



The Grasshopper Gazette – 2018

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Welcome Autumn!



- **MS. ROHINI'S CORNER:** Reflecting on our observations these past weeks, it has been such a joy to witness the children fully engage in their chosen work, develop new levels of concentration and exhibit an inner peace or contentment. Maria Montessori described this unique process in child development as "normalization", only occurring when children's developmental needs are fully met. It's a beautiful sight to behold! Our dear colleague, Helen DeVere, Director of the Orlando Montessori Teacher Education Institute, complimented our classrooms after her recent visit to our schools.



MS. LAURIE'S CORNER: Ms. Rohini, the children, teachers and I are all excited for the fall season. Classrooms are looking festive with beautiful autumn-colored creations of leaves, acorns and pumpkins in so many varieties! We are gearing up for our fall **Book Fair** and **Character Costume Party** at the end of October and school **Trike-A-Thon** on November 12th. Watch for memos with dates and specifics. Fall **conferences** will be held Oct 11th, 12th, 18th, 19th.

- **CONFERENCES AND REPORT CARDS:** Teachers are completing Report Cards on all children and have so much to share with families during conference time. Please return your conference slip and mark your date and time with a reminder
- **WHAT'S HAPPENING:** We are learning about some noteworthy Hispanic Americans (for Hispanic Heritage Month, Sep 15th-Oct 15th). We will also be studying the solar system, nocturnal animals, Christopher Columbus, our human needs, Rembrandt and Edvard Grieg!
- **GREAT GRAPHS:** We classified all the beautiful apples brought to school into a stunning life-sized graph. We learned that graphs represent quantities and help us make comparisons. Sweet math lesson!
- **SPECIAL BIRTHDAY:** The children enjoyed learning about John Chapman, aka "Johnny Appleseed", an American pioneer nurseryman who introduced apple trees to many U.S. states. He became a legend due to his generous ways, his leadership in conservation, and for boosting the apple industry! 
- **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:** Happy fall birthday to **Adon, Aiden, Brileigh, & Robert** . 😊 "Happy Birthday" to our Ms. Jyoti, Ms. Fay, Ms. Nancy and Mr. Rusty! We wish you a day filled with joy!
- **ART CLASS:** The children studied patterns. We looked at nature and also discovered patterns on authentic Seminole creations. Children then designed their own brilliant colored patterns. *Thank you volunteers so very much!* **Reminder that art pieces are being reserved for the Spring Exhibit.**

- **KINDERGARTEN NOTES:** Families please work together on your child's Accelerated Reader (AR) books and monthly book projects. AR quizzes test the story theme, characters and vocabulary. Book projects are a fun way to engage and elevate the children's reading excitement and comprehension.
- **GARDENING GAB:** We have started a bulb trial in preparation of a wonderful winter project by the children! You won't want to miss this fun and beautiful community project.

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."

~Marcus Tullius Cicero, Philosopher

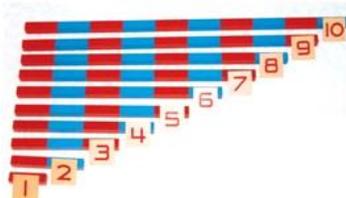
- **READING MAKES YOU WISE:** We honored National Literacy Month with so many delightful books shared in each classroom. Kindergarten students worked hard on their Accelerated Reader assignments, exercising their reading comprehension and fluency. We will welcome a guest author, Kentrell Martin, to read his book and autograph copies for us! Lastly, our great family event the **Bountiful Book Fair is October 24th - 30th!** Reading takes you places!



- **MONTESSORI MOMENT:** Sensorial Lessons in our Montessori Classroom - Sensorial materials in the classroom consist of a wide variety of manipulatives that engage each of the children's five senses. Visual materials isolate size, color and form; auditory lessons use tone and pitch; tactile work and even smelling and tasting exercises engage the gustatory and olfactory senses. These activities develop skills in critical thinking, estimating, associating, comparing and concentrating (valuable skills for life).
- **PARENT NIGHT:** Parents from each of our three schools gathered together to meet child development professionals Helen DeVere, Director of the Orlando Montessori Teacher Education Institute, Cassandra Phelps, Speech Language Pathologist, and psychologist Dr. Steven Walker. It was a lovely evening. Handouts from the night will be available on our website www.wearemontessori.com
- **VPK NEWS:** VPK students were evaluated on their initial skills assessment. The assessment measured print knowledge, vocabulary, phonological awareness and math. Results will be available for conferences.
- **SCHOOL NEWS:** Planning is underway for our annual **Children's Trike-A-Thon on Nov 12th.** We will be riding to help fight cancer. Families, please stay tuned for more details on how to help!



The Sandpaper Letters



The Number Rods



The Geometric Solids

"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