

September 5, 2015

Volume 4 Issue 1

DOLPHIN TALES

Important Dates:

September 7

Labor Day-No School



Wisdom



Knowledge



Peace

DADDY'S DAY PICNIC



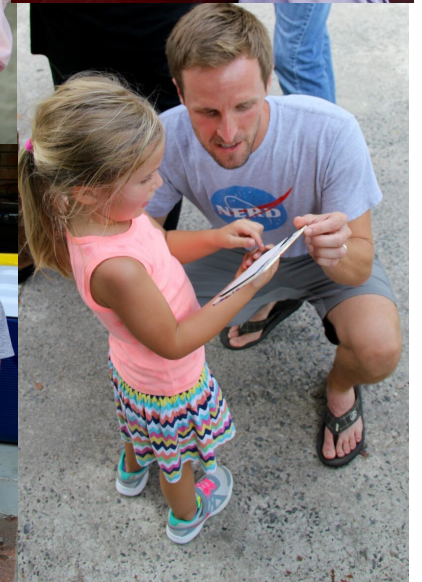
August Birthdays

Ezekiel D.	08/01
Gaven F.	08/05
Kira D.	08/05
Cade D.	08/06
Cameron F.	08/09
Robert H.	08/09
Savannah C.	08/13
Kanako M.	08/15
Jack F.	08/16
Noah F.	08/23
Om P.	08/24
Tripp D.	08/27
Lee D.	08/31



September Birthdays

Marco C.	09/05
Kaleb P.	09/07
Rachael C.	09/08
Brynlee N.	09/08
Ely H.	09/14
Ishan S.	09/15
Bo P.	09/17
Riley F.	09/19
Annika P.	09/22
Milan L.	09/25
Sophia B.	09/27
Kieran Ellis N.	09/30



DADDY'S DAY PICNIC



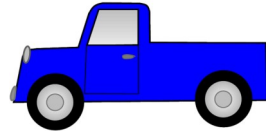
WE LOVE OUR DADS!



Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Pam

I hope you have noticed your children talking about shapes, colors and numbers! They really seemed to enjoy learning about these. They are so attentive while we have line time. It's wonderful!! They all have pretty much got our "morning songs" down pat. They are just a great group of children!!

In September, we will learn all about transportation! It's a fun theme that the children really enjoy. We will learn new songs and make a few crafts.



Please mark your calendars for October 9. We will have our field trip to the Pumpkin Patch in Adairsville. It's such a fun day for the kids. We will also have a picnic and play a few games there. Each toddler has to be accompanied by an adult. The children will need to wear their field trip shirt.



We have several children in the potty training stage. Please, if your child is potty training, let him/her wear elastic waist, easy pull up and down, shorts or pants. This truly helps them to succeed during this process.



All of your children's lunches are looking great. We put their food on a paper plate for lunch. If they are not eating well, we will put food back in containers and send home so you may adjust their lunch. I have purchased reusable spoons and forks so there is no need for you to send utensils.

If your child is sent home in his/her extra clothing, please send in extras the following day.



Toddler News from Ms. Shannon & Ms. Dana



August was a wonderful month. The children had a wonderful time learning about their colors and shapes. Everyone is settling in nicely and starting to normalize! There is hardly any crying anymore!!

We are looking forward to a great month in September. This month we will talk about transportation. We will learn about the many ways to get around. In Practical Life, we will scrub cars and have a lesson on sink and float. In Sensorial, we will match cars to their colors. We will have a lesson on land, air, and sea and what belongs where. We will also have many different transportation objects for naming in our Language area. We will have cars for counting in our Math area. Transportation is such a fun month. If you have anything at home such as a book you would like to share, please feel free to send it in, If you have access to any fun forms of transportation that could visit the class this month, please let me know.



Remember we have the Pumpkin Patch field trip coming up October 9. I know Melanie has already talked to you about field trip shirts. We are trying to get more smaller sizes! Any time that our class goes on a field trip, they must have an adult attend with them. It may be parents, grandparents, a sitter, or whomever you trust driving and watching over your child. We always have a great time at the Pumpkin Patch. We will picnic there and play some games after we go through the Pumpkin Patch.



A few housekeeping notes:

- Please remember water bottles and silverware daily.
- Apply sunscreen and bug spray in the mornings
- If we send home dirty clothes, please send replacements the following day.

