

October 15, 2021

Volume 10 Issue 2

# DOLPHIN TALES



Check out pictures from the Pumpkin Patch on pages 9-12 of this issue!



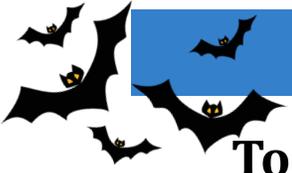
**Important Dates:**  
  
October 25th-26th  
Historical Timeline  
  
October 29  
Halloween Parade in  
classrooms for  
students only



**October Birthdays:**

Bodie L.	10/1
Oliver O.	10/2
Leo T.	10/2
Mack P.	10/3
Ameera H.	10/11
Sniya P.	10/11
Alice B.	10/13
Sophie S.	10/13
Ellis A.	10/14
Laina M.	10/19
Mateo B.	10/22
Yuvraj S.	10/23
Nora H.	10/23
Chantz M.	10/26
Zoey W.	10/27





## Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Kayla

So hard to believe that we've been in school for two months now. Most of the children have settled in nicely. We have had five new students added since the beginning and it takes time for normalization to take place until they all get settled in. It's a great class with the children getting along nicely with each other.

We are enjoying our studies on nocturnal animals and having fun with Halloween songs and crafts. We continue to go over colors and shapes and talk about grace and courtesy. Line time is our favorite time inside. The children love to have stories read to them and enjoy all the movement and fun songs that we sing.

The weather is getting a little cooler and we are seeing a lot of sweaters and jackets being worn to school. Please make sure your child's name is on them.

Having 14 children and them having different wraps, it is hard to remember what belongs to each child.

We are still looking for a volunteer to send in a couple of small pumpkins for scrubbing. Thank you to Stephanie and Josh Jenkins (Peyton's parents) for sending in a large pumpkin for carving.



HAPPY  
*Halloween*



## Toddler News from Ms. Shannon, Ms. Rachel & Ms. Savannah



It's October and it's time to learn about all the things that go bump in the night. We are learning about nocturnal animals. We also covered things that have to do with fall, such as the life cycle of the pumpkin, all of which prepared our students for yesterday's trip to the pumpkin patch. We had so much fun! The children will be making lots of fun art and singing some new songs throughout the month.

This month we have been discussing language in the Toddler environment. Children's language development begins long before they enter the classroom. Dr. Montessori asserted that children from birth to age six are in the age of the absorbent mind. During this time, children can learn language simply by living around others who are using language. I'm a proponent of talking as you are going about your everyday life. Talk to your child while you are making dinner, for example, I'm chopping the potatoes into small pieces. These are big and these are small. Did you know that potatoes grow under the ground on a farm? This way makes the learning natural and not forced.

In our classroom, we teach children songs and poems so that they may hear and experience language in a fun and playful way that appeals to them. We encourage parents to do the same! Share poems from your childhood with your children and discover new ones together. Sing your favorite songs from when you were little, or enjoy kid-friendly tunes. Singing nursery rhymes has been proven to help with learning to read.

Montessori guides introduce children to as much vocabulary as possible in their early years. This may start with naming objects around the classroom, but will also expand toward specialized nomenclature. Children learn the names of the continents, plant and animal names, and specific terms that apply to areas of interest. This month we have been introducing lots of new words such as nocturnal and which animals this applies to.



## Primary News from Ms. Valerie & Ms. Christina

“The greatest gift we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence” - Dr. Maria Montessori

The Montessori philosophy is built on the idea of fostering independence in children. Maria Montessori believed that to help each child reach their fullest potential we must allow them to become independent and do tasks on their own. The gift of independence allows children to feel empowered, feel capable, and ultimately trust themselves. We want to teach our children to be self-sufficient.

There are many ways we can support our children to become independent. The first thing we must do is change our views on our children’s capabilities. We often think that children need our help with certain tasks, but the majority of the time they are very capable of completing the task all on their own. We must provide opportunities for them to be independent.

