



Dolphin Tales

October 2, 2026

Volume 15 Issue 2



October Birthdays

Leona L.	10/1	Camille R.	10/15
Leo T.	10/2	Frida H.	10/16
Mack P.	10/3	Ms. Shemi	10/17
Agastya S.	10/9	Jaxon H.	10/18
Keegan S.	10/10	Ahana K.	10/20
Davis S.	10/10	Osi X.	10/21
Carlos J.	10/10	Yuvraj S.	10/23
Juan G.	10/11	Anna W.	10/26
Ameera H.	10/11	Zoey W.	10/27
Declan S.	10/15	Frances P.	10/28
		Halee S.	10/31

Important Dates

October 9 th	Toddler & Primary Field Trip to Rocky Hollow Pumpkin Patch
October 15 th	Lower Elementary Field Trip to Pettit Creek
October 23 rd	MSOR Fall Festival 5:30–7:00pm
October 26 th –27 th	Historical Timeline (Location TBD)
October 30 th	Halloween Parade 10:30am
November 3 rd –4 th	Fall School Portraits (Rain Date – November 10 th)

International Day of Peace

September 21, 2026



[Click here to view](#)

“Light a Candle for Peace” performed by
Montessori School of Rome



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL



Celebrating 46 Years of
Montessori School of Rome

FOOD!

INFLATABLES!

GAMES!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD | 5:30-7:00PM

BAKE SALE!



Wisdom



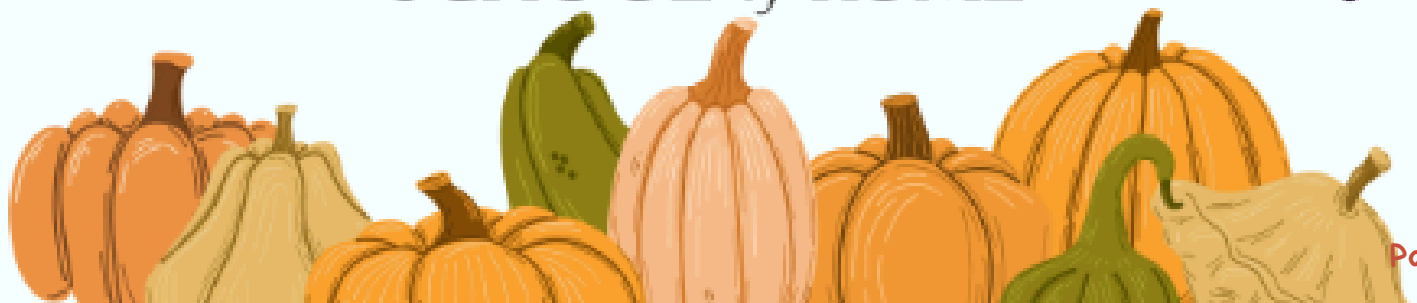
Knowledge



Peace

**COSTUME
CONTEST!**

**MONTESORI
SCHOOL of ROME**



pumpkin Catapult

FALL STEM KIT



Everything you need for harvest time fun!
Pre-ordered kits can be picked up
at Fall Festival!

Not able to make it? No problem! Kits can
be picked up from the office the following
Monday.

STEM KIT ORDER SHEET

PUMPKIN CATAPULTS

PARENT	STUDENT(S)	TEACHER(S)

I have included the total cost in:

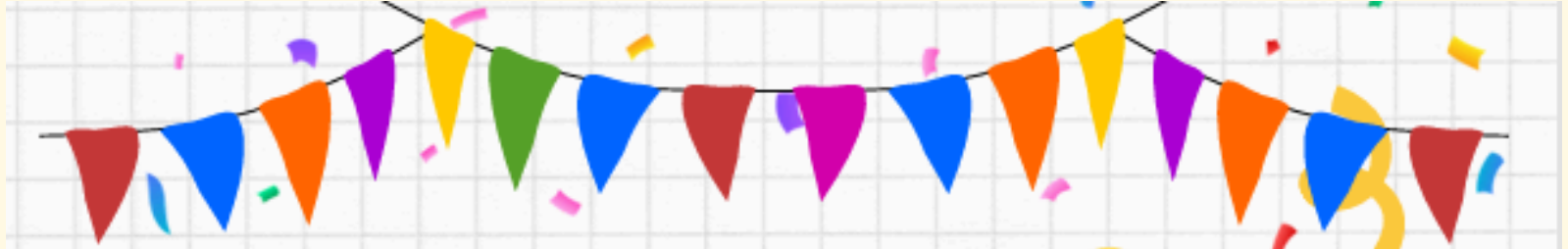
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Check

