

September 5, 2014

Volume 3 Issue 1

# DOLPHIN TALES

## Important Dates:

- Sep. 5**  
Lower Elem. Sleepover
- Sep. 15**  
Toddler Field Trip to Calhoun Airport
- Sep. 18-19**  
4-H Camp Elementary Overnight Field Trip
- Oct. 2**  
NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 3**  
NO SCHOOL  
(Parent/Teacher Conferences)
- Oct. 10**  
Pumpkin Patch
- Oct. 24**  
Fall Festival
- Oct. 27-28**  
Historical Timeline
- Oct. 31**  
Halloween Parade
- August**
- |             |      |
|-------------|------|
| Ezekiel D.  | 8/1  |
| Gaven F.    | 8/5  |
| Kira D.     | 8/5  |
| Cade D.     | 8/6  |
| Robert H.   | 8/9  |
| Cameron F.  | 8/9  |
| River R.    | 8/13 |
| Savannah C. | 8/13 |
| Newman A.   | 8/15 |
| Kanako M.   | 8/15 |
| Jack F.     | 8/16 |
| Noah F.     | 8/23 |
| Madeline G. | 8/23 |
| Tripp D.    | 8/27 |
| Lee D.      | 8/31 |
- September**
- |                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Stiles B.       | 9/3  |
| Marco C.        | 9/5  |
| Kaleb P.        | 9/7  |
| Rachael C.      | 9/8  |
| Ely H.          | 9/14 |
| Ishan S.        | 9/15 |
| Riley F.        | 9/19 |
| Annika P.       | 9/22 |
| Anderson B.     | 9/24 |
| Milan L.        | 9/25 |
| Kieran Ellis N. | 9/30 |



Wisdom



Knowledge



Peace

## DADDY'S DAY PICNIC



# DADDY'S DAY PICNIC



## Toddler News from Ms. Shannon & Ms. Dana

September is going to be a fun, busy month. We will be talking about transportation this month! We will scrub boats and learn about "sink and float" in our practical life area. Our class will spend a lot of time talking about the different ways we can get around with our language cards. We will sort different colors of cars in our sensorial area. We will also count the number of pieces it takes



to build a train, as well as the types of shapes in a train in our math area. Did I mention all the fun songs and crafts? This month is always a favorite with the children!

Our class will take a field trip to the Calhoun airport on September 15, where we will go on a tour of the airport. We

should get to look at a few different types of planes. We will also get to see a little behind the scenes of the airport. Most of you have turned in your field trip forms; please do so if you haven't. Remember, each toddler needs a field trip shirt and an adult to accompany them. If you can't make arrangements to go on the trip, please remember they can not come to school. Bring a blanket, sack lunch, and drink for your toddler and yourself. We will have a picnic at the airport. We will return after lunch to school but you are welcome to take your child from there. If you would like to meet us at the airport instead of school that morning, that is



fine, but remember that the students have to leave from school to return to school.

I would like to thank all the people who have volunteered to be room moms. Tricia Steele (Cooper's mom), Jennifer Hillegas (Rex's mom), and Wendy Blythe (Anderson's mom) all graciously volunteered. I think it would be great to split up the job, so I'll be in touch with you to let you know how you can help.

A lot of children in our class are still feeling under the weather. Please try to keep them home with you if they are not acting like themselves. Also, if they have been running a fever, they can not return to school until they are fever free for 24 hours without medication.

We started our "Big Kid Buddies" this past week; the Upper Elementary students come to work with the toddler students. The kids really enjoyed getting to know their new friends. They will visit each Friday.

Library time will begin next week, on each Tuesday. The Adolescent class will read us a story, and the children will be allowed to choose a book each week. They will bring their books home in a bag. Please return the book and bag the following Tuesday morning. It is really hard on them if they don't get to choose a new book because their book was left at home.

Please let me know if you have anything you would like to share with the class this month on our transportation theme. The kids love to share their books at line time. If you have any ideas on a fun themed snack we could make or you would like to send in, it's always appreciated!