Ways we encourage independence in the classroom: We have the children put their belongings away in the morning. The children choose work independently, complete their work, self-correct their mistakes, and must clean up the work by themselves and put it back in the correct space. We are continuously encouraging them to problem solve on their own.

Here are some ways to encourage independence at home: Have your child help pack their lunch for school. They can help you put food in their containers, wash fruit and veggies, peel eggs or fruit, and cut food with your supervision. Have your child pick out their clothes and dress themselves in the morning. Allow your child to pour their own drink. Allow your child to contribute with daily chores around the house. Set up your environment to make it child-friendly (have a step stool so they can reach things on their own, create a drawer in the kitchen where they can grab their own plates/cups.

Here is a great article that discusses the importance of fostering independence <https://childmind.org/article/how-to-build-independence-in-preschoolers/>



## Primary News from Ms. Angie, Ms. Sydney & Ms. Anna Kate

The six weeks for normalization has passed. We have worked on many lessons of grace and courtesy. The children have bonded and have made new friendships. We have learned the importance of respecting our friends, other people, and our environment through our continuing lessons of grace and courtesy. Grace and courtesy is the foundation for all Montessori lessons. I found a wonderful article pertaining to grace and courtesy in a Montessori classroom that I want to share.

There are many facets of a Montessori education that are easily recognizable, such as the carefully prepared environment and spotless organization. Yet one of the pillars of a Montessori education often goes understated within the classroom. Though it is extremely pivotal, Grace and Courtesy is a much more subtle lesson on which all others are built. Without Grace and Courtesy, the classroom wouldn't function as well.

### What is Grace and Courtesy?

Grace and Courtesy is where the Montessori education begins. It is the foundation on which the classroom flows throughout the day, from the early morning greetings, to asking questions, and to even getting through disagreements with aplomb. Grace and Courtesy helps Montessori schools in Philadelphia feel less like a school and more like a community. In short, grace is the child's ability to use their will to show comfort and respect in themselves. Courtesy is showing that same grace and respect toward others.

Around the age of 3, up to 6 years, children become sensitive to social interactions with their peers and adults. This is when the importance of Grace and Courtesy becomes much more pronounced. [Learning how to interact with others politely helps children](#) understand how to converse and engage with others properly. Simultaneously, children gain helpful tools that support their independence.

Grace and Courtesy is also important in keeping the classroom quiet. Unlike other preschools where children are loud and the room may be filled with chaos and distracting stimulation, a Montessori space is dedicated to concentration and learning. The children involved understand this and their role in maintaining that environment.

### Modeling

When it comes to teaching Grace and Courtesy to young children, the most basic step is modeling the appropriate behaviors. Guides within the school are always aware of how they behave around the children. Whenever adults interact with one another or with a child, they think about how they can show a child Grace and Courtesy so that it can be mirrored.

For instance, when a teacher sees a child enter the classroom in the morning, the teacher will go to the child's level, give them eye contact, smile and say, "Good morning." In respect to autonomy, the teachers also try to avoid interrupting a child while they work. The guide doesn't shout across the room or raise the volume. Whatever a guide does, they do so intentionally hoping the children will do the same.

### Lessons

Grace and Courtesy is first modeled by a teacher, but there are also lessons that are taught. The teachers will often invite groups of 3-4 students to engage with them to learn something new. During this time, the teacher will show a step-by-step explanation of Grace and Courtesy then have the children role play.

Some lessons that a [Montessori teacher](#) might introduce include:

How to greet someone; How to welcome someone into your home; How to introduce family, friends, and acquaintances

How to actively listen during a conversation; How to get the teacher's attention without interrupting the whole class; How to observe someone else's work without interrupting; How to be polite or use please and thank you; How to follow directions; How to resolve a disagreement; How to do kind things for others, such as holding open doors

### Older Children

Grace and Courtesy is the focus in younger age groups, but that doesn't mean its importance is diminished as children get older. Once the students regularly demonstrate basic manners, there is still much to discover. Grace and Courtesy lessons must also evolve, because older students are different from younger ones in a couple of ways:

Grace and Courtesy needs are important for making and maintaining friendships and having smooth social interactions.