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Cash





STEM Club Parents



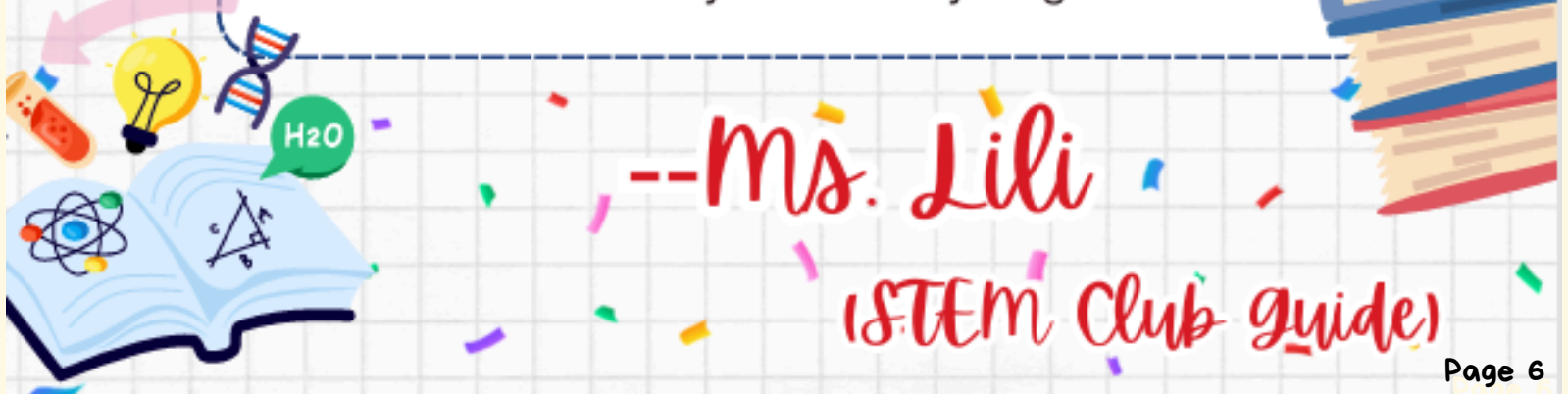
ANNOUNCEMENT!



If your child is enrolled in STEM Club

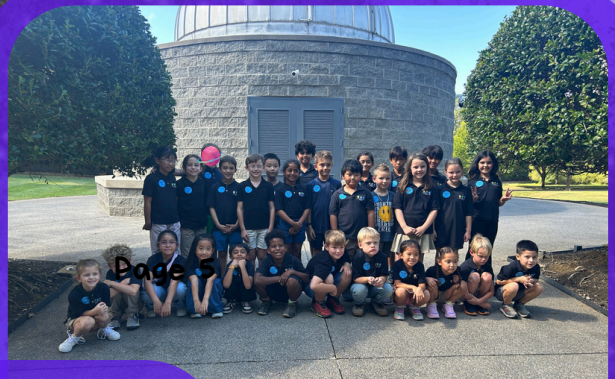
Please be on the lookout for my weekly newsletter in your email! I send a newsletter detailing what students worked on and photos from the day! I will also include announcements about upcoming events, STEM Kits, and upcoming STEM club announcements.

Please let me know if you need anything!



--Ms. Lili
(STEM Club Guide)

LOWER ELEMENTARY VISITS The Tellus Museum!



Dear Family,

Welcome to the Square 1 Art Fundraiser! Your student will be creating a very special, art masterpiece that you may purchase on unique gifts and keepsakes to enjoy for a lifetime! Every order made will help you preserve the special memories of your child's creative growth in a fun and inspiring way!

Imagine the excitement and fun of sharing your child's awesome art with family and friends! Be sure to make your order(s) by the due date provided by your Square 1 Art coordinator.

We look forward to an amazing fundraiser with Square 1 Art! Keep a lookout for more details about the fundraiser to come to you soon!

“My kids have been creating awesome artwork over the years; it's fantastic that this company provides a way to keepsake those creations! From coffee cups to ornaments, they really have something for everyone, but the best part is, it will have my kid's imagination with it.”

Tiffany, Parent, Rockford, IL

COMING HOME SOON! 😊



Toddler News

Ms. Ginny's & Ms. Stephanie's Class

Here we are, already in October! This is a really fun month as we will learn all about nocturnal animals and have fun with Halloween crafts and songs! We will also talk about how pumpkins grow. We would love to have a few small pumpkins for the children to wash and hold. We also would like a couple bigger ones.....one for carving near Halloween and one that we could let the children decorate. If you would like to volunteer to send one in, that'd be great!

