



Made on a Mac

Happy Holidays 2012 from Charlene, Gavin & Morgana

Can you believe that Morgana is 13 years old, and in grade 8? She has been at Ottawa Montessori School since she was 19 months old, and this will be her last year. She has enjoyed Junior High tremendously. Junior High begins each year with an "Odyssey Trip": A 10-day canoe excursion in the Ontario wilderness. In grade 7, they travelled to Northern Ontario via the Polar Express to canoe on Moose River. This year they paddled the Mattawa river.

In February Morgana will be auditioning for the Visual Arts Program at Canterbury High School. She has been working on her portfolio for over a year. Three of the pieces are pictured in this card: her self-portrait, the floral oil painting, and the "teacups" textile art. There are only 40 places in the Visual Arts program, and hundreds of students audition. Keep your fingers crossed for her!

Morgana received her black belt in Karate in 2010, and will be grading for her black belt in Kobudo (Okinawan Weaponry) in February. She still attends both sewing and art class once a week, and finished a quilt for Nanny in the Spring.

This past summer we vacationed in Georgian Bay for a week with Nanny and Grampy. Afterward Morgana went to French Camp in St. Donat Quebec. She went for 2 weeks the summer before, and liked it so much she stayed for a month this year! We missed her terribly, but were able to see her on Visitor's Day. She is much more confident speaking French as a result!

The really big news here is around Morgana's short film: MIRROR. She has been working on this film for an entire year, and plans to enter it into youth film festivals throughout 2013. She will be finished editing it at the end of December. We have completed a web site for the film to help promote it, which increases the chances of it being screened at festivals. She was even interviewed about the film on TV! You can see the trailer, watch the TV interview, and read more about it at morganamckenzie.com. We are having a screening here in Ottawa on Sunday morning, Jan 13th at the Mayfair. If you'd like to attend please let me know! We are submitting it to a film festival in Kingston, so there is a chance you will be able to see it there in February.

Morgana created two other short videos: One for the Odyssey Trip, and another showing a day in the life of a Montessori Junior High Student. You can see them at: morganamckenzie.com/2012-holiday-card

