

October 5, 2018

Volume 7 Issue 2

DOLPHIN TALES

Important Dates:

October 16/17

School Pictures

October 18, 2018

Pettit Creek Farm

Lower Elementary

October 19, 2018

Copper Creek Farm

Toddler/Primary

October 26, 2018

Fall Festival 5:30-7:30

October 29-30, 2018

Historical Timeline
Evening Presentations

NW GA Housing Au-
thority 6:00 pm

October 31, 2018

Halloween Parade

October Birthdays:

Bodie L	10/01
Mack P.	10/03
Zack L.	10/18
Laina M.	10/19
Julissa J.	10/21
Reagan A.	10/22
Kendal A.	10/27
Zoey W.	10/27
Jason W.	10/29
Ava W.	10/30
Isla O.	10/31
Ta'Oir F.	10/31



Wisdom



Knowledge



Peace

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18TH- SQUARE
ONE ART ORDERS ARE DUE !!!**



Tonight! Tonight! Thursday, October 11th

Rome City Auditorium 7:30 pm

The NW GA WINDS (60-piece community concert band) will celebrate the 100th birthday of Leonard Bernstein and the 120th birthday of George Gershwin with a performance of some of these iconic composer's greatest hits. The Montessori School of Rome choir, vocal soloist Angela McRee, and piano soloist Lynn Worcester will perform Rhapsody in Blue, works from West Side Story, Candide, and more. Everyone is welcome for this family-friendly program!



CHANGE in SCHOOL PICTURES

October 16, 2018 Toddler/Primary/Siblings

October 17, 2018 All Elementary/Adolescents/Secondary

Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Pam

Fall is in the air!! It's hard to believe it's October already. We had a great time learning all about the different zoo animals. I hope your children came home talking about some of the things they learned!!

October begins the study of nocturnal animals, and it is always a very fun month! We will also have fun reading Halloween stories and singing songs on both topics!! I'm sure there will also be lots of fun crafts! Our younger ones are really catching on to putting the craft pieces in the glue. As always, we will continue to work on grace and courtesy.

Welcome to our new student, Andres! Please join me in welcoming Andres and his family, Andres and Chabris, to Montessori. Our class is now complete, and we look forward to learning and growing together this year.

There are a couple of events in October for you to mark on your calendar.

October 16 - School Pictures! Please bring a change of clothes for your child to put on after the pictures. Toddlers are photographed first thing in the morning. We are photographed outside.

October 19 - Our field trip to Copper Creek Farm

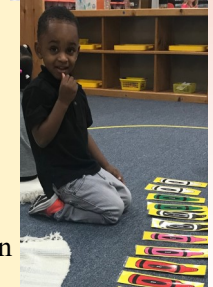
October 26 - Fall Festival. Watch for our pumpkin in the lobby. We will decorate a pumpkin and have a silent auction on it with proceeds benefitting the Booster Club.

All toddlers must be driven to field trips by a parent or other adult. If they have a field trip shirt, please have them wear it. If they don't, please have them wear a black t-shirt or black polo shirt. Walmart has these for a great price!

The work I'll talk about this month is from our Language shelf, "picture to picture". The child brings the material to a rug, takes it from a basket, and places the materials side by side. We talk about what they see, and then the child finds the matching pictures. This work really helps build their vocabulary.

Please label all items you bring to school. If you bring a big bag of diapers, please have their name on the bag. It will be "sweater weather" soon! Please be sure to have their name on all outerwear! Water bottles should also be labeled. Also, please cut all grapes in half.

Thanks to all of you for getting your child to school on time. Class begins promptly at 8:30. This year is going great!!



Toddler News from Ms. Shannon , Ms. Rachel & Ms. Kayla

October is here! We are excited to move on to our studies of things that go bump in the night. We will be learning about nocturnal animals, a little about the night sky, and some fun Halloween stuff too! This month is always really fun! We will make lots of crafts, sing, and go on a field trip this month!