Our Halloween Parade will be Friday, October 30. Your child is asked to come to school dressed in their costumes! Be sure and send a bag with extra clothing for the remainder of the day.

Friday, October 9, will be our field trip to Rocky Hollow Patch, 336 Rocky Hollow Rd., Cave Spring, Georgia. We will meet at 9:45 where you will need to get in line and purchase your tickets. From there, we all start out together but usually get separated before too long. You may stay as long as you want. Be sure and bring your child water and a snack as they usually get hungry! It really is lots of fun.

If you are unable to attend the field trip, you will have to make other arrangements for your child during school hours.

When your child brings home wet or soiled clothing, please send in clean ones the next day. Everyone is doing a pretty good job at this and it's really appreciated.

***"Never help a child with a task
at which he feels he can succeed."***

Maria Montessori

This quote encourages toddler independence and confidence!



Toddler News

Ms. Kelly's & Ms. Kristin's Class

Moving into October we will be studying nocturnal animals (such as bats, racoons, possum, etc.), as well as learning about their characteristics and habitats. We will have stories, songs and crafts to learn about these interesting animals that stay up all night.

Seeking pumpkins: We kindly ask parents who are able to donate pumpkins to the class. Different colors, sizes and textures will all be part of the learning experience this month.

Friday October 9th we will all meet at 9:45am at the Rocky Hollow Pumpkin Patch (336 Rocky Hollow Rd. Cave Spring, GA) for our annual pumpkin patch field trip. As a reminder, there will no school for students that day, so if you cannot attend the pumpkin patch alternative care arrangements will need to be made for your child that day.

The weather is (finally) beginning to cool off! **Please remember to label outer garments sweatshirts, jackets, etc.** Kids often take their jackets off on the playground and it is very helpful to have them labeled so we get the items back to the correct child.

Thank you for washing and returning the clothes we send home. We appreciate your support!

"The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn."

Maria Montessori



Primary News

Ms. Ortrud's & Ms. Teri's Class

The Beauty of the Montessori Mixed-Age Classroom

The Montessori mixed-age classroom offers children a unique opportunity to learn and grow together. By bringing children of different ages into one community, we encourage cooperation, empathy, and mutual respect. Younger children learn by observing and modeling older classmates, while older children strengthen their knowledge, confidence, and leadership skills by helping others. This natural exchange fosters a strong sense of belonging, independence, and social responsibility. Each child is free to develop at their own pace, learning not only from their teachers and materials but also from one another.

Another beautiful aspect of the mixed-age classroom is the opportunity for children to develop meaningful and lasting relationships. Rather than constantly comparing themselves to children of the same age, they are encouraged to recognize and appreciate individual strengths and abilities. They learn patience, kindness, collaboration, and respect for differences. The classroom becomes a small community in which every child has a valuable role, whether as a learner, a helper, or a leader. Over time, these experiences nurture self-confidence, emotional maturity, and a genuine sense of community that extends far beyond the classroom.

For further reading, please follow this link,

<https://montessori-ami.org/trainingvoices/mixed-ages-montessori-environment>



Primary News

Ms. Angie's & Ms. Kelly's Class

Thank you to all our parents for signing up for conferences.

It was so nice to meet with each of you and share a little about your child's progress.

We would love to have a few pumpkins for our classroom if anyone would like to provide them. We will use one pumpkin for a pumpkin washing lesson and one for carving later in the month. We would also love to have an assortment of gourds for the children to observe and explore throughout the month. If you'd be willing to donate these items, please reach out to us.

Few reminders:

10/2: Parent/Teacher Conferences (no school)

10/6: Annabelle provide FRUIT

10/8: Agastya's Birthday Celebration with CFA Lunch (no lunchboxes needed this day)

10/9: Field Trip to Rocky Hollow Pumpkin Patch in Cave Spring, Ga (no school-details to come)

10/13: Declan provide FRUIT

10/12: Emerson provide FLOWERS

10/20: Ford provide FRUIT

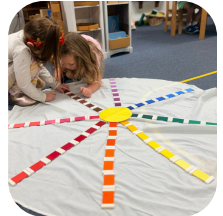
10/23: Fall Festival at MSOR 5:30-7:30PM

10/26: Josie provide FLOWERS

10/27: Emerson provide FRUIT

10/30: Halloween Walk and Celebration (a lunch sign-up will be provided at a later time-details to come)

We have really enjoyed exploring the fruit Agastya and Daiki provided this month. We had a lesson about the different parts of a watermelon and a golden kiwi. We even learned how to taste something new: we look with our eyes, we feel with our fingers, we smell with our nose, and taste with our mouths. The students loved to talk about the skin on the kiwi and the flesh of the watermelon. If you are assigned fruit for the month, you are welcome to send it in whole and we will cut it in class as a group. You are welcome to provide a favorite fruit of your child's or something seasonally-specific. Thank you!