## *News from Ms. Rebecca and Mr. Eric*

The Upper Elementary has had a wonderful beginning this year! We have focused on team building and community during the first few weeks which has made our group swiftly become a tight-knit family of learners. Our class has established basic routines for the day, created its own set of expectations and cleaning procedures, and hit the ground running in all of the Academic areas of our class. We have begun having lessons in all of the core areas, as well as in Writer's Workshop, Junior Great Books, Ecology, and Pre-History (Time-line of Life, Time-line of humans, etc.).

One of the benefits of the Upper Elementary is all of the "extras" that we incorporate into our studies. Our classroom extends into the grounds of the school, the community, and the greater environment as we include such experiences as: 6th Year Breakfast Box, 5th Year Fire Safety, Safety Patrol for all ages, swimming at the YMCA, and the Winter Performance with R.O.M.E..

We have already had our first Field Trip which was to the Tellus



Museum in Cartersville. This was a natural extension of our studies of the Timeline of Life and the Great Lesson that Ms. Diane invited our class to the very same day. Every

second Tuesday we will have "going out" events scheduled which will directly relate to our Cultural and Scientific studies.

Our class has also had the wonderful opportunity to learn a little German these past few weeks, with our special visitor, Amelie Lupp, from Munich. Thank you to the Corbins for enriching our class with her presence!

Finally, we want to take an opportunity to thank ALL of our parents for being so supportive of our class. We are a very busy collective of learners and we simply could not accomplish all that we wish for these students without your support and volunteerism.



### Important Dates to Remember:

Every second Tuesday we have "going out" events. We need drivers! :)

The first Friday of every month we have a cooking experience planned. Be on the lookout for updates of materials that we need.

The first Tuesday of every month is Fire Safety for the 5th Years.

The last Friday of every month is our Birthday Lunch. Please contact us if you have plans to provide lunch or treats for the class to celebrate your child's birthday.

September 18th-19th is our overnight trip to the Alabama 4H Center.

Ms. Rebecca, Mr. Eric, and the Upper Elementary

**Breakfast Box has started!! Come support the 6th Years' fundraising by buying delicious breakfast items like coffee, bagels, coffee, Chik-fil-A biscuits, and coffee!**

## Primary News from Ms. Angie & Mr. Chase

Hello everyone!

I hope that you enjoyed your Labor Day holiday. A three day weekend is always nice. Well, the first couple of weeks of school have gone by rather smoothly. The children are enjoying new lessons on a daily basis. They love being helpers when preparing the tables for lunch. They are enjoying Spanish class with Ms. Carolina on Tuesdays and music class with Ms. Wanda on Wednesday mornings. Mr. Chase seems to fit right into our class. Overall, I think that we have had a nice transition from summer to school schedules. Kudos to all of my wonderful parents for helping your child adapt to the demands of a primary class. Thank you.

I am in the classroom until 3:10 daily so I am not always conveniently available to meet with parents. I love talking with you and discussing your child and his/her progress in class. I do have a



day afternoon.

Our studies of space and our solar system have been awesome. The children have retained and shared so much information. I'm sure that each child can now sing the song "Rocketship Run". They loved it so we have sang it DAILY. We are ending our space studies with a space themed lunch on Friday. The children are very excited to celebrate space.

We have also began our studies of the continents. The children have learned the names of the seven continents and which continent they call home. September will begin our studies of the countries in North America. It's always fun to learn about people and cultures of other countries.

We will begin our studies of the ocean, creatures and animals that find their home in the ocean and we will study the beach and it's

day that is called Office Day. I am at school each Thursday until 4:30. I am in the classroom or in the office. I am available if you have any questions about your child or how the classroom is going. Please feel free to drop by any Thurs-

habitat. The children love to study the ocean. They love to learn about dolphins, whales, sharks, fish of all kinds and sizes, and the animals found on the beach. Seashells are always a hit also. They have so much information to share and also they usually have visited the ocean so they can actually discuss and share information about things that they have seen. As always, we ask that if you have any books or items to share, we would love for you to send them to class. If you any seashells that you would like to donate to our class, we would definitely put them to good use. The children love to make crafts and I have found so many crafts that seashells are needed. Thanks in advance. We have plans to have an ocean themed snack for Friday, September 26th.