If you are interested in being a room parent, please email me. I'm still looking.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks! 😊
Shannon



News from Ms. Ana Maria & Ms. Carolina

Our space studies are always so much fun! I think we have a lot of children who want to be astronauts now. You will have to invite me to the rocket launch! Be sure to ask your child about all the planets and gravity. We even looked at a few videos of astronauts in space. It is always fun seeing the astronauts float around in the International Space Station. If you get a chance one evening, please take your child outside to see the stars. We talked a little bit about constellations, and I know the children would love to see the stars! Maybe you can even get them to sing you our planet song!

Next we are studying the ocean. This study is also a favorite of the students! We learn all about dolphins, sharks, whales, and everything else that lives in the ocean. If you have anything your child would like to share, please send it in with their name on it. (This also includes shells.) We will also have my favorite day, Manatee day. On this day, the children must move like a manatee does—slowly. It is always a fun day! I can't wait to hear what all the children share with you!

Thanks!
Ana Maria



Primary News from Ms. Angie & Ms. Nikki



What a great start to our new school year. Ms. Nikki and I are enjoying the children. It's nice to welcome the new children to our class but also see how much our older children have grown over the summer. The older ones are becoming strong leaders for the younger ones.

The children have begun settling into a morning routine. We have enjoyed music time and library visits. Friendships are being made that will last a lifetime. Lessons are being given in preparation for a great foundation. It has been a very calming back to school month.

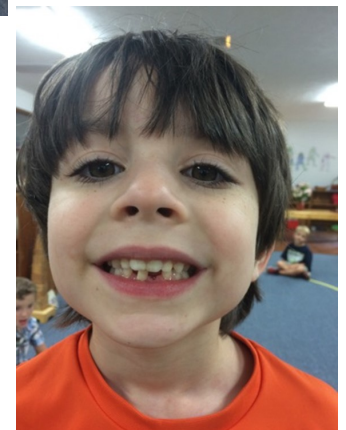
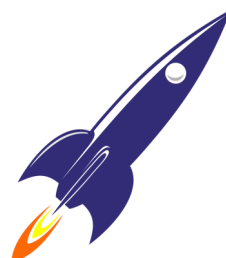
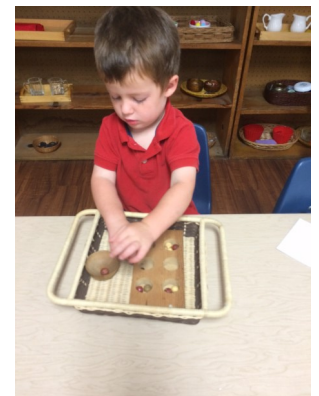
The children truly enjoyed learning about space. Many children brought books in to share with the class. I am sure that the children can name the planets, tell about the sun, the solar system, gravity, and astronauts to name a few things. Our favorite song is Rocketship Run. I am certain that the children know every word to it. 😊

September is the study of the ocean. We will learn about the creatures of the sea. This is a great time to share that beach memorabilia from summer vacation. This study is one of our favorite months. If you have any ocean crafts or snacks that you would like to share with us, I am sure that we would enjoy it. Thanks in advance.



I am attaching a few pictures of some special moments that we have shared in our class. We have Ben who lost his first tooth to Eva who found her place in the universe (building a tower). There are also pics of some of the children settling in to Montessori life. I love it.

Angie



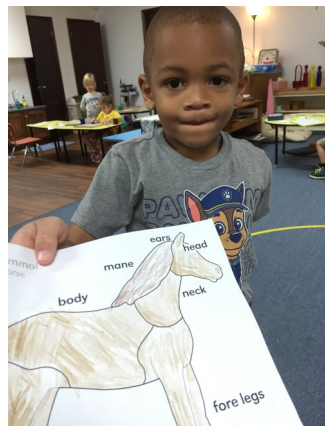
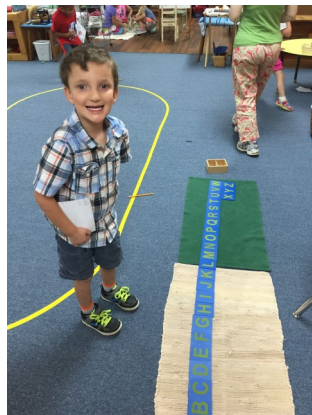
Primary News from Ms. Dagmar and Ms. Diane



Play is the child's work, all play and work are important. We refer to the various lessons and materials in the classroom as "work." It is helpful to the children for the adults in their lives to be consistent in calling what they do at school, "work." Yes, they do have fun, and they do play on the playground - we do beautiful work in the classroom.

