



**MARIA MONTESSORI CHARTER ACADEMY**

1850 Wildcat Blvd. • Rocklin, CA • 916-630-1510



**Thursday Flyer: June 7, 2018**

## School's OUT for Summer!

### 8th Grade Graduation

Congratulations to all 8th Grade Graduates! Each year we like to publish the speeches of our 8th Grade Graduation Student Speakers. Their speeches are available at the end of this Flyer.

### Summer Office Hours and Summer Communication

Generally, we will maintain Summer Office Hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00a - 12:00p. The office will be closed the first week of July. Additionally, we will electronically send at least (3) Summer Flyers with information about the upcoming school year. These Flyers will be a) sent via e-blast, b) published on the Front Page of our website and c) posted to our Facebook page. The first flyer should be going out around the first week of July.

### Summer Camp 2018

We have VERY few spots left - six of our nine weeks are now FULL! If you have any questions about the program, please contact Summer Camp Director Julie Cohodes at [jcohodes@mmcharter.org](mailto:jcohodes@mmcharter.org).

### Medications at School

Please pick up all student medications from the office A.S.A.P. Medications left in our office after June 14th will be disposed of regardless of expiration dates. Also, please plan to have a new medication form, which can be accessed on our website, by the first day of the 2018/19 school year.

### Heroes of the Hallways

We have had another hugely successful year of **Watch DOGS!** Just look at the number of pictures on the "Wall of Fame!" Thank you to all of the fathers (and father figures) who showed up this year! If you'd like to have your picture, please stop by the office.



## 8th Grade Graduation Student Speakers

### **Alison Flacks Graduation Speech**

A year before I started at MMCA, I went to school with Jason Frausto. He told my class that he was going to go to a new school where they have to wear a uniform and there were not many kids. When I heard that, all I could think was that was lame. Fast forward seven years and I love this school. Whenever I am in class with my peers I learn so much more in an environment where we can interact with lessons instead of just sitting and listening. The teachers and methods at this school have taught me much more than a traditional school could have.

At the beginning of my experience here I was sent to blue room. I remember spending hours trying to get out of doing my work or convincing Mrs. Schmich and Mrs. Harper to let me keep braiding their hair. When I was in aqua room I remember talking endlessly with Ms. Sherman, who is now Mrs. Mitchell, and only doing my work when she told me to. I remember finally getting my act together in orange room because the school made me want to work harder. Whenever I needed something Mrs. Garcia and Mrs. Cohodes would help me and they always made me happy. I remember being at school upset and instead of teachers telling me to be quiet, they would comfort me.

After all the younger grades, I was finally part of the green room. When my peers and I got to school on the first day in green room we joked around and were very excited to see our homerooms and new classmates. Every time I think about the good memories at MMCA I usually think of green room because the 8th grade class of 2018 rarely got upset with each other and we hardly had any “cliques”. We were all such good friends and I am sad to see that go, but so happy that I was a part of it. The teachers in green room were also such influential people in my life. No matter what was happening they always seemed to make my day better. I had special relationships and jokes with every teacher. My friends and I constantly asked Mrs. Wallace who her favorite student was, Mrs. Wibbenhorst and I teased each other, Mrs. Jennings sang lyrics and danced to popular songs, and Mrs. Watkins and I bonded over our shared name, Alison, our height, and our membership of the Tall Alison’s Club.

Every day I get told by people outside of school or my parents that I am not ready for high school because of how small my current school is, but I don’t care because I think MMCA was such an amazing experience. For years I have watched the 8th grade graduation and been so excited to become an older student and a sort of role model for the younger students.

Not only have I been given a fantastic education, but I have also been given an outlet to music and sports. Most of my peers and I have always been very interested in sports and we love to stay after school and watch each other in basketball, soccer, or volleyball games or participate ourselves. Mr. Boothby has always encouraged all kids to try every sport, even if they have never been on a team or picked up a ball from that sport before. He has definitely been one of my best coaches because he never put me down when I was upset and he always pushed me harder. I would say that this school has opened my eyes to athletics because of how fun my classmates and coaches made it. I have also had a wonderful time in music. Mr. Baldonade is undoubtedly one of the most helpful and influential people in my life and he always makes people laugh. Ever since he has been my teacher I have said he is my role model because he has made so many people such talented musicians and really does support them.

In my final years here I try not to get upset that my time at MMCA has come to a close, but I try to think of all the great times I have had with everyone here. I am not done here and I truly don't think anyone is because this is something you can't forget. I don't think of Maria Montessori as a school, I think of it as a community. We all work hard to help each other instead of just caring about our own problems. I don't think it's just the methods that help us, I think it is the people who surround us here. So when everyone leaves today I would like them to think about how lucky they are to have been part of this extraordinary community. Thank you.

