



Montessori

OCTOBER

2012-2013 News

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTORS



Joan Hayden



Carrie Kile

WOW, what a crazy time of year! We really appreciate your involvement and enthusiasm. Our International Day of Peace celebration was such a success and we want to thank those of you who attended.

As our World's Finest Chocolate fundraiser winds down we want you to know we are so pleased with the results. By next week we should know the outcome. Early indications show we should easily reach our goal of 3 computers!

We are excited to be offering the opportunity for our parents to attend Silent Journey this weekend. We know you will come away with a greater understanding and appreciation for Montessori! For those of you who could not attend, we will be scheduling another one in the spring.

The week of October 22 will be Parent/Teacher Conferences. Sign-up sheets are posted on classroom doors. This is a good opportunity to talk with teachers about shared goals and expectations. We'll also be having a Scholastic Book Fair that week.

We are gearing up for another fun filled Fall Family Festival, to

be held October 27th. We have many exciting activities planned for the whole family.

Our chicks are growing and thriving! They are currently living in their toasty warm brooder box in the pole barn, where they'll stay for a few more weeks before moving to the red barn. The students have been visiting on a regular basis, and learning all about chickens.

A few reminders:

Please do not drop students off in the morning until 8:25, unless you walk them into early care.

It is imperative that when you are in car line for drop off or pick up, you do not pass the cars in front of you. This is important for the safety of all of our students.

As the weather gets cooler, remember to change the extra clothes your child leaves at school.

LIBRARY NEWS



Lori Shewman

Judging by the number of books borrowed from the school library, it is fair to say that Peace Montessori students love to read. Several of our younger friends are making great progress as they practice reading aloud and our older friends are becoming very good at researching information for special reports. It is very rewarding to see so much activity taking place in our beautiful library.

also shared some fun facts about their special interests and dreams for the future. Parents, be sure to stop by and see what your student had to say.

And while you're here, be sure to check out this month's featured artist, Noah Shlater. Noah is in Kindergarten and is a very creative and generous little guy. He shared some pretty big plans for the future that you won't want to miss.

You can learn a lot about a student when they talk about a favorite book or topic to research. That is why I was thrilled when Grace Shollenberger, Donald Moore, CJ Briner and Helen Bassett volunteered to share their top picks. All four students are in the upper elementary class and are very interesting people! I was pleased by the variety in their reading preferences and with the enthusiasm each one displayed. Along with their book, they

SCHOOL-WIDE NEWS

October 2012

Note
worthy

No school Friday!

Teachers are renewing their First Aid Certifications, and prepping for the Silent Journey--which begins at 6:30 Friday Night.

Silent Journey

Friday and Saturday, October 12 & 13

See Joan, Carrie or Lauren if you have not yet signed up, but are still interested in attending the Silent Journey. We will begin at 6:30 Friday night, and again at 9, Saturday morning.

Picture Day October 17!

Order forms went home this week. Please note--all credit card payments need to be made on the Life-touch website prior to picture day. Instructions for credit card payments are on the order form. Additional order forms are available at the front desk.

Small Hands Orders Due Monday, Oct 22

If you plan to place an order from the Small Hands catalog that went home last week--order forms and payments need to be turned in to the school by Monday, October 22. This will ensure free shipping on our group order--and that all items will be delivered to the school before the holidays. Teachers wish-list items are posted

Parent Teacher Conference Week October 22-25

Teachers have their sign-up forms posted outside of the classrooms--be sure to sign up for your conference time early--spaces fill up fast.

Scholastic Book Fair October 22-25

Be sure to make time to come in to the school this week to browse the Scholastic Book Fair! This is always another great opportunity to get some early Christmas shopping out of the way!

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 27, 2-5 pm Trunk-or-Treat, Jailbirds, Cash Raffle--Oh My!

Trunk-or-Treat! We need about 25 families to host a trunk. Come up with a theme and go all out decorating your car/van/truck and your-selves to match! Or just come as you (and your car) are, to hand out treats. The children will then be able to go from trunk-to-trunk collecting goodies. Remember, it doesn't have to be candy or sweets, you can hand out fun trinkets too!

This year we are adding a fun challenge for our teachers! All afternoon, you will have the opportunity to throw your favorite teacher in jail (\$1) then watch her sweat as she performs for



her freedom! Maybe she'll have to sing, or dance... get her students to sign a petition for her freedom... Who knows what embarrassing... er, we mean-*fun* challenges we will think of between now and then! Any suggestions?



We're bringing back the cash-prize raffle this year! Starting Monday, October 8 we began selling \$1 raffle tickets (or 6tix for \$5). At the Fall festival, we will pull the winner's name out of a hat, and the winner will win 1/2 of the cash pot! Last year the cash prize was over \$500!