Lower El Snapshots



Lower EI News

Ms. Robin's, Ms. Rana's, & Ms. Maggie's Classes

The Third Great Lesson: The Coming of Human Beings

The Third Great Lesson tells the story of the emergence of humans, focusing on the three gifts that make us unique: a mind to imagine, hands to create, and a heart to love. Through this lesson, children explore the origins of civilizations and the needs of early humans.

This lesson leads to the study of:

- History: Timelines, prehistory, ancient civilizations, world history.
- Culture: Art, music, dance, drama, architecture, philosophy, religion, grace, and courtesy.
- Social Studies: Government, economics, commerce, volunteering, and charity.
- Discovery & Invention: Scientists, inventors, the scientific method, simple machines.

The Fourth Great Lesson: The Story of Writing

Also known as Communication in Signs, the Fourth Great Lesson traces the development of the written alphabet, highlighting humanity's incredible ability to record thoughts and ideas. The story includes the evolution from pictographs and hieroglyphs to early alphabets and the invention of the printing press.

This lesson leads to the study of:

- Reading: Literature, poetry, non-fiction, myths, folk tales, authors, reading comprehension, literary terms.
- Writing: Composition, elements of style, voice, research, study skills.
- Language: The origins and history of languages, foreign languages, drama, and speech.
- Structure: Alphabets, grammar, punctuation, sentence analysis, word study, bookmaking.

The Fifth Great Lesson: The Story of Numbers

The final lesson, the Story of Numbers, also called the History of Mathematics, explores the evolution of numerical systems from the earliest civilizations to the present day. Children learn about the origins of numbers, different numbering systems, and the development of the decimal system.

This lesson leads to the study of:

- Mathematics: Operations, fractions, decimals, percentages, algebra, probability.
- Numbers: The history and types of numbers, scientific notation, mathematicians.
- Geometry: Lines, angles, shapes, solids, measurement, theorems.
- Application: Story problems, graphs, estimation, money concepts.

The Great Lessons: A Unifying Theme

These five stories provide a vast amount of information about the origins of the world around us. Each story serves as a springboard for further study, ensuring that learning is dynamic and interconnected. By revisiting these stories throughout the year, children can see the unity and cohesion in their studies, enriching their understanding of the world.

Cosmic Education not only answers the big questions that children ask but also lays the foundation for a lifetime of exploration, discovery, and a deep appreciation for the interconnectedness of all things.



Upper Elementary News

Great Lessons - In the Groove - Class Sleepover - Friendship

In The Groove

There is something special about this time of year in Upper Elementary. The newness of the school year has settled, routines have become familiar, and our students are finding their groove.

We are seeing students settle into their work with greater independence and confidence. They know what is expected of them, and increasingly, how to manage their time and responsibilities. The classroom has a wonderful sense of momentum.

We are seeing students ask thoughtful questions, dive deeper into their work, collaborate with one another, and begin to take greater ownership of their learning.

One of my favorite things to observe in our class is students becoming more comfortable and choosing more challenging work. They are learning that not every problem has an immediate answer and that it is okay to make a mistake, try again, learn through corrections, and approach challenges multiple times. That perseverance is such an important part of the Montessori journey.

Fall is a wonderful time in Upper Elementary, and we are excited to see where this momentum takes us!

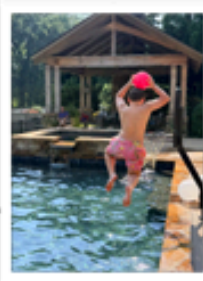
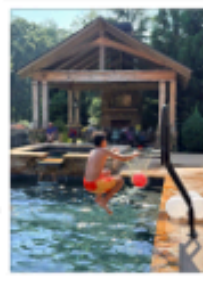
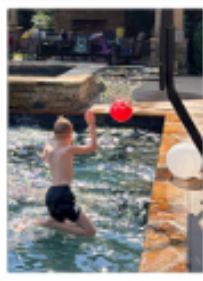
Friendship!

