



# KIVA KIDS

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## Kiva's Week at a Glance Three Day Week for Students

**Monday, December 18th -**

**Destination Imagination 3:00 - 4:00 pm -  
Beech Campus**

**CKMS Board Work Session - 5:45pm - Empire  
Campus**

**CKMS Board Meeting - 7:00pm - Empire  
Campus**

**Tuesday, December 19th -**

**Kiva Cafe' 7:30 - 7:45am**

**Wednesday, December 20th**

**Early Release - 1:15pm**

### From the Desk of Ms. Susan

Winter Break is upon on. Three more days of school. Students have finished up their STAR testing. All that remains are make up tests for students who may have been absent.

The Winter Program was such a delight. Thank you to all who helped with set building, transport and those who came to enjoy the evening.

Ms. Wendy Weygandt joined our staff this past week as our Administrative Assistant. We are very lucky and excited to have her join our team. If you have an opportunity, please come by and say hello.

I hope that you are able to take some much needed relaxation over the break and enjoy your families. I am very much looking forward to spending time with my children where we are not racing from one event to another.

As always if you have questions or suggestions please feel free to call me on my cell at (970) 759-5869 or email me at [susan.likes@kivacharter.org](mailto:susan.likes@kivacharter.org).

## Montessori Tidbit

Montessori education begins with what children can see and touch before abstract concepts and ideas are introduced; this creates a strong, solid foundation from which children can set their imaginations afloat.

Montessorians maintain that while young children master their environments, they develop intelligence, a sense of self, and their unique personality, which in turn helps establish the natural ability of creative thinking.

In most Montessori classrooms you are not likely to

## Middle School Project

On December 20th, the middle school will be building a set of eight stools for our classroom. We are in need of some help in order to make this project work. We will need some tools in order to

make shaping the wood possible (drills, saw, sander). We will also need some volunteers to help supervise using those tools to ensure safety. If you can help in any way please contact Mr. John at [john.whitehead@kivacharter.org](mailto:john.whitehead@kivacharter.org).

## A Little Bit about Ms. Wendy

Wendy Weygandt's career working in nonprofit began in 1992. She earned her Master of Science in Accounting at the University of Phoenix and Bachelor of Arts in International Business at Chatham University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She is also credentialed in Family Development through Temple University. Some of her accomplishments since moving to Montezuma County in 2000 include:

Secured the DOLA grant, which purchased the nuclear camera for Southwest Memorial Hospital and allowed for building upgrades.

Initiated the LiveWell Grant that supported outdoor youth activity and Spanish translation of health related materials and resources.

Successfully moved Hospice of Montezuma to its present location on North Broadway while maintaining high ratings in patient family satisfaction and financial stability.

She looks forward to contributing to the growth and success of the Children's Kiva Montessori School and working with the team that is enhancing the Montessori's method through teaching active engagement, responsibility and holistic learning.

In most Montessori classrooms you are not likely to find dress up or fantasy areas, but this does not mean creativity is lacking. Creativity is often misunderstood if it is not art, music or drama related.

Yet, creativity flourishes in Montessori classes due to the open-ended nature of many of the materials and inquiry activities children are involved with. Children are encouraged to ask questions, think for themselves, explore, investigate, and discover. The ultimate objective of Montessori guides is to help their students learn independently and strengthen the curiosity, creativity and intelligence they possess innately. Montessori classrooms foster self-directed, spontaneous activity which require a level of order, concentration, independence and competence, resulting in the capacity for divergent thinking, problem solving and innovation.

Maria Montessori said, "The sensory education which prepares for the accurate perception of all the differential details in the qualities of things, is therefore the foundation of the observation of things... it helps us to collect from the external world the material for the imagination."

## The Importance of Breakfast

Did you know? Kiddos who eat breakfast do better in school, are more likely to participate in physical activities, and tend to eat healthier overall. So tomorrow morning, don't run out the door on an empty stomach. Fuel up with a healthy breakfast!

### A Peek Forward - Save these important Dates

December 18th - CKMS Board Meeting - 5:30pm - Beech Campus  
December 21st - January 5th - Winter Break