Alicia Purdy



Lisa Magsamen

TODDLER 1

Fall is here and the children are enjoying all that it brings. Many have been picking up leaves--trying to find the biggest one. Being outside has been wonderful for the children to practice gross motor such as running, climbing the hill, pulling things or other children in wagons. As the temperatures get colder, please send in appropriate clothing so your child can enjoy his time outside with friends.

The themes for October are dinosaurs and fall. The children have been making dinosaurs with magnets, matching dinosaurs to the correct picture, reading books about them, putting dinosaur puzzles together, and learning the names of different dinosaurs. A favorite work we have out is the sensory box. Last month it contained apple themed objects, this month it has dinosaurs. We love this work because it allows the children to explore different textures, scoop up the grass (dried split peas) using a scoop or their hand, bury the dinosaurs in the grass, and find each dinosaur's matching pair. These boxes help develop concentration, exploration and learning.

We have also added a counting set basket for an extra challenge. This set basket contains different dinosaurs. The purpose of this work is to sort the dinosaurs into groups that match. Then we count each group and label that group with the appropriate number.

Next week we will be adding some Halloween themed materials to the shelf. Two of these works are pumpkin scrubbing and making faces on a pumpkin. The pumpkin scrubbing involves many steps. First the child puts on an apron and then takes the pitcher to fill it with water. Next they pour the water in a small bowl. To begin scrubbing, they take the scrub brush, dip into the water, and then run it over the soap. Then they scrub the pumpkin with circular movements and wipe off the soap suds with a sponge. This activity can continue as long as they wish. When they are finished, they take the sponge to soak up the water and soap on the tray and squeeze it into the bowl. The bowl is carefully taken to the sink and dumped. The apron is placed next to the tray and is ready for the next child.

I am sure many of you have heard your toddlers singing songs around the house. It might be helpful to know what they are singing and even know the words. One of the songs we are singing this week is the Five Little Pumpkins. It goes like this:

Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate

The first one said "Oh my, it's getting late!"

The second one said "There's a chill in the air!"

The third one said "But we don't care!"

The fourth one said "Let's run and run and run!"

The fifth one said "I'm ready for some fun!"

Oooooooooooooo went the wind and out went with the light.

And the five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.



Jodie Zehner



Carrie Johnson

TODDLER 2

Our children have been enjoying the new work that is out in the classroom. A big favorite is the new barn and farm animals. We would like to say a big thank you to the families who purchased items from our wish list. We are so grateful!

Picture Day is next Wednesday (October 17th). We will have ours taken first thing in the morning and we will be turning off the sinks so everyone stays nice and dry! You may send in "play" clothes to change into after pictures are over. Please bring your child in during our scheduled time even if your child does not normally attend school on Wednesdays. We would like an individual picture taken of each child even if you don't plan to purchase a package. We use them for many projects throughout the year!

The cold weather season will soon be here. Here are some suggestions to remember when shopping for cold weather clothes and outside gear for your child:

- Winter coats with large zipper instead of snaps or buttons
- Hats and boots that Velcro instead of laces that need to be tied
- Mittens instead of gloves (mitten clips that keep mittens attached to the coat help the children keep track of their own mittens)
- Snow pants instead of a snowsuit (this is ESPECIALLY helpful for children who are potty learning and need to use the toilet quickly!)
- Pants that have an elastic waist instead of snaps/buttons

While in the store ask yourself "Does this coat, hat, mitten etc. enable my child to be successful?" Please don't forget to label EACH item because there are many times that hats and mittens don't make it into the correct cubby or any cubby at all!



Gay Lyn Scarfo



Jeanene Lehman

PRIMARY 1

The children have truly witnessed the change in seasons. The leaves are changing colors and falling in the brisk breezes. Please remind your child to bring a jacket for these cool days. There are a few children who still do not have rain/mud boots. I also want to remind you to send in long pants and long sleeved shirts for their extra clothing.

October will be a very busy month, there are some field trips planned, silent journey, picture day is coming, and fall fest. On Wednesday Oct. 31st we will be having a special snack and have some sensorial activities for the children. Please leave the costumes and accessories at home, they tend to get lost and dirty during our very busy day.

The days and weeks are flying past. In the month of October we will be doing "spreading" as our food prep activity. So far we have had bread and butter spreading. Later we will add crackers and jam.

Our unit of study will be; "plant and animal", "mammals", and we will begin on the continent of "North America". If you have traveled to other countries in North America and have items or pictures to share with the class we would welcome that. If you are planning a family trip, Paddington Bear has returned from his trip to India with Dhanush and he is ready to travel again!