School pictures will be on October 16. Please bring a change of clothes for after the pictures. Most people tend to dress up. Our pictures will be taken outside. These pictures will be available to order and will also be used in the yearbook.

We will go to Copper Creek on October 19. Each toddler will need an adult to transport and spend the day with them. We will meet there. At Copper Creek, you will need to purchase tickets for you and your child and then meet back with our class. The children should wear a field trip shirt (Field trip shirts are ordered from Lands End. The information is in the student handbook.) or a black polo or t-shirt. They should also wear khaki shorts, pants, or skirt and tennis shoes. We will visit all the attractions. You can pack a lunch to eat there, or you can leave and go have lunch. This is such a fun place to visit!

Our Fall Festival will be Friday, October 26. There will be inflatables and pony rides. Our adolescents will be selling hotdogs and bratwursts. If you have paid your Booster Club dues this year, then your admission is covered. Otherwise, please either pay your \$25 to the Booster Club or plan on buying tickets at the Fall Festival. The Booster Club does so much for our school! They put on all of these fabulous events, provide pizza lunches for the school, and buy work for our classrooms. We will also have a pumpkin auction. Each class will make a pumpkin so you don't want to miss out! They will be displayed the week of the festival so you can start bidding!

Book fair will be coming just in time for the Fall Festival! More details will be coming! It will be housed in the Upper Elementary building so you can stop by and browse with your child!

This month we will also have a Halloween parade on October 31. The children come dressed in their costumes. We will do a parade around the playground at 10. You will need to send a change of clothes for after the parade. We would love to have a special treat with lunch that day so please let me know if you are interested.

I have a couple of quick class notes. Please make sure to label everything. We have had several water bottles, clothes, and other items that are not labeled. The labeling is important with cool weather coming with jackets and hats. Also, you need to send in silverware daily with lunch.



News from Ms. Ana Maria & Ms. Valerie

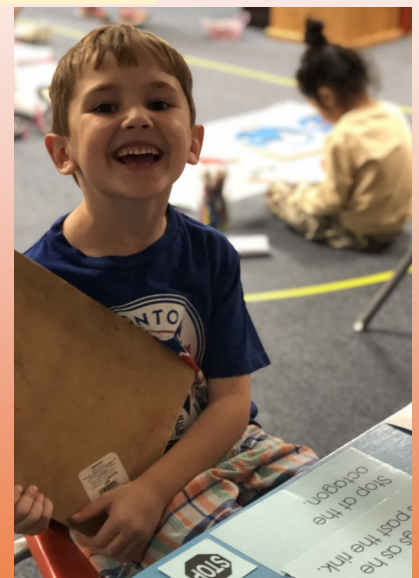
Thank you to everyone for coming in for a conference We loved getting to brag on your children! We received a few questions about the work in practical life, so we thought we would tell you the numerous purposes to some of the work.

Some of the first lessons in practical life would be pouring of dry materials followed by a progression to the pouring of water. When looking around practical life, you will see many different variations on this. We will use different pitchers and different dry materials. These works help the child's motor development, coordination, and control of movement. It also helps develop the child's independence and sense of responsibility. If the dry material spills, it is the child's responsibility to clean it up. This work develops hand- eye coordination and is an indirect preparation for writing.

Another piece of work that the children like in practical life would be the use of tongs. We place different kinds of tongs in containers and materials to transfer back and forth. (This month it is Halloween themed. The kids love it!) This is great preparation for writing. As the school year goes on, we will put out tongs that are harder and harder to squeeze together so that the children can build their finger muscles. In addition to the purposes that are also listed above, this work also develops concentration and patience.

These are all things you can encourage your child to do at home. The more the children work with their hands, the more their muscles will develop. The children could even help you fold towels at home. The children love to work!

