways in the Children's House.
- Teacher Appreciation included putting conference survival kits from the MPA into all staff members' mailboxes on October 11<sup>th</sup>. The teachers really got a kick out of them.
- To kick off #GivingWeek, the MPA provided breakfast and lunch for the teachers during their November 28<sup>th</sup>'s professional development day. Thank you to all who brought in coffee and baked goods.
- A parent social was held at the Cask 'n Flagon on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The evening was a great way to celebrate the end of an amazing week of giving at Bay Farm! A big thank you to all who attended.