It is difficult to believe that we've already been in school for three weeks, especially since it still feels like summer. At the same time, it's also hard to believe that we've been in school for only three weeks - much has already been accomplished. We have enjoyed pondering the vastness of space, and our journey on this "spaceship," Earth. We'll delve into ocean studies through the rest of September, and welcome any books, photos, and artifacts you might have to offer. We've enjoyed a back-to-school picnic and Daddy's Day celebration - what a great turnout - and look forward to the Fall Festival in October. We've had stories with Ms. Carol when we've visited the library, and Ms. Julie has engaged us with music. Readers are in full swing, and we are hopeful that we'll hear from volunteers soon regarding reader and sandpaper letter opportunities.

We look toward normalization in another few weeks, and we take joys in the discoveries the children make, the beautiful work they find they can do, and the courtesy they show us, and one another. You can help us quite a lot by reinforcing Montessori principles at home. Some basic, but excellent, information may be found here: <http://www.spielgaben.com/montessori-at-home-principles-to-follow/>.



Elementary News: Ms. Michelle and Ms. Stefanie



The beginning of a new school year is a very exciting time for both students and teachers. The children are eager to reunite with dear friends and favorite lessons/work. Teachers are passionate about being in the classroom again! This is my nineteenth year teaching yet it still feels as fresh and as new as that first year! This is one of the reasons I love to teach for each school year is its own wondrous unique journey. Our class story for the 2015-2016 school year has just begun! As we write each page together may we write it with love, laughter, and peace! For in the end these things will matter far more than just academics for it is the whole child in Montessori that we strive to nurture and grow!

Peace in our Community

The goal of a peaceful classroom environment is a standard for every Montessori school including ours. To achieve this we present the lessons of Grace and Courtesy at each stage of development. In Lower Elementary, these familiar lessons are presented again but now with a new twist. They are given as a small drama to the class in a role playing fashion. The students discuss what was done inappropriately in the role play and how it could have been done differently. We then acknowledge and practice the correct behavior. Lessons in this manner will be given throughout the school year but much emphasis is put on Grace and Courtesy now for it will help set the tone of our class.



There are some Grace and Courtesy lessons our group will pick up and utilize immediately while others may take time and constant repetition before new habits replace old ones. Currently we are working on using "walking feet" inside our classroom for example. Students consciously know the dangers of running inside as well as the distractions it causes. To run is an impulse and with constant attention and time given to helping children change this behavior it should occur less and less. This is just one example of many. Lessons on polite words, table manners, sharing, patience, kindness, forgiveness, etc are the work of being human. As I give these lessons to the children I admit to myself that I too need these reminders. This work is for all ages and for the benefit of all including our classroom, home, community, and world.

I am most inspired right now by the independent use of the Peace Table in our room. I have had mixed emotions about the Peace Table in Lower Elementary in the past for various reasons but decided this year to give it a try. I have used the Peace Rose with great success in previous environments but did not apply the formal use of a designated location to facilitate this process. I am absolutely thrilled by observations of how our students are empowered to solve their own disputes with kindness and respect by using the Peace Table and Peace Rose together. Learning how to communicate and solve differences is a lifelong skill which children can begin at an early age. How might our world change for the better if each generation has these lessons?

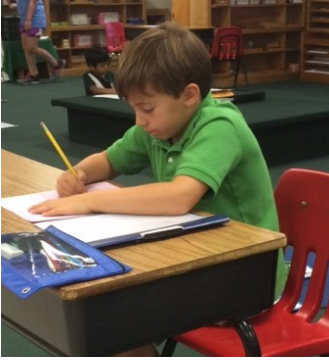
Thank you parents for all that you do in your homes to promote the best qualities in your children. We are blessed to have such a loving generous community at our school. Hats off to our devoted parents!

Yes, it will be a great year! Our journey has begun!