"The first essential for the child's development is concentration. The child who concentrates is immensely happy." Maria Montessori



Primary News from Ms. Angie & Ms. Carolina

Happy October and Welcome Fall!

September was amazing, and it went by very quickly. The normalization period has occurred and it has been incredible watching your children settling in and eager to learn. If you would like to observe your child during the morning work cycle, it is available now. Thank you to all parents that took their time to meet with us; it was great to discuss your child's school experience so far with you.

In Montessori education, the term "normalization" has a specialized meaning. "Normal" does not refer to what is considered to be "typical" or "average" or even "usual." "Normalization" does not refer to a process of being forced to conform. Instead, Maria Montessori used the terms "normal" and "normalization" to describe a unique process she observed in child development. Dr. Montessori observed that when children are allowed freedom in an environment suited to their needs, they blossom. After a period of intense concentration, working with materials that fully engage their interest, children appear to be refreshed and contented. Through continued concentrated work of their own choice, children grow in inner discipline and peace. She called this process "normalization" and cited it as "the most important single result of our whole work" (*The Absorbent Mind*, 1949). She went on to write, *Only "normalized" children, aided by their environment, show in their subsequent development those wonderful powers that we describe: spontaneous discipline, continuous and happy work, social sentiments of help and sympathy for others. . . . An interesting piece of work, freely chosen, which has the virtue of inducing concentration rather than fatigue, adds to the child's energies and mental capacities, and leads him to self-mastery. . . . One is tempted to say that the children are performing spiritual exercises, having found the path of self-perfectionment and of ascent to the inner heights of the soul.* (Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, 1949) E.M. Standing (*Maria Montessori: Her Life and Work*, 1957) lists these as the characteristics of normalization: love of order, love of work, spontaneous concentration, attachment to reality, love of silence and of working alone, sublimation of the possessive instinct, power to act from real choice, obedience, independence and initiative, spontaneous self-discipline, and joy. Montessori believed that these are the truly "normal" characteristics of childhood, which emerge when children's developmental needs are met.

October is always a very busy, but a fun month for learning. We have finished our studies on the universe & continents, and they loved learning about different types of animals. This month will be all about the human body and our senses, temperate forest and trees, and also we will talk about North America. If you have anything that you would like your child to share with the class, we will be more than happy to show it during line time.

Like every year, our school does a fundraiser through Square One Art, we have sent your child's artwork and order information home, please place your orders before October 18.

We are having our school pictures taken on **Tuesday October 16th**, if you would like your child to change from picture clothes to school clothes, we will be more than happy to do so; please make sure you send the clothes in a labeled bag.

Our first school outing to Copper Creek is coming soon, it will be on Friday October 19th. We will meet there to enjoy a morning of fun, children really enjoy all the activities there. Please be on the lookout for upcoming information regarding the outing.

This month is full of crafts between Fall and Halloween, if you want to come and do a craft with the children you are welcome to it! Please let us know to accommodate the best time for you.

A few important upcoming dates to remind you:

- 10/16 Picture Day Toddler/Primary/All Siblings
- 10/19 Copper Creek Farm
- 10/26 Fall Festival at our school
- 10/31 Halloween Parade

Please be on the lookout for more information as the event dates approaches.

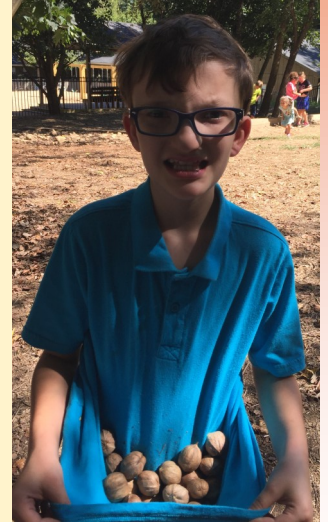


Elementary News: Ms. Maggie and Ms. Stefanie

"It is surprising to notice that even from the earliest age, man finds the greatest satisfaction in feeling independent. The exalting feeling of being sufficient to oneself comes as a revelation."

