



October 2023

Newsletter

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that September is already behind us. It has been great getting to know the new children and their families over the past few weeks. The children are settling in and we anticipate continued progress as new friendships form and new bonds are made.

We have started our alphabet introductions with the letters A and B. For the letter A we talked about parts of the apple and explored apple varieties. We made apple prints and decorated apples to match the varieties that were introduced. For the letter B we have been drawing pictures of various items starting with the "b" sound and decorated butterflies.

Arrival and Dismissal Safety

Thank you to parents for keeping your goodbyes brief and at the classroom door. It has been our experience that short, happy good byes are always the easiest way for your child to transition into the class. Once a child has been dismissed from our care we would ask that parents be extra vigilant about supervision in and around the parking lot as well as the area directly adjacent to the classrooms. As we share our school grounds with a number of different programs there can be unexpected vehicles that are not always as watchful as we would hope.

Study Topics

In October we will be talking about Fall and the changing of the seasons. We will go on short nature walks to look for signs of fall.

For Thanksgiving we will talk about how much we have to be thankful for and will enjoy a shared potluck snack. A sign up sheet will be posted a week prior if you would like to offer a contribution.

We will continue to introduce a new letter sound on a weekly basis.

Upcoming Dates

Monday, October 2 -NO SCHOOL Truth and Reconciliation Day Observed

Friday, Oct 6 - Classroom Thanksgiving Celebration -

Monday, Oct. 9 - Thanksgiving Day - NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Oct 31 – Halloween Celebration

Halloween Celebration

On Tuesday, October 31 we will have a morning Halloween party. Children are welcome to come in costume and bring a change of clothes for the afternoon. We will do a shared snack and have lots of extra Halloween crafts and activities.

Weather changes

As we get deeper into fall we would just like to remind families that we will be going outside to play most days unless it is pouring rain. Please ensure that your child has appropriate rain gear including muddy buddies, raincoats and boots. (please ensure that everything is labelled with your child's name.)

We also need to ensure that each child has a full change of clothes at school. (please ensure that each item is labelled with your child's name)

Promoting Independence

Thank-you to parents who have been so great about promoting independence with their children. Our hope is that the children will experience the pure joy of "care of self" as they continue on their Montessori journey. Anything that can be done at home to let your child get themselves ready will help going forward. It may take a little longer but the long-term benefits for your child are significant.

Snacks

The children are having their snacks independently at our small snack table. It would be very helpful if a morning snack could be separated from the main lunch in your child's lunch bag. This will make it easier for your child to make appropriate snack choices without direction from teachers. Many thanks for your help.

Plant/Flower Program

We will be starting a plant/ flower program to bring more nature into the class. Each week we will welcome either cut flowers (for the children to arrange) or a small potted plant (for the children to care for). A sign-up sheet will be posted near the door if you would like to participate.

Our Garden

Please watch for our garden update that will be coming soon. Thank you in advance for all the help in continuing the care of our community garden.

In closing we just wanted to say how thankful we are to all of our families for this time in your child's life. We value their individuality, creativity and passion for learning.

Sincerely,
Bright Star Montessori Teachers