Children eventually develop their own sense of humor and need to learn what not to do jokingly.

For example, the teacher might notice that children are behaving in a less than ideal way during lunch. Perhaps the children are rambunctious as they go through the lunch line or they are displaying rude behaviors. The guide might act out these scenarios, such as running frantically to a seat, throwing a lunch bag, or snatching up food before someone else, and will ask what is wrong in each scenario. The teacher will then have the students model the correct behaviors then have them do the same thing again during lunch time as practice.

As you can see, Grace and Courtesy lessons can extend well into the upper age ranges of a Montessori education. Teachers are always looking for the opportunity to discuss appropriate behaviors that may not have been learned yet. The best part is that Grace and Courtesy is not just restricted to one classroom. It translates to every facet of life.

### Final Thoughts on Grace and Courtesy

Grace and Courtesy is a necessary part of Montessori education, because it helps children develop and refine the life-long skills of communication and self-control. With these important lessons, children can better orient themselves in any environment and feel confident about asking questions and participating in society. No wonder Dr. Montessori often stated: "A child who becomes a master of his acts through repeated exercises of grace and courtesy, and who has been encouraged by the pleasant and interesting activities in which he has been engaged, is a child filled with health and joy." There are many facets of a Montessori education that are easily recognizable, such as the carefully prepared environment and spotless organization. Yet one of the pillars of a Montessori education often goes understated within the classroom.



## Elementary News from Stefanie & Ms. Abigail

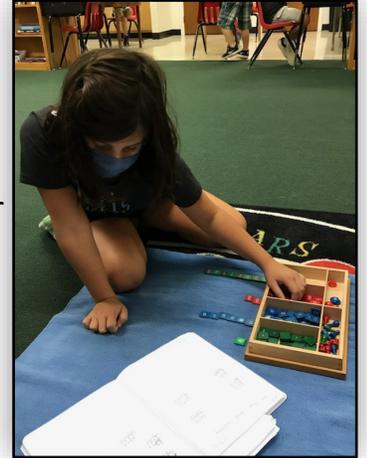
### October and Historical Timeline



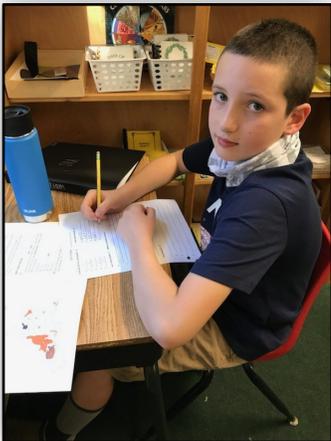
In the 1946 London Lectures, Dr. Montessori said, “Look around at all we have small, great or beautiful – whatever it is; it has been created by man. But while asking for more and more of these marvelous inventions, we never think of the man that created them. We do not consider him at all.” One of the ways we choose to correct this error is through our

Historical Timeline program.

At the Montessori School of Rome everyone knows October means Historical Timeline. It’s always a favorite event with the students, teachers, and parents because it gives us a chance to recognize and celebrate people



who have made significant contributions to the world.



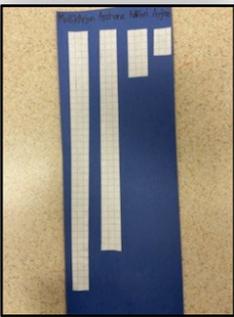
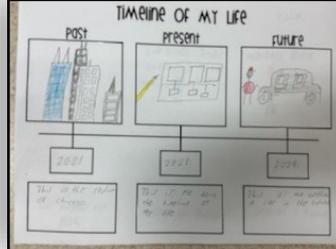
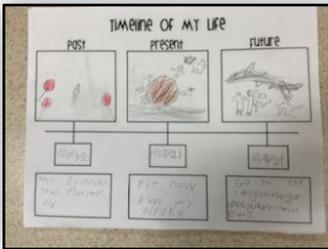
Each student researches a person from history whom they find interesting and who has made a positive impact on the world. The students work on learning about the important aspects of the person’s life and memorize a speech that tells about their chosen person and their contribution to society. The children get to dress as their historical person might have

dressed. In the past, they would give their speeches at a gym in front of school members and family members. We have had to make modifications, due to COVID, and the children will give their speeches in the classroom again this year. The speeches will be recorded so parents can enjoy them later.