-Maria Montessori

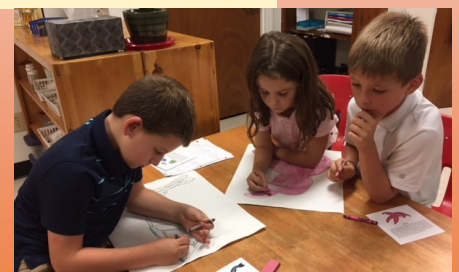
Recently, we have observed many of our students becoming more independent both in their work choices and in their time management. Independence is something we always want to encourage in our students and is an important part of the Montessori method. We give our students the freedom to choose their work within certain boundaries to give them a sense of ownership in the work they produce. When a child can find satisfaction in his/her ability to be successful on their own, then they will grow in confidence and be more willing to take on the challenge of new, more difficult tasks. They become self-motivated to continue the process of learning about the world around them.



One Montessori material which encourages independence in Math is the stamp game. In lower Elementary, students receive lessons on the stamp game using all four math applications - addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. This material uses color coding to identify place value and gives the student a concrete experience in exchanging tens. The stamp game uses visual and kinesthetic learning to cement a student's understanding of math applications, so the student can move into abstracting mathematical equations.

Please remember the viewing window is open, and you are welcome to come observe your child in their school environment. We encourage you to do so!

Though our weather may still feel like summer, fall is in full swing. On October 17, we will have school pictures. On October 18th we'll have a field trip to Petit Creek Farms in Cartersville to learn about life on the farm. We're all getting excited about Historical Timeline coming up very soon! Please continue checking Tuesday notes for the specific days your student will need to be in costume for their presentations. We will give presentations for the Primary students, assisted living home residents, and for families and friends. Also, please plan on joining us for our Fall Festival on Friday, October 26th. This is a wonderful time to visit with friends from Montessori! The students will have a Halloween parade during the school morning on Wednesday, October 31st. Students are welcome to wear a costume to school and bring school clothes to change into afterwards. Just please be mindful of the little ones who will be joining the parade and do not send students to school in any violent or scary costumes. Thank you! There is a lot to look forward to around MSR during the month of October, and we hope you all will be able to join in the fun!



Elementary News: Ms. Dolores

October promises to be a busy, busy month.

Thank-you all for taking the time to meet with me about your child’s academic progress thus far. Everyone is settling in nicely and excited about learning new things.

We’ve completed our Great Lessons and will spend this next week finishing up the extension work that goes along with the History of Language and History of Math timelines that were presented. The children especially enjoyed writing notes using ideograms (simplified pictures used to communicate before the alphabet existed) and creating their own alphabet to write coded messages.