The "All about me week" children for the next month are; October 8 – 12 Owen, October 29– November 2 M.J. and November 12 – 16 Grayson. Please sign up if you haven't already. This is a great time to share what is unique about your family, a special talent, recipe you make together or maybe your pet. We had some lively Irish music with Nigella and her parents. Nigella's Abuela made sock puppets with the children. She will be returning for wool washing and weaving! We are so lucky to have the wonderful parents and extended families to enrich your child's world. Please share your knowledge and talents!

Lunch Box tips:

- Remember to label your lids and bottoms.
- Involve your child in the prep work.
- Include a protein.
- Choose whole grain breads, crackers and pasta.
- Pack one fruit and at least one veggie.

Here is a great recipe to sneak those veggies into your child's lunch.

Cowboy Chow

Whole grain elbow macaroni, Black beans, Corn kernels, Shredded carrots and ranch dressing. (A spoonful of mild salsa is very yummy if your child likes it)



Laura Hayden



Julia Shlater

PRIMARY 2

We continue to be off to a wonderful school year. The children have really made huge strides in the classroom. They come in ready to work and eager to learn. Now that we've established a routine and the students are aware of the ground rules, we've been able to really put focus on academics.



Linda Vandemark



Amy Becker

This past month we've done a lot of pin punching and labeling maps. Our younger friends are focusing on the continents and their older peers on the United States. Along with the maps, the children have really enjoyed matching animals to the continent they come from. Language has been a big focus this month. We have many new readers and many students on the cusp of reading. Our experienced readers have spent much time with reading comprehension and spelling. Handwriting has been encouraged with all ages and many of the children have come a long way in such a short time. We couldn't be prouder of their hard work.

The children are thrilled and enticed with all the new Halloween themed pouring, spooning, scooping, tonging and ladling work in the every day living area. In science, we have just introduced parts of an apple and pumpkin. Speaking of parts of... Did you hear?! We have baby chicks!!! We currently have 25 baby chicks in our pole barn and the children are thrilled. All students from every classroom are going to take part in raising the chickens. We will discuss the life cycle of a chicken, parts of a chicken, gender, how to care for them and reproduction. Our students recently had their first visit with them and we were delighted to see how gentle and nurturing they were with them. We will also have many books, puzzles and matching works revolved around chickens for our younger friends.

October is a busy month with the Fall Festival, Parent/Teacher conferences and the Silent Journey. We encourage you all to participate in these wonderful ways to get to know the teachers, students and what our school is all about. That being said, with October comes fall weather. Please dress your child appropriately. We know that often times the day turns out warm and sunny, but please remember that recess is in the morning and it's quite cold. At this point, its getting colder everyday, so we encourage you to send in a hat and gloves that we can keep at school and please send a jacket with your child daily. Finally, thank you for sharing your fantastic children with us :) We are having a blast getting to know each and every one of them.

ELEMENTARY



Carrie Kile



Neysa Hess

Happy Fall! We can't wait to see you all at the Fall Festival – coming on Saturday, October 27th.

Cheep! Cheep! Cheep! Our chicks have arrived! I hope you have all seen the pictures on Peace's Facebook page. They are getting bigger by the minute. Soon, they will be moved out to their coop in the big Red Barn.

The 4th – 7th years have enjoyed their first Trailblazer hikes. So far, they have visited Metea park and Mengerson park. The hikers have found that the hikes are exhilarating, energizing, beautiful and, at times,

Rachel Thompson Keri Wysong

wet. Please remember your child's change of clothes. Dry socks, shoes and pants are so welcome when they return from their hikes. Please

come join us any time you are available. We generally go on Tuesdays (4th years) and Wednesday (5th – 7th years). We depart school around 12:30 and return in time for dismissal.

Beginning in November, we will be studying Ancient Greece. This is our country for International Night in December. We have LOTS to do. Much of what we'd like to do involves building replicas of famous Ancient Greek monuments and structures. To help us with this, can you please begin saving toilet paper and paper towel tubes, as well as cardboard boxes, such as shoe boxes, shoe box lids and scrap cardboard. Anything you can bring in, we will welcome!

As always, if you have any personal expertise, experience or can help us cook – please let us know so we can take FULL advantage of you!

Thank you to all our families for all your support and dedication. We thank you for sharing your child(ren) with us every day.

UP-COMING EVENT CALENDARS



OCTOBER



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 <i>Chocolate Fund-raiser \$ Due</i>	11	12 No School <i>Teacher In-Service</i>	13 Silent Journey <i>Part 2, 9-11 am</i>
14	15	16	17 <i>Picture Day!</i>	18	19	20
21	22 <i>(Small Hands orders due)</i>	23	24	25	26 No School <i>Teacher In-Service</i>	27 <i>Fall Family Festival! 2-5 pm</i>
28	29	30	31			

Parent-Teacher Conference Week & Scholastic Book Fair



November

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 VIP Day <i>All-school 11:30 dismissal</i>	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Thanksgiving Feast	22 No school <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	23 No School <i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	