The activities called practical life exercises include activities that teach the child how to take care of himself and his environment, develop social skills, independence and enhance fine muscle control. These activities are critical to a child’s development. They contribute to his control and coordination, concentration and self-confidence. These activities include but are not limited to food preparation, shoe polishing, table scrubbing, hand washing, sewing buttons sweeping the floor, pouring water, polishing wood, cleaning glass, watering the plants, washing dishes.

Each activity is attractively set upon a tray with child sized tools and containers so that the children can go about their chosen activities independently. Because so many of these activities require water they are particularly attractive to the young children.

Since there are several steps in learning some of the
Steps in Learning  

Parents: Have you signed up for class snack supply?

Parents are invited to join us for a special International Peace Day celebration on Thursday, Sept. 19 from 9:00-9:30 a.m.

Elementary and primary students will join together at the pavilion to sing songs and share their ideas on peace.
An evening of jazz, art and fine dining will highlight SPEMS Annual Fall Fete and Art Auction on Saturday, September 28, 2013 from 7:00 – 10:00 pm at the Pearl Studio, 200 Grayson St.

San Antonio jazz legend George Prado and a quartet will entertain guests. Tickets are $35.00 per person and may be purchased at the school office.

Artists featured in this year’s auction include Waddy Armstrong, Andy Benavides, Jenny Cross, Diana Kersey, Scott Martin, Roberta Maxham, Susan Straus, Teri Wright, and Maui artist Bruce Turnbull.

Nearly 50% of the school’s students receive significant tuition assistance. Last year, St. Paul’s provided more than $100,000 in tuition assistance. Funds raised in the Annual SPEMS Fall Fete and Auction helps make a Montessori education truly accessible to an economically diverse group of students.
Our new portable buildings have arrived!

Three new portable buildings were placed on the SPEMS campus at the end of August. When plumbing and electrical work are complete—and after city inspectors have approved the structures for occupancy—these buildings will house new upper elementary, lower elementary and primary classrooms.

We are so blessed to have this added space to accommodate our growing school. We are grateful to our generous donors, without whom these additions would not have been possible.

We hope to move into the new buildings by the end of September. If you haven’t already signed up to help with the move, please contact Lorna by email or phone. (Remember, many hands make light work!)

Also, thanks to all the teachers, parents and students for their flexibility and patience during our “growth phase.” Special thanks go to parent Roy Schweers. Roy has been involved in all aspects of this expansion – from planning and site preparation to the delivery and installation of the buildings.

—Jennifer Davey, HOS

Students aged 7 years or older are invited to join the St. Cecelia’s Children’s Choir. This choir joins the St. Paul’s Episcopal Church adult choir three Sundays during the year in morning worship. Choir rehearsals are every Wednesday afternoon from 2-3 p.m., and on Saturday mornings preceding the assigned Sunday. For more information, contact Kathy Kelly, the Director of Music.

Calling all Girls!

Join St. Paul’s Girl Scout Troop 750. Girls aged 5-12 can join. The troop meets every other Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

A registration meeting for new scouts will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 11th at 4:30 p.m. in the St. Paul’s Parish Hall.

A parent must be present at this first meeting. Registration is just $15 and due with sign-up. Scholarships are available.