



Children's House Newsletter

October 7, 2011

Dear Parents,

We are all adjusting to being back in our routine now that we are in our seventh week of school. We are in a new season of fall and with it we have fun taking nature walks, tasting apples and scrubbing pumpkins in our classrooms.

Health Screenings

Our school nurse will conduct health screenings which include: height, weight, vision, hearing and dental for all Children's House students. The kindergartners' Body Mass Index will also be calculated. Parents will receive the results of all screenings. If you have any questions you can call the school nurse Chris Morford at (614) 291-2585. If you do not want your child to have the health screenings, please notify the school nurse in writing as soon as possible, as screenings will begin Monday, October 10th.

Pumpkin Patch

The schedule for our annual trip to the Pumpkin Patch at Lynd's Fruit Farm is:

Children's House 1 and 4, October 18 Children's Houses 2, 3 and 5, October 25th

We are really looking forward to visiting the Pumpkin Patch! We will depart SJMS at 8:45am to arrive at Lynd's for a 9:30 am tour. The address is 9090 Morse Road. Please remember to turn in your permission slips and trip fees as soon as possible.

International Children's Day

Geography is one of the areas of the Montessori curriculum. In Children's House we start out by talking about how the earth is made of land, water, and air. We then present a globe with blue water and brown land and talk about the earth being a sphere. The next step is the multi-color globe: blue water and a different color for each continent. We begin to teach the continent names, and then we present a wooden puzzle map that is a flat representation of the color globe. The children use this puzzle to help talk about the different continents. There are also puzzle maps for each continent, the United States and Canada. The older children who have developed fine muscle control can use the puzzle map to trace their own map on a larger sheet of paper. There is a real sense of accomplishment when a child completes such a big project.

As part of our study of the world we celebrate International Children's Day. For those new to the school, we devote a week to experience the costumes, customs, and food of those living in other parts of the world. Children may dress up in something typical of that country. They are also invited to bring in books, pictures, and artifacts from those countries. At the end of the week there is a parade that lasts for approximately 30 minutes where everyone wears their costume again. Here is our schedule of study:

October 24	North America and South America
October 25	Africa
October 26	Europe
October 27	Asia and Australia
October 28	Parade

Reminders:

It's time to change the clothing in your child's cubbie to warmer clothing. Please remember to label all articles.

When packing your child's lunch, please remember to provide eating utensils and two napkins, preferably cloth. Also, make sure that your child is able to open his/her lunch containers as we encourage independence. Provide a well-balanced lunch that includes fruit and vegetables. PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE JUICE BOXES, CANDY, OR GOGURT. Milk is provided.

Sincerely,

Children's House Teachers

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 14	Picture Day
October 26	Halloween Concert
October 28	International Children's Day
November 3	Curriculum Night
November 4	Coffee Carpool
November 5	Gallery Hop