Ms. Michelle and Ms. Stefanie



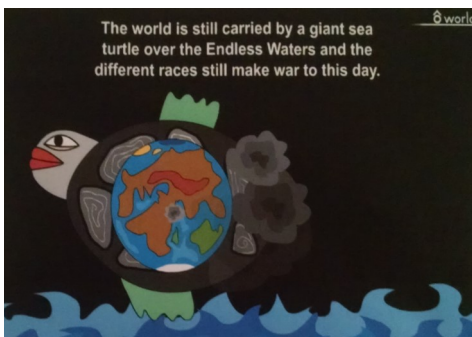
Elementary News: Ms. Dolores & Ms. Cheyenne



What a great year we are having so far...your children are practicing their grace and courtesy, settling into a routine, and becoming more and more independent every day. I'm really proud of the 2nd and 3rd year students for taking the time to help our new students (and Ms. Cheyenne) settle into the classroom.

We've explored the creation stories of several ancient civilizations and presented a more modern interpretation that follows more recent scientific theories. The door is now open for further discussion at home about your family's personal beliefs. We also spent several afternoons with hands-on experiments demonstrating the laws of nature (gravity, inertia, magnetism). Our Timeline of Life celebrates the plants and animals (current and extinct) from the most primitive to the most complex. Regular botany and zoology lessons will begin soon, along with a more in-depth study of the solar system and the dinosaurs.

The Iroquois creation story:



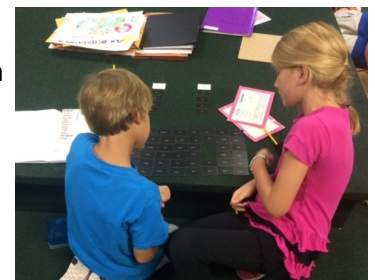
Last week we enjoyed a presentation from Ms. Josephine about the country of Denmark. She was very impressed with the thoughtfulness of the questions. Ask your child to say something in Danish!



Save the date, September 18. We will be having a sleepover/Astronomy night for all lower elementary students. Details will follow soon. The children love this annual event and will be talking about it for many months.

Please assist your child with choosing a character to represent in this year's Historical Timeline. It's always helpful if it's someone that your child is genuinely interested in learning more about AND if there is information about this person's childhood. You should be able to find a children's book about this person, as well. Internet research will NOT suffice. More helpful information, as well as a schedule of project deadlines, will be coming home with next week's homework.

We are still looking for a room mother volunteer. This is a fun job: planning holiday parties and coming into the classroom to do crafts with the children...and whatever else you can think of that you'd like to do.



Thanks for sharing your children with us.

News from Ms. Rebecca and Mr. Eric

We have had a wonderful first month in the Upper Elementary! The first month included our first outing to Ridge Ferry Park which was both fun and instructive. The students explored the surroundings of the park and identified a number of natural features and biomes. We also engaged in a number of team building exercises to strengthen our sense of community and build trust. We have a number of exciting studies and activities for the month of September. We will have our first



Cooking Day on the 11th with a red, white, and blue theme. Our 5th year students will begin Fire Safety on the 21st at 12:30. This program is always a success and the students learn a lot from it. We will also have a field trip to the ECO Center on the 22nd. This trip will include a number of different studies in water ecology and preservation. The trip will cost \$3.50 per student and we will try to arrive at the Center by 8:00 am. After the program we will have a picnic lunch, so each student will need an appropriate sack lunch to bring.



Our cul- tural and science lessons are progressing through the Great Lessons concerning the origins of the Universe, the coming of life and continuing on into the coming of humans. These lessons go deeply into the various eras and periods of life and provide the students with an opportunity to work with partners and small groups in a research format.

The Upper Elementary is looking forward to another great month at MSR!

Ms. Rebecca & Mr. Eric



Spanish News from Ms. Carolina

Hola a todos!

This year is going to be an exciting one. We've been back to class for a couple of weeks, and the children's eagerness to learn has been truly inspiring. Please ask our students what they are learning in class and encourage them to practice. I will start sending the weekly emails soon, but please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to hear from you!

Ms. Carolina



Library News from Ms. Carol

Any library books checked out by elementary students (lower and upper) for the summer reading program should be returned by September 7. The reports on those books would have already been completed and submitted to their teachers, so the books should be returned to the library.

Thanks,
Carol



Ms. Melanie's Musings

As we settle into the new year, I hear less crying and see more smiling as the separations become easier. We are still in the normalization period, so please work with us and give your child the time they need to acclimate to a new school, new classes, and new schedules.