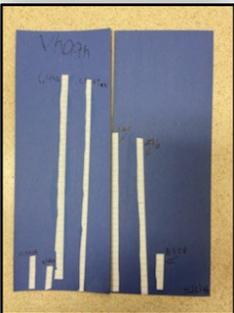
It is an educational experience for class members as they get to learn the history of not only their own chosen person but also those of their classmates. It’s also an excellent opportunity for the children to gain public speaking and presentation experience. In addition, it gives us all an opportunity to show gratitude to these extraordinary people from the past who have had an influential impact on the world.

# Elementary News from Ms. Dolores & Ms. Robin



## Timelines in the Montessori Classroom

Elementary students become acquainted with timelines on many levels in our classroom. They study and recreate beautiful timeline of life charts after the cosmic lessons. They also explore the concept of time by relating it to themselves; completing a graphic representation of their own families, and a personal timeline that encourages them to ponder the past, present, and future of their own lives.



October emphasizes timelines once again with our Historical Timeline, when students choose a person to study and portray for their classmates. This work requires a lot of research to learn about their person's life, accomplishments, and legacy. When they come to school in costume to present their speeches, they are excited, proud, and maybe a little nervous. Please help them feel more confident by having dress rehearsals at home. This event is always fun for all the students- They love presenting, learning about the other characters, and they begin to make connections about the people studied.



## Elementary News from Ms. Rebecca & Ms. Kaitlin

# Improve Your Child's School Performance With a Good Night's Sleep

Before a big test or presentation in school, you've probably given your child the classic advice to get a good night's sleep.

Implicit in that recommendation is the recognition that sleep empowers effective thinking and school performance. However, the importance of sleep goes beyond just the night before an exam.

Getting consistent sleep is [vital for children](#) and [adolescents](#) who are [experiencing significant brain development](#)!. Unfortunately, a significant number of students in elementary, middle, and high schools across the United States are failing to get enough nightly sleep.

Without enough sleep, children and teens can have problems with attention, memory, and problem-solving. Sleep deprivation can also contribute to emotional issues and behavior problems that may affect academic achievement...

[Click here to continue reading](#)



# Ms. Ginny's Class



# Copper Creek Farm

# Ms. Shannon's Class



# Ms. Angie's Class



*Copper Creek Farm*

# Ms. Valerie's Class



# Copper Creek Farm



## Announcements



### Watch Your Speed!

Please remember to carefully watch your speed when entering and exiting our school parking lots. It is very important you drive very slowly and stay very aware of your surroundings as we have many classrooms that utilize our parking lots for outdoor lessons.

Thank you so much for helping in this matter!



### School Pictures

Thank you all for your flexibility with our school pictures this year! Our make-up day for photos will be announced soon.

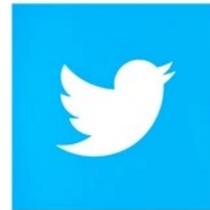
## Let's Get Social!



Like us.



Add us.



Follow us.

---

We invite you to connect with us on social media! We post regularly on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Please follow us to stay updated on school events and to view a ton of great photos of our students at work. We look forward to connecting and communicating with you. We hope you like and comment on our posts and feel free to ask any questions or share our content with family and friends.

**SCHOOL MESSENGER:** To opt in to receive text messages from school messenger please text the letter **y** or **yes** to **67587**. We use school messenger to update parents on weather, delayed openings or school closures, etc.