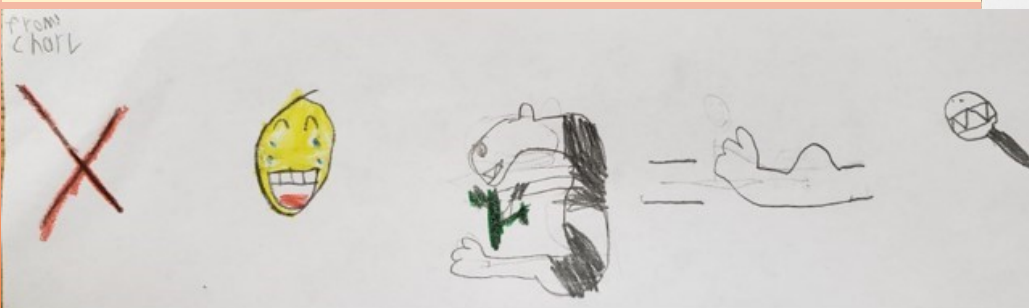
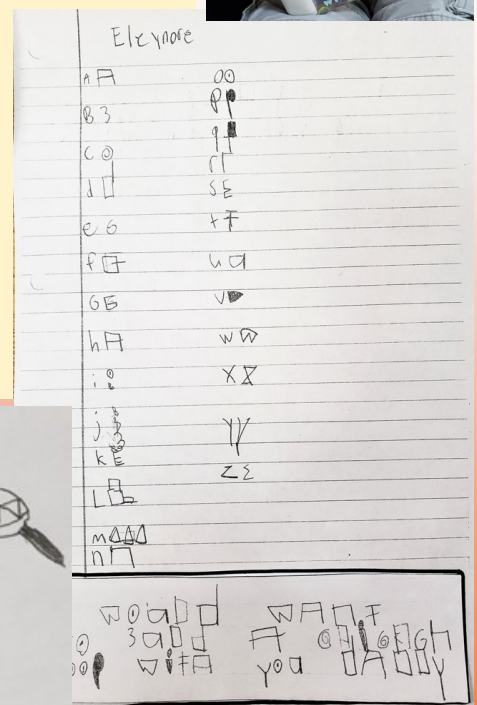
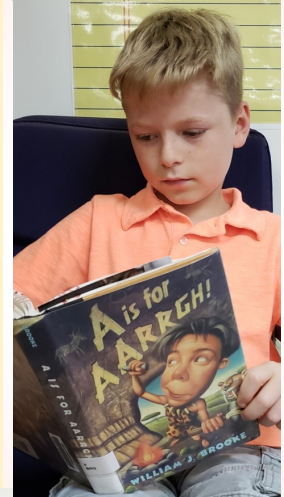
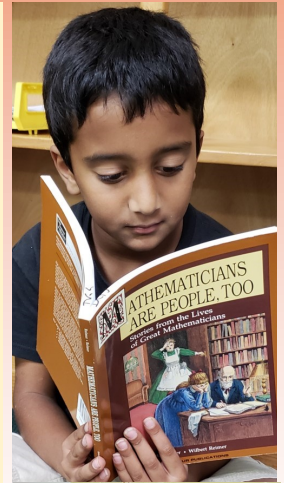
Our Historical Timeline project is in full swing, and I can’t wait to see the final presentations. We’ve been sharing character stories in the classroom and working on clarity and projection of speech. It would be helpful if you would ask your child to tell you a story about their character and have them speak in first person, using the pronouns “I” and “me”. Recalling and reciting interesting stories (using familiar words) is much more important than memorizing dates and rote facts using words they neither comprehend nor are able to pronounce. Storytelling in the voice of a character they have become very comfortable with makes the final presentation much less daunting. I absolutely love the ease and excitement I see in your children when they perform in front of a crowd to share what they have learned. A schedule of when your child will be dressing up to present to primary students is coming home with homework this week. Parent presentations will be on Monday and Tuesday evenings, October 29 and 30. If you need to request an evening because of schedule conflicts, please let me know ASAP.

Our class will be decorating a pumpkin to be auctioned off at this year’s Fall Festival on October 26. If anyone has the time, crafty talents, and desire to join us in this project, let me know when you’re available, and we can plan accordingly.

Our field trip to Pettit Creek Farms will happen on October 18. If you haven’t already turned in the permission slip with payment, please do so ASAP. Also, if you have already volunteered or would like to chaperone/drive, please send me a quick text. Verbal messages sometimes get lost in the nooks and crannies of my brain, and I don’t want to leave anyone out. I’ll send an email reminder about booster seats and sack lunches several days before our trip.

We will have a Halloween celebration in the classroom on October 31. Perhaps you have a special ghoulish treat to share with us or would like to come in to help our children put something together. I’ll be talking to Lelia Stina (our room mom) and she will contact some of you to ask for assistance.

Other important events include picture day, on October 16 (siblings) and October 17 (class) and the Book Fair to coincide with our Fall Festival.