I have seen grace and courtesy modeled in every classroom. The toddlers are learning about peaceful hands. Our primary classes are learning to practice kindness to their classmates. One of our toddlers, Sophia Beatty, has an au pair from Denmark named Ms. Josephine who came to speak to our Lower Elementary classes regarding the kingdom of Denmark. She remarked upon leaving that she thought our children were very well behaved and asked great questions! When I was observing her presentation, I was also impressed with how respectfully the children listened and by how curious they were about her country. Our Upper Elementary class guides have been impressed with how nicely the older students are working with the rising 4th year students. They are blending in beautifully into the classroom. Our adolescent class has performed community service in our school community and by going out and serving in the Community Kitchen. It's only the first 3 weeks, and we have already seen so many acts of kindness.

We do many things well here, but one of my favorites has always been the multi-cultural aspect of MSR. In a small southern town, we can learn about many different places in our beautiful world—from our teachers, from our classmates, from our cultural studies, from our International Day studies. From this knowledge, the children grow into becoming citizens of the world, bringing peace to a world in need.

THE ADOLESCENTS



"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed." -Maya Angelou

IT'S BEEN A BUSY MONTH FOR THE ADOLESCENTS

It has been a very busy month in our class. We spent our first week getting to know our students better and getting to know Ms. Nikki. The next two weeks were spent bonding through community service projects at MSOR and in and

around Rome. My mother had a saying, "Charity begins at home." We adopted this slogan and went to work to improve our campus. We have cleaned and beautified several areas - The Memorial Garden, Ms. Dagmar's patio, the gravel path and the

school laundry room. We were also able to give back to our community; with help of Mr. Jim we made a hotdog lunch for 200 for the Community Kitchen. The students helped serve and cleanup, a humbling experience for all of us. Continued on pg. 2



WORKING TOGETHER



SERVING THE COMMUNITY



BEAUTIFYING THE CAMPUS

We put into practice Mrs. Kumar's words, "Charity begins at home."

The Community Kitchen - Did you know on a given day there are more than 1000 families that go with out food in our area! We were there on the 1st., of the month and served 150 people for lunch. In the pervious days the number was doubled.

"I loved serving dessert at the Community Kitchen. Even though I don't like Cherry Pie, I'm glad they like it." Kristen Daniel, 7th year.

Daddy's Day - We are so lucky to have someone like Ms. Carol. She helped us come up with the best craft idea! "This school does more than care only about me, they also care about the people that I love. That means a lot to me." Carlos Chavez, 7th year.

"No one has ever become poor by giving."
— Anne Frank,

Ms. Dagmar's Patio - I never had a chance to participate in "Washing a table and polishing a cup in Primary. I got my chance when I scrubbed Ms. Dagmar's table clean." Mary Ella, 7th year.

"Doing for others can only bring me blessings." Shakeria Anderson, 7th year.

Daddy's Day- "My daddy is my hero, so honoring him at my school is a pleasure." Esha Sundrani, 8th year.

"Not all people that visit or eat at a Community Kitchen are homeless or poor; some people are just hungry. I found this to be shocking and sad." Gaven Freeman, 8th year.

"Seeing poverty with my own eyes is different than hearing about it. It drives me to do more now." Nicholas Whelchel, 7th year.

"I enjoyed working on the different events. The thing that made me the most happy was seeing all the different smiling faces." Savannah Corbin, 8th year

GIVING BACK



CLEANING THE PATH



SERVING OUR HOTDOGS



DADDY'S DAY PROJECT



BEAUTIFYING THE PATIO



"The Memorial Garden was created to honor Mrs. Kumar; even though she is gone her presence is still felt." Illiyaan Sundrani, 8th year.

Announcements

- Jason Kise is available for piano lessons for students aged 5 and up. Please contact Jason at jrk311@bellsouth.net for more information.
- Creative Movement is now for 10 week sessions with Ms. Bambi Waters. The cost is \$75 made payable to Bambi Waters. Time: Tuesdays from 2:30 to 3:00. Classes begin September 8 and last through November 17. Class limited to 12 children, ages 3 and up. **Space is limited; if you are interested, please complete the registration and return with your payment to the office.**
- Watch for details regarding the Needlework Club, held Fridays in Ms. Dagmar's room. Classes begin Friday, September 11 at 3:15. Registration forms will be in the lobby soon.
- Lil Gunners is full for this session; however, there will be another session in the spring. Time: 2:30 to 3:05 on Mondays. 8 week sessions, beginning September 14.
- Chess Club will began Friday, August 28th and will meet Fridays at 3:15PM or 4:00PM for beginners or advanced students, respectively.



Wisdom



Knowledge



Peace



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