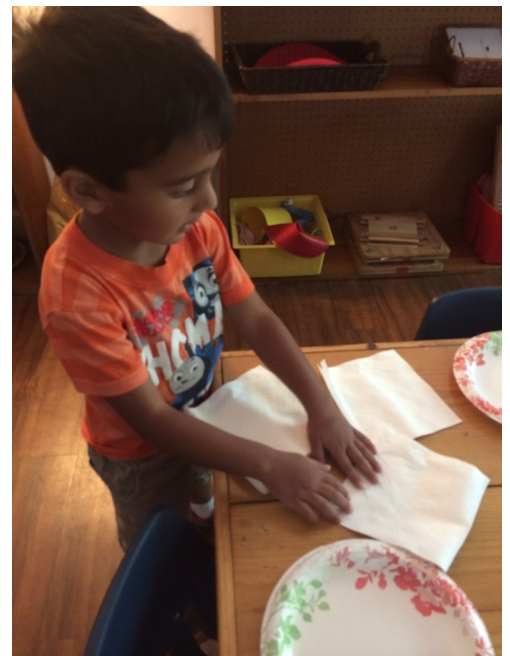


We have had a couple of parents/grandparents volunteer to help with sandpaper letters. If anyone else is interested in helping and has some available time, please let me know. The children love to see you in class and you get to see your child enjoying school.

Thank each of you for sharing your child.

Peace and happiness,

Angie



## *Primary News from Ms. Dagmar and Ms. Emily*

A glimpse at Ms. Dagmar and Ms. Emily's class:

It all began on August 13th, with a tea we held for the 3rd-year students. On the 14th, we welcomed children new to the school, and new to primary. On the 15th, everyone returned. Since that time, we've had two full weeks of instruction, and our welcome-back picnic. It's amazing what can be packed into two and a half weeks, isn't it? We've studied the sun, our planets, our galaxy, and the universe. We've explored the fact that an atom is the smallest particle of, essentially, everything there is - including us. We look forward to culminating our space studies with a special lunch in September 5th. Following that, we will move into our study of oceans. We will also discuss other bodies of water, but will focus on the ocean biome, and the life it contains. We will study the parts of the fish. Resources, as always, are welcome.

In August, we also were fortunate to celebrate a birthday of one of our students with a birthday lunch. Snack treats are always welcome in addition to the birthday walk, and may be a group snack in the morning, or a dessert or accompaniment with lunch. This year, we ask that you plan a single birthday lunch per month during those months that we have student birthdays in our class, IF you would like to do so. (i.e., we prefer not to have multiple birthday lunches in any given month.) To that end, feel free to contact us regarding children in our class that share your child's birth month.



We look forward to receiving your volunteer questionnaires. We know that it is impossible for each of you to be present in our classroom, we certainly understand that. We are grateful to everyone who volunteers, whether that puts you in our midst, or whether that has you creating something for the classroom at home, or sending in food or supplies for an event. We truly appreciate you.



We have had our first fire drill of the school year - perhaps you heard about it if your child is new to our class. We do fire drills once a month. Formal severe weather drills are less frequent, but we will practice on our own if the forecast dictates that we should be prepared. We want your child to have as much information beforehand as possible, so as to minimize the possible fear factor. A couple of years ago, we did spend 1:19 on our closet, with students, both teachers, and an adult volunteer. What we learned from that is that the students were prepared, and were fine. We also learned, however, that the girls with longer hair were very uncomfortable as a classmate's weight shifted onto their hair - which was on the floor - from time to time (as they were in the storm position). To that end, I have kept a package of hair elastics in the closet solely for the purpose of gathering back the girls' hair, should we ever find ourselves in such a situation again.

In this environment, we are always learning. If we are lucky, we are always learning, wherever we are. Thank you for sharing your children with us for this portion of their 'formal' education. Let's enjoy the journey together.

~ Ms. Dagmar



## *Clubs at Montessori School of Rome*

Enrollment for clubs is still open!

### **Creative Movement**

(Beginning week of September 8-12)

### **Chess**

(Beginning September 5)

### **Girl Scouts**

(Now meeting)

*More clubs coming soon!*

## *Español Ms. Carolina*

Hola!

My name is Ms. Carolina, and I'm thrilled to be your Spanish teacher. A little about me: I was born and raised in Santiago, Chile, and moved to the United States in 2005. I live in Menlo, GA, and I have a 7 year old stepson and a 10 month old baby girl!

