



MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S GARDEN NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2009

Cold weather is approaching. We say this every year, but **please label all of your children's outerwear: boots, coats, hats and mittens.** By the end of the winter weather, we can identify pretty much everyone's things, but at the beginning we are clueless. Surprisingly, the kids don't even know their own clothes.

Announcements

Daily sign-out sheet

Please remember to sign your child out on the clipboard in the front hallway. The clipboard is on the table all day, except for those families picking up after 3:30.

Winter Weather and Cancellations

Hopefully we won't have to think about this for awhile, but we'd like to remind everyone that we follow the Iowa City School District's cancellations in case of inclement weather. Listen to KCRG for announcements. Mrs. Honey and Mrs. Jones will also try to get it posted on the school's website as well as on our outgoing telephone message if school is cancelled. We will not cancel for extreme cold.

Halloween Celebration

We will celebrate Halloween here on Friday, October 30 with a parade over to the North Liberty Library. The children should come in costume and bring a change of clothes in a marked bag. We will leave at 9:00, walk to the library, trick or treat, and walk back for snacks and outside time. The afternoon class will walk over at 1:00. All parents are welcome to come.

Pennies for Peace

Our Pennies for Peace program is still underway, continuing through November 23rd, so please keep bringing in your pennies! The children will be viewing some videos about life in Afghanistan and Pakistan. They will also make some Afghan paper dolls.

Looking for Materials

If anyone is getting a new appliance or has access to a big box, we are looking to make a log cabin for a Thanksgiving activity.

Monday Morning Parent's Group

The Monday Morning Parent's Group has been working on our Pennies for Peace project and now will begin to help with Thanksgiving activities. Anyone interested is welcome to join in. Younger siblings can play in the back while the parents meet.

Book Discussion Group

Some of the parents have expressed interest in a book discussion group to be held here at the school, and we'd like to get an idea of the number of people interested. A sign-up sheet will be in the front hallway. There will be one book per semester, and we will meet on a Sunday evening at 5 p.m. for two months, beginning in November. The book for this semester will be *Nurture Shock* by Po Bronson and Ashley Merryman. We thought we could have a babysitter in the multi-purpose room for those that need it, and everyone could help pay.

Vision Screening

On October 14 and 15, we will have the vision screening sponsored by Lions Club of North Liberty. Please make sure you get the permission slips back to us ASAP, or your child will not be able to take part.

Monthly Receipts

If you need a monthly receipt for tuition and aren't receiving one, please notify Mrs. Honey or Mrs. Jones.

Staff News — and a Recipe!!!!

Mrs. Honey, Mrs. Jones, Miss Deb, and Miss Cathy all attended an art and music conference this month at the Moline Montessori School. We did a "make and take" activity that wanted to share with you.

Homemade Playdough

1 ½ cups flour

¾ cup water

1 ½ tbsp. oil

¾ cup salt

3 tsp. cream of tartar

Food coloring

Mix dry ingredients into wet ingredients.

Add glitter, spices, flavorings if wanted.

Quotable Quotes

- "I have an allergy in my nose."
- Miss Angela took a trip to California. One child asked, "Did she go to find new music?"
- Child asks the teacher, "When are we going outside?" Teacher responds "In about 10 minutes." Child says, "Oh, 10 minutes is about that tall, right?"

Classroom News

Miss Tina has been doing different apple activities with her class: washing apples, tasting apples, baking apples. They are also classifying animals, minerals, and plants.

Mrs. Jones' class is studying the importance of the sun, as well as classifying plants and animals.

Mrs. Honey's class is studying the solar system and classifying living and non-living things.

Miss Blair is teaching the children their numbers in Spanish as well as Spanish words for different emotions. As you probably know, the children have Spanish class once a week. Mrs. Honey's class has Spanish on Tuesday, Miss Tina's class is Wednesday, Mrs. Jones' class is on Thursday, and Mr. Sultan's class has Spanish on Wednesday.

The extended day schedule is as follows:

- Monday: Games and puzzles
 - Tuesday: Spanish
 - Wednesday: Movie Night
 - Thursday: Yoga/gross motor activity
 - Friday: Free choice/ Housecleaning
- Popcorn and movie day is always popular and we've been getting some good feedback on the yoga sessions.

