



Nest Notes

Dear Parents,

This week was our first full week with everyone present! It is wonderful to have a full class. The children are naturally aware that we help one another in the classroom and this makes them even more independent with their own small needs. Maria Montessori spoke of children being capable of doing more rather than less, with the right environment prepared for them. The children are entering a growth period where they want to do for themselves. We teach the language "I do," to help them communicate what they would like to do on their own. Some children have more language, which models for the younger ones, making community learning in our classroom in abundance.

Preparing our Jack-o-lantern

We welcomed scrubbing a pumpkin into our environment this week, while we prepare our special pumpkin to become a jack-o-lantern. This lesson is one designed to introduce a number of ordered steps for the child. First, he takes a vessel from the lesson and brings it to a water source to fill it with water. The child carefully carries the water back to the lesson table and pours it into a larger vessel. The child then uses a scrub brush to clean the pumpkin, following that with drying and polishing the pumpkin with a cloth. At the end of the lesson, the child takes the water to the sink to pour out the excess water and returns to the table, readying it for the next person.

Water work

Our water work activities in the classroom also include old-fashioned hand washing, and we end up having many spills. The children are very receptive to cleaning up their spills and also are excited about cleaning up bigger spills using our Swiffer mop. We do not use the Swiffer pads; rather we use one of our own cotton cloths to pick up our spills. We also learn how to change our wet cloth out for a clean one.

Important Dates:

- ◆ **Monday, October 14th** is our official Parent/Teacher Conference Day.
- ◆ **Thursday, October 17th** from 6pm-7pm is our annual Words in Color Reading Demonstration, led by Elementary 1 Teacher Rachel Reid. This is the curriculum and comprehensive program we use for reading. You will get an in depth look at how your child will learn to read here at the Center and how you can support your child with an understanding of the process. For more information and background on the Words in Color program, I invite you to take a look at the Primary Press article this week in this Friday folder email.



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Important Dates continued:

- ◆ **October 31st** is Halloween. We start the morning with a Parent Coffee from 8:30am-9am. Please feel free to hang out, enjoy time with other parents, and see what your child will be doing in the very near future. Following the Parent Coffee, we have a very big tradition of a school-wide Halloween Parade beginning with our eighth graders, and including classes all the way down to our Primary children. We in the Nest do not participate as the children are very young and are very apprehensive of the costumes. We will have a normal day. Some children may want to dress up as they will have siblings dressing up and this is fine, they may come in costume. We will change them into regular clothes before we have our morning snack to keep costumes fresh for your evening activities.

Volunteer Opportunities:

With our fall holiday of Halloween, we will be making some festive crafts. Please let me know if you would like to help with craft preparation. This is something you may work on at home.

Saturday, November 9th will be our annual Art Festival from 11am-1pm. This is a day of much fun for children and parents. We have many crafts for the children to do independently and with help. There will be food served for lunch, a selection of pizza, fresh salad, and home-made hummus. There will be a bake sale for goodies. There will be tickets sold for craft booths and a cash lunch.

We will be in need of volunteers for our art booth at the festival. The craft is our annual turkey tabletop decorations. They are easy, beautiful, and delightful! Please let me know if you would like to help! Our volunteer time will be from 10:45am-1:15pm. If we have several volunteers, we can split the shift in half.

Grandparents Day will be on November 22nd. We will be making a special gift for grandparents, two sets, one for each set of grandparents. If you have more than two sets of grandparents, please let me know as we want to include all grandparents in this special gift.

The children will be painting special frames. We will need volunteers to work with the children one on one. We will be taking pictures for our grandparents to insert for their gifts.

We welcome our volunteers weekday mornings.

Enjoy your weekend!

Ms. Christine and Ms. Rosa



Nest Notes Pictures



Thank you to:

*The Bhullar family for healthy snack this week.
Jessica Schneider for organizing our wonderful
parent night out.*