### **Karson Rekers Graduation Speech**

Dr. Seuss once said "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." All the grads you see here today have chosen their own path to follow in life - we are unique, driven, and ready to move to the next step in our educational journey.

I have been attending MMCA since kindergarten. I have seen the school change and grow over time, but the one thing that has stayed constant is the amazing staff and teachers that have helped us each and every day. I'm especially grateful that they have helped me, and most importantly . . . believed in me, even sometimes when I haven't believed in myself.

Now I'm in 8th grade, and although I am excited for the future, all the staff and teachers here have become like family and I will miss them.

There have been many teachers that have been an influence on our experiences at school. Like Mr. Baldonade, who has helped so many kids find a passion for music and his kindness for all students. I don't think there are many other schools where the students are often greeted on campus each morning by a guy with a big smile, strumming away on a ukulele, and humming a tune. He has always found a way to make the students laugh with something he does or says, and it has not gone unnoticed. I was especially grateful when he hand painted my ukulele with my name, and when he put new strings on a very special guitar I have from my late grandfather.

All of the teachers and staff members have been a big help with the 8th grade grads this year. I would especially like to thank the green room teachers ....

Mrs. Wallace, for your constant reminder on the importance of reading;

Mrs. Wibbenhorst, for encouraging us to use our creativity;

Mrs. Watkins, for making us laugh and teaching us all about science; and

Mrs. Jennings . . . I truly wouldn't have made it through Math without you . . .

I can say, we are all eternally grateful to ALL of you.

One of the best things I can say about this school is the variety of activities we are able, and encouraged to participate in. Parents, teachers, and staff volunteer their time to run sports, and clubs. Many of the activities you

would not find at other schools, are here at MMCA ..... but we are able to do it all. Some we all are able to participate in is music, and garden, but really there is so much more.

MMCA has been a great school that I will never forget, and I thank all the teachers, staff members, and parents for their support to the all the graduates of 2018.

Someone once said “Goodbyes are not forever. Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I’ll miss you, until we meet again! Congratulations Class of 2018!!!! I think we are the best class MMCA has seen so far!!!

Thank you!

### **Nikhita Tandon Graduation Speech - Our Final Years At MMCA**

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” This is a message I live by every day, because it gives me the motivation to work hard and achieve something greater in life. Hi I’m Nikhita Tandon, one of the students of the graduating class of 2018. First of all, I want to thank all the parents, teachers, and the staff for working hard to provide our curious minds with knowledge. When we were little, we held our parents hands for support with the curiosity to learn new things. Then as years passed by, we gained experiences as new opportunities opened up to us. Now we are here, entering into the next step of our life, of taking over the world of new challenges.

In the first day of this school, I was nervous to meet my teachers and my classmates. Before I entered this school I thought that, “Everyone is going to be cool and calm and everything is going to be fine.” But as soon as I entered the school’s ground and saw my class, there was excitement and loudness everywhere. Then that’s where I thought this year is going to be filled with a lot of adventures and surprises. When we were about to enter the classroom, I saw my first teacher for this school, Mrs. Watkins. She has a good sense of humor and has cool dance moves. I know that because, when we were doing Just Dance during PE, she was doing the Whip n nae nae. My other awesome teacher is Mrs. Wallace. I’m also grateful for her being my 8th grade teacher, because she deals with a lot of things in our class when we make weird jokes or talk about random stuff.

Another one of my teachers is Mrs. Jennings. She’s a really fun math teacher that tells a lot of stories. One of my favorite stories is when she was telling us about the time she was practicing Fortnite dances, but the best part was when she was demonstrating them to the whole class. Next, there is Mrs. Wibbenhorst, the best history and art teacher there is. She is entertaining because once in class, she let the whole class sing a song together while working. Not only that, but she is also really hard working because she puts in a lot of time and effort to create enjoyable art projects and amusing history activities.

As we step on to this new world of opportunities and challenges, we are growing into ambitious students by aiming higher in every step of our way, because we know we can. How did we get here in the first place?

We got here by being fierce, by being fearless, and by being flawed. We were fierce by working hard and staying up late on nights to practice and study for tests and assignment. We were fearless by facing people who challenge

you or doing some things we didn't want to do. Then, we were flawed by failing at something we worked so hard to do. When we kept failing and failing, like trying to answer a math question, we didn't give up. Instead, we worked hard and got an answer to that question.

But there's one thing that's certain, you will fail and there's nothing you can do to stop that. But what you do after you fail, defines where you will go. You will fail and fail and then you will rise like a phoenix.

As we leave this school, we are going to remember all the fun times and the influential people we had here. How they made us push and work hard to exceed our limits to prepare us for the outside world. They did not only do that, but they also made us feel that we are part of this community, and made sure we were not excluded. In our final years of MMCA, we aren't just going to take our values, beliefs, and memories with us but also leave one behind for the younger students. When leave this school, we are all prepared for new challenges and opportunities in a new world in which we are about to enter.