



**CHILDREN'S
HOUSE**
MONTESSORI

Where learning happens naturally

Around the House

October 2010

Special thanks to the following families:



- Camdan Mead's family for the \$50 Safeway card for food for Oreo. He could possibly be the most spoiled bunny in the world!
- Drake Krommenhoek's dad for getting us a new basketball hoop and basketballs!
- Cari Mortimer for the awesome volunteer orientation training! It was such a beautiful welcome to our new and returning parents. And...what a great turn out!
- Addyson Allgier's family for making photo copies as needed. And so quickly!
- To all the families who randomly fill the bird feeders (I know I've caught some Elementary girls and their Dad's doing this a few times!). Thank you. The birds love it and so do all of us who watch them.

What's happening this month?

Last month we focused on establishing routines and introducing the children to each other and the materials. This month the school is really coming alive! We have a new culture wall that will be a rotating exhibit of things/concepts that being discussed in the curriculum, a photo frame project -- also a rotating display—with pictures that children will bring from home (see the separate article for more information about this), and many program enhancements that will begin this month.

Music enrichment with Mrs. Groth began October 5 for the Elementary and All Day Kindergarten students. Mrs. Groth will be adding the morning and afternoon preschool classes to the schedule in January.

We have a movement/dance program beginning with Barefoot Dance Studio. The Elementary students will be going to the dance studio each week for the remainder of

this semester. They will begin with some high energy (think hip hop) movement and will also incorporate some of their curriculum topics into the classes. Andrea will be coming to the school on the third Thursdays of the month to provide movement class to the preschool/Kindergarten students.

Elementary students will get a chance to work with Dr. Jason Hower, a Chemical Engineer Professor from the School of Mines beginning October 15. The beginning topic is "Matter Matters". I suspect the Elementary School will be turning into a chemistry lab soon!

We will soon be welcoming volunteers into the classrooms!

It's a busy time around the house! And we are so thrilled to share it with you and your children.



- **Monday, October 11** - Native American/Columbus Day
- **Tuesday, October 12** - Professional Development Compensation Day for staff
- **Thursday, October 28** - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- **Friday, October 29** - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- **Thursday, November 11** - Veteran's Day

How was school today?

If you have trouble getting anything out of your child about his or her day, try asking these questions (the more specific the better):

What did you have for snack today? How many crackers did you have? Did you have any fruit (or vegetables)? What was your favorite work that you did today? (I would sometimes ask my daughter, "Did you do the Pink tower today? Or: Did you do any puzzles? Or: Did you work with the metal insets?") Did anyone have a birthday walk today? Who was the line leader? (Or who gave the weather report?) Hopefully these questions will elicit more than "I don't know" or "nothing". I assure you, they are all busy and engaged in work!



Say CHEESE...

We are starting a new project at school that will require each child to bring in a picture each month. The picture topics are listed below. This would even be a great opportunity to hand the camera over to your child and let them take the picture!

The pictures should be 4x6 size (include your child's name on the back and any information about the picture that would be helpful to us) and come to school with your child by October 21. The picture topics will correlate with the broad curriculum topics we have established for each month. In addition to this being a

language project, this is also a link between each child's home and school lives. We are eager to begin this!

- **November Picture Frame Topic:** Animals (this could be a picture of a favorite animal, or a pet, or an animal that has been seen in your yard) Please send a 4x6 picture to school by OCTOBER 21.
- **December Picture Frame Topic:** People (this could be a family picture or one of a special family member). Please send a 4x6 picture to school by NOVEMBER 18.

SAVE the DATE!

Thursday, October 14 is our PTO meeting. We will also have had a visit from the firemen that day, assuming all goes as planned.

Tuesday, November 10 we have a Parent Open House Scheduled from 3:30-6:00. This is a chance for your child to show you around his/her classroom. Ask him/her to show you their favorite work!

Coming soon...Harvest Feast information will be sent home next month.

Reminders:

Please adhere to your scheduled pick up time. We have a tight schedule (and parking lot!). Please remember to be at the gate at 11:15, 11:30, 3:00, or 3:15. Thank you.