

2017—2018 Accomplishments

- MUSC Boeing Center for Children's Wellness Grant
- Fun Pan Program for 4k, 5k and 6th grade
- Reading Buddies
- First Tee Member
- Trip to Camp Bob Cooper for Upper Elementary
- Trip to Tybee Island for Middle School
- Gifted and Talented endorsed teachers
- National Board Certified teachers
- Adolescent Program at Fields Farm and Mosquito Beach
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Composting and recycling school-wide
- Parent Education Nights
- Poetry with SC Poet Laureate Marjorie Wentworth
- Career Fair and Speakers
- Daffodil & Peace Gardens
- Strings Program
- Guitar Club
- Canstruction Jr Team



Partnerships

West Ashley High School
Boeing
Earth Heart Growers
Fields Farm
Clemson Master Gardeners

Mission Statement

The work of the Montessori Community School is to guide the development of the whole child, empowering each student to make a positive impact on our world.



SIC Members

Meredith Johnson, Chairperson
Kimberly Hay, Principal
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Montessori Community School



*School Improvement Council
School Summary Report 2018*

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SCHOOL SUMMARY REPORT 2018



The Montessori Community School celebrates a variety of events and accomplishments for the 2017-2018 school year.

Academically, students continue to grow as learners in our environments. From the start of the school year with a study of eclipses to closing with poetry and engineering, MCS students play an active role in their learning. Test data shows that MCS continues to perform above state and district norms in MAP, SC READY, SCPASS and Algebra I End of Course Exams.

MCS faculty support students and model life long learning as eight MCS teachers and administrator have now completed their endorsements as Gifted and Talented teachers.

We continue to offer students additional opportunities. Activities this year included Guitar Clubs for students in the third through eighth grades and the addition of the Strings program. Students also participated in the Canstruction Junior competition, a community service engineering project for students in the 6th-8th grades. Our Guidance program hosts a number of career speakers and attendance at a career fair for Middle School students. And we were excited to host poetry writing workshops with South Carolina Poet Laureate Marjory Wentworth in the spring.

The gardening and natural world experience expanded for MCS students. While Middle School students continued their work at Fields Farm, Primary through Upper Elementary students planted and harvested vegetables, herbs and flowers on our campus. Our students are also re-building the planting beds, replacing the deteriorating wooden beds with brick, and redesigning the arrangements of beds. In addition this year we began to create a Peace Garden in a wooded corner of the campus. Again, all of the work of planning, under-brushing and creating narrow paths has been done by the MCS students with the guidance of Elizabeth Gilbert, Coordinator of our Gardening Program.

For younger students, we completed our second year of “Fun Pan” cooking on Friday afternoons. Led by Chef Jason Wheless of West Ashley High School’s Culinary Arts Department, four and five year old students, aided by sixth grade students, used fresh produce to make salads, pastas, stir fry and soups. The success of our school gardening program ensured that much of the produce was grown right on our own campus!



The partnership with Earth Heat Growers expanded to include projects and service activities at both Fields Farm on Johns Island and Mosquito Beach. MCS students and Malcolm Hursey students shared responsibilities in a program designed to put Middle School students on the land or in community service twice a month. Teachers and students collaborated to pick vegetables for CSA baskets, designed and built planters, and worked with Google employees on advertising for Mosquito Beach. At each service event, students worked alongside local chefs to prepare lunch for the entire group. We are grateful for the help of the many volunteers, including MCS parents. A special thank you to Earth Heart Growers founder and MCS parent Liz Ramirez for making this amazing initiative possible.



As is our tradition, field trips, including the multi-day trips for students in Upper Elementary and Middle School, continue to be an important part of our curriculum, providing academic and social learning experiences. Our students participate in The First Tee, a youth development organization that introduces students to golf, Jump Rope for Heart supporting the American Heart Association and our own Reading Buddies, pairing Upper Elementary students with Primary students.