I've been getting to know your children for a couple of weeks now, and it's so exciting to see them so eager to learn Español.



From now on, I will be posting the Spanish class update on the school website which will contain a brief overview of what we are learning, the homework assigned, and any extra activities. Please feel free to email me with any questions, concerns, or feedback to [Carolina@msor.org](mailto:Carolina@msor.org).

I can't wait to hear from you!

-Ms. Carolina

## *Elementary News: Ms. Dolores & Ms. Karla*

A few weeks of school and we are all settling into our school routines. Plan-



ners are being filled out; children are making good choices and working well together.

Throughout the month of September, we will continue with the Great Lessons and their relevant extensions. Your child will be exploring a panoramic view of the Universe with their imaginations and intellect; developing a sense of wonder at the sweep of human history and the intricate connections it shows us. The Montessori Great Lessons establish themes that will resonate through the classroom for the rest of the year. In the next week or so, we'll finish up our



inquiries about the origins of the Universe, our solar system, and the Earth itself -- and perform some basic experiments related to the physical properties of matter.

Historical Timeline information went home last week and we're all looking forward to this year's performances. This will be a multi-step assignment that requires parental supervision,

so please ensure that your child adheres to all deadlines. Please read/research with your child and encourage her/him to speak in character (first person). Parental enthusiasm will trickle down and make this an exciting event for all.

Our first lower elementary sleepover, from 6 p.m. on Friday through 8 a.m. on Saturday, will be this weekend and we've planned lots of fun activities. Don't forget to pay \$5 (in the office) to help with the cost of food.

The sleepover is a lead-in to our first field trip of the year, an overnight trip to the Coosa River Science School on September 18 and 19. The classes we will be taking are: Out on a Limb, Herpetology, Something

Fishy, Lost and Found, What's Bugging You, and on Thursday evening we'll go on a Raptor Trek.

Thank-you, Josh Donner, Amy



Dempsey, and Frances Schlitz for providing our lunch last Friday to celebrate the birthdays of your children. Our next birthday lunch will be on September 26 and we will combine the October and November birthdays - celebrating both on October 24th.



## *Elementary News: Ms. Diane and Ms. Michelle*



September is a busy month as we not only are looking forward to our trip to Alabama's 4-H Camp, we are also preparing for Historical Timeline! Part of the preparation for camp is

happening in the afternoon culture lessons being given by the Lower Elementary Staff and Ms. Shemi. We have had the first two Great Lessons so far, Coming of the Universe and Coming of Life.

We will also be diving into our fish studies, no pun intended!

We will be studying external parts and their functions of the fish this month, as well as internal functions such as respiratory and digestive systems. At camp, we are all taking a class on ichthyology (the study of fish) and the instructors there will do a fish dissection for each group!



In the classroom we will be finishing up the overview of our planetary systems, as well as discussing the layers and make-up of the Earth.

Ms. Michelle has begun our Botany studies and we will be taking a class on Forest Ecology at the 4-H camp as well.

Please keep a close eye on those Historical Timeline deadlines.

They can sneak up on you! I will send remind-



ers to you every week on your child's homework cover sheet. Speaking of which, if you have any questions regarding homework, please let me know via email or a note on Monday mornings. Ms. Michelle and I are here to help!

A special thanks to everyone who signed up for the Booster Club! Sign-up forms are available in the office; only \$15 to join!

## Adolescent News from Mr. Evan & Mr. Zach

Dear Montessori Community-

This was another huge week for the adolescent program.



The students visited Paradise Garden in Summerville. Our tour guide recounted dozens of personal stories from the

times when he spoke with Howard Finster, the mastermind/artist/preacher who built/painted/and piled together the Garden. If you have not yet visited this special place, it is definitely worth the short trip. The students were enthralled. They especially liked the mirrored house and the tombstone for the unknown remains. The trip was all the more enjoyable because we made a short stop at Armstrong's BBQ in downtown Summerville. We snagged the very last three pieces of pie (how much good fortune is that?).

The students had a good deal of assessments this week, including a math test on Thursday, as well as Spanish, science, and history reviews. Mr. Zack and I have frequently discussed "The Hammer" with students, the metaphorical wallop of work which will be arriving this first week of September in the shape of a great deal more written assignments, tests, and quizzes. I think the weight of this

promise sunk in late Friday afternoon as we posted all the homework and obligations for the coming week.