In the Upper Elementary years, lasting friendships grow through shared experiences, kindness, and respect. Bonding trips and class sleepovers create special memories and bring classmates closer together. Through learning, laughter, and adventures, children build connections that can last a lifetime.

Great Lessons

The Five Great Lessons. These are really cool stories that, when read or told, help us understand how everything in the world is connected. The first lesson is about how the universe and our planet were created. The second lesson tells us how life began and changed over time, from tiny cells to all the plants and animals we know. Then, in the third lesson, we learn about the first humans—how they started using tools, making art, and working together to build communities. We learn about early humans, then teach the lower elementary classes.

The last two lessons cover inventions that changed human life. The fourth lesson is about the invention of writing, which helped people share ideas and keep records. The fifth lesson is about numbers and math, and how people figured out ways to count and solve problems. This year, we learned about the Egyptians', Greeks', Mayans', and Hindu number systems. These stories lead us to the big questions and how science, history, and math connect.



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ADOLESCENT & SECONDARY

October 2026

Normalization

Normalization is past, conferences are done... How are we already nearing the end of the first academic quarter!? The Adolescent and Secondary students certainly hit the ground running; clubs have begun, a sleepover and a babysitting event have already happened, and plans for Fall Festival are in the pipeline. Thank you to the MSOR community for continuing to support our endeavors! This past month also brought one of our favorite celebrations; the International Day of Peace! Thank you to Ms. Angela for your dedicated rehearsal and conductorship of this event. With the end of the Academic Quarter just weeks away, study habits and consistency of homework completion must remain at the forefront of our priorities. There is nothing more valuable than asking your child if you can help them study or check their planners... Those ten minutes a day make a huge difference! Remember, Practice does not make perfect... Practice makes Permanent.



To our other students, peace.....

"...is a concept of a tranquil, calm harmony."--Wanling Chen

"...means to solve problems without violence...When people don't choose peace, things end up in a mess and even after, people seldom get what they fought for."--Sabrina Chen

"...means a safe place to be in."-- Wyatt Holmes

"...means being fulfilled."-- Claire Chen

"...The kind of person that you are largely influences your definition of peace..I want my definition of peace to be related to a calm environment."--Charles Giles



What does peace mean to you?

To Will Miller (8th grade), peace means: **NOT CAUSING CONFLICT**

Without conflict, peace would be everywhere. I think some ways to achieve peace are by setting differences aside, and talking things out in a calm fashion. Another way to choose peace is to not be an instigator or intentionally annoy someone for your amusement. Even with all these ways to achieve peace, I personally think that there is no true way to establish true peace. No one is perfect, and there will always be a time where someone acts out and gets others mad too. Even though we cannot truly establish peace, we can still find ways to keep the peace while we still have it. Maybe if we keep a cool head while someone is acting out, or try to listen and understand others' opinions, we can make the world a little more peaceful.

To Scanna Kauz (7th grade), peace means: **BEING CALM AND RELAXED**

To me, peace means being calm and relaxed. Peace can be quiet moments when you just need to think. It's not just about avoiding arguments; it can have different meanings for different people. Peace is feeling included in your community, and being kind to others; peace is when everyone lives in harmony and there is no war. Peace is a place where people are comfortable, and no one feels judged. It's not having any worries or anything to stress about. Peace can be achieved by spending a moment with your pet or spending time with your family.

To Will Thomas (7th grade), peace means: **HAPPINESS WITHIN ONE'S SELF**

Peace is the idea that everyone is happy and that no one has anything against someone else. Some people believe peace can be found by destroying nuclear weapons or by stopping all wars. I agree that ending violence would be a step in the right direction, but that alone wouldn't create peace; people or nations might still resent each other. Whenever we talk about peace, we often think of world peace, which is going to be impossible at the current state we are in. I believe we should start thinking smaller. Inner peace is the first step towards world peace. Inner peace is realizing that there are going to be people that dislike you and there are going to be people that have more than you or are doing better than you and we must accept that. Without inner peace, world peace cannot be achieved.

The Tradition of Fall Festival



I have been to 18 Fall Festivals. Five of those festivals have been planned with my help, and this year will be my 6th and final time working the event. The Fall Festival has been a special tradition for as long as I've been here, and I don't think that it will go away anytime soon.

This event is much more than just having fun with friends and playing with the inflatables; it is a test for all Adolescent and Secondary students to see how well we work together. It is interesting to see who tends to take the leadership role and who can be trained to lead this event in the future. We plan, set up and run the Fall Festival; not only as a fundraiser for our international trips, but also to allow our school community to have fun and spend time with one another.

