

# AROUND THE HOUSE



## OUR COMMUNITY

It is great to see so many returning families to Children's House. I hope you will join me in continuing to make our new families feel welcome.

Our Community Week will kick

off on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Community Week will provide opportunities for your family to connect with CHM. Community Week ends with School Clean Up. This is a great opportunity to show your child that their special place is important to you too. We know Saturdays get busy so please know that any time you can offer makes a big difference!

Thank you for your support! Danielle Giuseffi, Director  
~Office Hours: Monday-Thursday; 7:30 to 11:30~

## THANK YOU!

...Linda Claussen for school pictures

... the PTO for all their support!

...the School Board for all they do for our school

...the wonderful response for at-home volunteers

...Abby Lucchesi, Ashlyn Koester, and Shannon Hudson for wrapping birthday books

...the Pena/White family for their help with the garden and all of the families who lent a hand this summer!

...all families who supported the school by ordering a Small Hands wish list item

## MONTESSORI MINUTE

Does this sound familiar? You ask your child what she did at school today only to be met with a one-word response: "Nothing." This answer may make you wonder what actually goes on inside of Children's House!

We do not provide a report of the works your child engages with for an important reason. While the report would indicate what your child *did*, it would never scratch the surface of sharing what your child *learned*. As your child moves through the prepared environment, she is not only learning through her own hands-on exploration but also by observing the work that her friend has selected. She is not just building the pink tower but passively learning the abstract connection between large and small. She is learning that everything has an order and a place. She is boosting her self-efficacy and understanding what it means to be a friend. While she articulates "nothing" to you, she really means "everything." Try asking these conversation starters instead: "Did anything make you laugh today?" "How were you kind to someone?" "Was someone kind to you?" Share your day with your child, too!

"Education is a natural process carried out by the child and is not acquired by listening to words but by experiences in the environment." – Maria Montessori



## FROM THE PRIMARY CLASSROOMS

### 8:15 /8:30 /KINDERGARTEN

September flew by! The children have settled into a good routine. We have moved from group snack to individual snack, complete with the children washing their own dishes. In September, the primary students learned the difference between living and non-living. We finished the month studying pumpkins and plant life. We have introduced scissors and squares. In October, we will learn about community helpers, apples and trees.

This past month, the Kindergartners have been working with sensorial and practical life materials, as well as lessons with the sandpaper letters and numbers. They have also become use to working with an individual lesson plan and learning how to follow through with their plan with guidance AND independence. All of the Kindergartners have been very diligent about completing their lesson plans. Heading into October, the children will be working with handwriting skills, journaling, and beginning reading skills. Reading will be a weekly priority with the learning of five new sight words a week and one or two new books. Further information will be provided later this month for the expectations for the Kindergartners' weekly reading bags and sight words.

Sincerely, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Atterberry, Mrs. Verchio & Mrs. Gibson

## FROM THE LOWER ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM

We have an incredible group of CHM lower elementary students this year! All of us have been busy getting used to classroom routines, caring for our environment and starting to receive lessons on our Montessori works. First grade has begun reviewing number sense, letter sounds, and sequencing. They also have begun lessons on the Addition Snake Game and Addition Strip Board. First grade has also been learning word families and forming new words. Second grade is reviewing Montessori math works and remembering addition and subtraction facts. They will be starting the Addition Stamp Game soon! Third grade is working on arrays and reviewing skip counting so they can begin using the Montessori multiplication works soon. The third graders have been assisting Mrs. Pena with a lot of activities and classroom responsibilities!

All lower elementary students are in their third week of their spelling lists. Every Friday, they have a selling quiz. Our class has been listening to a chapter book read-aloud called, "Henry and the Paper Route," by Beverly Clearly. We are practicing inferring what will happen next and learning about character traits through the funny characters in the book. We have also been enjoying this beautiful weather by taking frequent walks to Mary Hall Park to leaf-hunt and play. This is a great time to get to know one another. We are looking forward to our school year together!

Warmly, Mrs. Pena

## FROM THE UPPER ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM

The month of September was a time for rekindling friendships, community building, establishing new routines and schedules, and reviewing many foundational concepts in different curriculum areas. Some of the presentations were followed by individual work and some led to group projects, such as creating the timeline of life and making a 3-D model of an atom. Once we get into a good rhythm, students will have opportunities to pursue their individual interests. They have already created interest groups that allow them to explore their shared interests. There was still plenty of time left for playing games, tasting food, drinking tea and hot chocolate, and many hours of silent reading:-) We celebrated the fall equinox spiced with pumpkin pie and apple cider and watched a film. We wish you all a safe and joyful autumn!

Respectfully, Miss Parastou

Oct 5<sup>th</sup>- PTO Meeting

Oct 8<sup>th</sup>- Book Order Due

Oct 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> - No School

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – School Pictures

Oct 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>- Community Week

Oct 24<sup>th</sup>- School Clean Up Day

\*PTO Playground Playdate every Thursday after School at Wilderness Park!