To be fair, perhaps the students were simply exhausted, as Friday we also hiked to the House of Dreams on the Berry campus, starting off at the



dairy and winding our way up some pretty steep terrain. All told, the students walked, ran, and trudged more than 7.5 miles with nary a single complaint out of the lot (how wonderful is that?).

The adolescents ramped up their recycling efforts, doubling the capture from the week before. This week's paper, metal, plastic, and glass topped 7 pounds. Kudos kiddos!!! Next week we are shooting for 15 pounds, and there's plenty more room to add to that figure.

Esha took over duties this week as the class historian. Her update will be on the MSOR website shortly. We also have lots of pictures.

Almost forgot: The students made mac-n'-cheese for the first community lunch. For the second lunch Savannah led the cooking, fixing up a bunch of turkey bacon, hotcakes from scratch, and fresh fruit.

We have a lot of work to do in the weeks to come. Students will examine their course material from the perspective of new begin-

nings and perseverance. Mr. Zack is leading astronomy and biology classes that examine how our universe came to be and what constitutes the basic building blocks of all life. In literature class the students will read about personal and global transformations. Spanish will include vocabulary that matches these subjects. World History will delve into the first traces of mankind and examine how we came to form civilizations and commercial centers.

The Adolescent Program will also be leading the Scholastic Book Fair which is coming October 22. Be on the look out for calls for volunteers! Please plan to support the Book Fair!

The recycling program will kick up another gear, as we will implement a school-wide effort to recycle, reuse, and reduce.

Thanks so much for the gifts and good cheer we have received from teachers, parents, administrators, and students. We greatly appreciate all that you do.



### **Book Fair**

**Starting October 22**

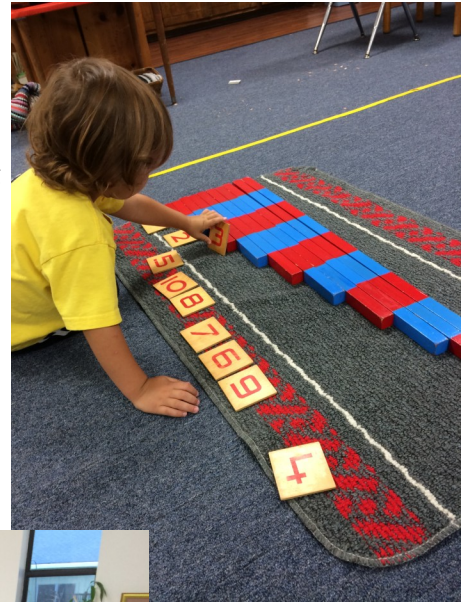
Come support the adolescent program;  
buy a book (or 3)!

## *News from Ms. Ana Maria & Ms. Cayce*



August was such a fun month. We loved welcoming the new students into the classroom and learning about space. I hope all the children have taught you the wonderful planet song. Ms. Cayce and I have both had the song stuck in our heads for days. We have learned so many interesting facts about space. Be sure to ask your child about all the different planets. We will continue to learn about space this week and have a fun ending to our space unit with a space lunch this Friday, September 5th.

Our next unit will be on the ocean. If you have any books or objects about the ocean, please send them in for your child to share



with the class. We will be doing lots of fun activities including a manatee day. This is where everyone who enters the classroom must move like a manatee, slowly! We did it last year for the first time and I loved it as much as the children. We have had a great start to the year and we can't wait to see what we are going to learn next!

Ms. Ana Maria

&

Ms. Cayce



# Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Pam

We made it through August and have really began to settle in pretty well. We still are having some separation issues in the morning, but the children calm down in just a few minutes.

In September, we will be talking about transportation. It will be a fun month with lots of crafts, stories and songs. I believe the children will really enjoy the Calhoun Airport field trip. Please make sure to get your permission slip back



also. Please remember to label all your lunch containers and anything else your child brings to school.

Shown are some pictures of some if the children at work or at play. Enjoy :)



in if you are planning on taking your child.

We will continue talking about colors, shapes and grace and courtesy. We are working on sharing



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