Fall Festival needs a lot of preparation to successfully set up and allow everyone to have the most amount of fun possible. The Adolescent and Secondary students devote a lot of time to cleaning the picnic tables, cleaning the playgrounds to take care of the inflatables, setting up the food area, deciding the layout of booths, planning the sleepover, and making sure that all of the finances are perfectly handled. The amount of preparation that my classmates and I put into this event could not be done by one person; which is why this is the true test of our teamwork skills. We have to plan out which person does which thing and make sure that we're all working efficiently and effectively.

My favorite memory of Fall Festival was when I was working the event and I got to hang out with all of my friends while working. I don't think I will miss the working part of this event, but I will definitely miss seeing everyone have fun and spend time with one another. This is my last year running this event, and I want to make it the best it has ever been, which means that we need to work together and make sure this event runs as smoothly as possible. I can't wait to see all of you there!

Benjamin Cramer

Fall Festival is a very special MSOR tradition. I think that the Fall Festival shows how a small school of nearly 150 students can show up and demonstrate their school spirit just like any other school, regardless of size. I recently had the opportunity to speak with a past Montessori parent about our school. One of the first things that they noted, aside from the impressive academic rigor, was the community engagement that we have. They said that they were always surprised how almost everybody would show up to our events.

It takes a strong network for a community as small as the Adolescent and Secondary Program (13 students) to pull off as big of an event as this. Every year, each Adolescent and Secondary student is assigned a job to execute for Fall Festival. Historically, I have had the same job since 7th grade, and this usually stays consistent with all of the students, so that we can stick to what we know.

Fall Festival occurs at a very convenient time in the school year. I think this is probably by design. The normalization period has ended, and each student, whether they be new or returning, has probably had the chance to find their friends and who they like to hang out with. Fall Festival is a great time for these new friends to hang out together, and for families in our community to spend quality time together. This not only gives students time to mingle but also the parents, too. The parents at Montessori are a huge deal, and it is the community of parents that allows for many things to happen here.

We offer a lot of things for this event. Our typical rotation of booths include Face Painting, Food, Fall Art, 3D Prints, Hot Chocolate, and more. In the 6 years I have helped to run this event, I have usually been in charge of parking and overseeing the operation of inflatables, as well as keeping the rest of the Adolescents hydrated, recharged, and making sure that everyone has their own time to socialize between jobs. After the event, the Secondaries are responsible for cleaning up the event, putting away speakers, packing up tables and more while the Adolescents get started on hosting the annual Fall Festival Sleepover.

All this being said, for my last Fall Festival, I would love to see everyone join us on Friday, October 23rd. Stop by and spend time with your Montessori community; and if you haven't already met this year's Adolescent and Secondary students, we would love to shake your hand and get to know more about everyone in our community.

Kaleb Pearson

Friday, October 23rd marks the 46th Annual Fall Festival at the Montessori School of Rome! Fall Festival is a great MSOR tradition that kicks off the season with a night full of activities, games, and all sorts of fun things to do. Fall Festival is such a big hit because it is like a big play date with all of your friends and family; it is just a fun activity for everyone. This event is planned and run by the Adolescent and Secondary students, and all proceeds help us go on our international trips. In years past, the Fall Festival has made a big impact on fundraising for me to go to places such as Japan, Australia, Fiji, Argentina, Ecuador, Spain, Portugal, and Germany.

We collectively put so much effort into making this event happen; the benefit for us is worth the work. I usually do face painting at the event and have managed the Art Club table for many years. I think the Fall Festival is one of my favorite Montessori events because it allows for everyone to meet new faces at the school and show how we are all about community. There are so many things we offer at this event, from arts, crafts and wood work to amazing baked goods. There truly is something for everyone and it is such a community building event.

Now that we are seniors, I have come to the realization that this is our last of everything. It is hard to accept that this is my last Fall Festival, especially when it has become such a big part of my yearly routine to prepare for and execute an event like this. There is so much that goes into making this event possible. It requires a great amount of teamwork from myself and the Secondaries as well as the Adolescents to put this together. None of this would be possible without the help of our supportive parents, faculty and alumni. We plan every detail: all of the booths, the layout, the sleepover event afterwards, as well as the delicious food we choose to serve. I hope to see you on October 23rd for the 46th Annual Fall Festival - I strongly encourage new and returning students to attend ... as it is a good ole Montessori tradition!

Tegan Ashley