News from Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Kaitlin

In our previous article, we discussed the importance of having consistent, predictable rules and limits in order for children to feel safe and secure. We also spoke about the fact that it is the environment and not the adult that presents these limits to the children. In this article, we discuss the importance of positive statements.

How we speak to children has a lot to do with how they will hear us.

In the previous article, we discussed setting expectations ahead of time so that children know the limits and follow the rules. For example, to prevent children taking work off the shelves before receiving presentations you could say, "We only use materials after I have shown you how to use them." Notice that this is a positive statement that tells the children when they can use the materials. They are not told that they cannot use the work. Dr. Silvia Dubovoy (Dubovoy, 2017) uses the phrase "In this place, ..." to let children know "Yes, I know there are other rules for you elsewhere, but in this place, we do this."

Here are some examples.

Negative: We don't...

Positive: In this place we...

We don't run.

In this place, we walk carefully.

We don't shout.

In this place, we speak quietly.

We don't carry all of that at the same time.

In this place, we carry things one at a time.

We don't leave our work on the floor.

In this place, we return our work to the shelf.

We don't interrupt.

In this place, we wait our turn.

We don't hit.

In this place, we keep our hands to our own bodies.

We don't get out of our chair at a restaurant.

In this place, we stay in our chair.

Do you hear the difference? If you were learning the rules of a new place, which language would you rather hear? The child can argue with the statement "We don't run." However, she cannot argue with the explanation of "In this place, we walk carefully." By using positive, exact language you become a firm, gentle, and rational authority who is building a relationship based on trust.

Now, let's look at some less obvious negative statements. Often, we think we are using positive language but really, we are giving commands and asserting our authority. Dr. Dubovoy uses the following example:

Sit down; it's time to eat.

versus

We will eat when you are seated.

In the first statement, we are telling the child what to do. There isn't any choice or freedom to choose: I am the adult, and I make the rules for you to follow, no questions asked. In the second example, the child has the choice of when to be seated. He knows we will wait until he is ready. There is no need for a power struggle because the child now has the freedom to **CHOOSE**.

Let's try some more examples.

Command

Choice

Be quiet; it's story time.

When you are quiet, I will read you a story.

Put your coat on; it's cold outside.

When your coat is on, we will go outside.

Eat your dinner; it's time to clean up.

When you are finished eating, we can clean up.

I'm not leaving until your shoes are on.

When your shoes are on, we can go to school.

Brush your teeth; it's time for bed.

When you've brushed your teeth, I'll come tuck you in.

News from Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Kaitlin (continued)

Using language that is positive and respectful but firm guides children to want to behave, without the adult having to constantly watch and wait for them to break the rules. You are setting the tone for a positive outcome. You are clear with your expectations as well as with the outcome of their choice.

There are definite rules in life, and having rules isn't bad. Rules are actually quite necessary to raise happy, independent, well-adjusted children, who become happy, independent, well-adjusted adults. When we understand what we want in our environment and we express and model that in a clear and respectful manner, our children are able to make wise choices about their own behavior.

Works Cited

Dubovoy, S. (2017, October 25). Freedom, Obedience, Authority, and Discipline. Online Webinar. San Diego.

Michelle Irinyi — NAMC Tutor & Graduate





computer.club

COMPUTER CLUB

Are you interested in computers?

We, the Montessori secondary program, have the solution for you! Our club will be covering concepts including editing, three-dimensional design/printing, and computer basics. The cost for admission is \$250.00 dollars for the entire year and we will be meeting from 3:30 to 4:30 every Monday that we are in school. Space is limited to ten people and we will begin October 8th. Feel free to contact us for more information. We hope to see you soon!

Video Editing!

3D Printing!

**Checks can be made
out to the Montessori
Secondary Program**

**Sign up by the
office!**

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COMPUTER CLUB

165 Dodd Blvd.
Rome, GA. 30165
office@msor.org

706-232-7744

Msor.org

Every Monday at 3:30

