



The Adventurer



Montessori Adventure School

350 W Capitol Dr Appleton WI 54911-1025 (920) 738-0325

October 2009

www.montessoriadventure.com

School Staff

Head of School & Directress

Emily R. Forslin

Toddler Teacher

Eileen V.

Preschool Assisting Teacher

Ann B.

Montessori Intern

Jamie B.

Toddler/Plus Assisting Teacher

Colleen S.

Preschool Substitute

Janet H.

Office Staff

Anne Z. - Office Manager

Perry Lou S. - Treasurer

Founder's Forum

Dear Parents,

I was happy to see so many of you at the Educational Meeting and delighted to hear how interested you are in learning more about Montessori concepts, particularly "peaceful living" techniques which can be also considered training or discipline.

Fall is always a busy season. Because parent involvement is important, first we needed to change the date of the Educational Meeting. Now I realize we need to change the date of the Fall Kick-Off meeting, too.

We will pass out a survey sheet which will ask you to report back on possible dates, whether you need a sitter or not and whether you would like pizza to eat here before the meeting or not. We will expect everyone to fill out a survey. Then, hopefully, most of you will be able to come. As this isn't a sit-

down meeting but more of a gathering information one, the amount of time each person is here varies.

Miss S. will be the only teacher joining you at the Apple Shed (as the rest of us are visiting Montessori schools as observers). She will want to know who she may ride with to the orchard in Hortonville, how many will meet her there and how many are gathering here. We will post a sign-up for the orchard, for volunteers willing to help children the following week make applesauce here, and parents willing to provide help for the Halloween Party.

Also, in hall cubbies are Fire Safety "Team Up" sheets. We first handed them out in 2002 and when parents found them so helpful, we ordered a large supply which we are still handing out. If you feel your child will be frightened by the firemen or the noise of the fire engine's siren, you are welcome to stay for their program, too.

At the end of the month is our Halloween Party, complete with food, and children or their whole families in costume ready to make their first public performance, which is standing to take a bow. Please read over the full description which is attached.

My, we have so many "special days" to look forward to with cooler weather, too. I hope we all will remember to plan ahead for early bedtimes to ensure longer dressing and breakfast times with hearty foods, because we all need good morning starts for happy, busy fall days.

We can do it?

Emily Forslin

Preschool - Kindergarten News

Dear Parents,

As our first month together as a new group is ending, all the children are learning how to handle the changes that any new group formation always causes both the newcomers and the veterans to make. Children are also getting used to being inside for three hours without an outside recess and waiting to take one of the six places in the sunroom for having snack.

Helping children maintain the order of the placement of objects and the ritual of ground rules directly relates to acquiring purposeful actions and higher intelligence at this age period of 3-6 years old. Redirection by staff is often needed as well as new lessons from me.

Christopher Columbus, apples, pumpkins, our bones and which animals also have bones will all be introduced this month. Our Halloween party will mark the end of the month of October and will be the children's first opportunity to perform for all the parents. Do watch for the food and party helpers sign-up sheet to be posted.

Fondly,
Emily

Preschool/Kindergarten children go outside on Fridays, and Toddler and PLUS children go outside almost every day! Please be sure to provide your child with weather-appropriate attire – sweater and/or coat, warm socks & shoes or boots, caps, earmuffs, mittens or gloves, etc. The temperature can rise or fall during the day, so layers are best.



Toddler Talk

Dear Toddler Parents,

Thank you all for being so patient and understanding about your children's development and their needs. Separation is hard for both the child and parent at this age.

I know it is very difficult and frustrating to leave them when they are crying, but they are all doing better as they settle into being here. The children are observant and curious in class and are getting to know me and also Miss S. They are learning the routine of the day and interacting with each other.

Children who are used to being held and carried need to learn to walk into the school and classroom on their own legs. They will develop confidence in their own independence. Also, children who are learning English need to hear it and practice speaking it at home as well as at school for it to be absorbed and remembered.

On Friday, October 2nd, the Grand Chute fire department is sending a fire truck and some firefighters to visit the preschool classroom. The Toddler parents are welcome to come and share this experience with your children. The truck siren will probably be sounded so you may want to reassure your children if they're likely to be frightened by the noise. If they don't go outside, it is all right, too.

Don't forget to sign up for the apple-picking field trip. All children are expected to go with their parents, so there will not be a regular class day on Friday, October 9th. The sign-up sheet is on the main bulletin board in the lobby. The cost for your child to pick two apples is \$1. You may meet here at the school at 8:30am to caravan (drive your cars together) to the orchard, or you may simply head directly to the orchard and meet the other families for the tour at 9:00am.

The Halloween Party is on Friday, October 30th. Parents should come with their children in costumes. A sign-up sheet for bringing food and treats or helping to decorate and clean-up will be posted.

As the weather is getting colder, please bring jackets, hats, mittens, and boots, and be sure to label each item with your child's name. Toddlers will continue to go outside each day, weather-permitting.

Thank you,
Eileen V.

APPLE-PICKING FIELD TRIP



When: Friday, October 9th, 9am

**Where: Bauer's Apple Shed
W7763 Wisconsin Ave.**

Hortonville, WI 54944

(920) 757-6187

**Who: All Children (Preschool and
Toddlers) and Their Parents**

Driving Directions:

5 miles west of the Fox River Mall on State Rd 96

Our annual field trip to pick apples will be on Friday, October 9th, at the Bauer Apple Shed in Hortonville. The tour begins at 9:00am at the Apple Shed. Parents may drive directly to the orchard, or they may meet at the school at 8:30am and caravan to the orchard together. If a child's parent cannot go, please let Mrs. Forslin know so she can set up a ride with another parent. Children riding with someone other than their parent or guardian must have a completed Field Trip form and provide a car seat. There will not be regular class hours for either the preschool or toddler class that morning. Plus children are welcome to return to the school for their scheduled Friday afternoon hours, just let Miss S. know you'll be coming back.

Miss S. will be the teacher accompanying the group. She will need a ride to the orchard, so if you can take her, please let her know. The cost for your child to pick two apples is \$1 which we are collecting in advance so Miss S. can pay for the group. Please put your payment in an envelope with your child's name and "Apple Shed" written on it and place the envelope in the Tuition Box. Be sure to check off that you've paid on the sign-up sheet on the lobby bulletin board. Other items will be available for purchase at the orchard.

Preschoolers will be using the apples they've picked to make applesauce the week of October 12-16. This is a big job and we need parents to help. Come have fun with your children and learn a new recipe!

Sign-up sheets are on the Bulletin Board.

FAQ: Whom do I contact about...

Administration: Emily Forslin is the founder, directress, teaching head of school and school administrator of Montessori Adventure School. She determines curriculum, staffing, school schedule, admissions, retentions, policies and fees. If you have concerns or questions about how the school is operated, contact Mrs. Forslin. E-mail her at Emily@MontessoriAdventure.com.

Finances: Perry Lou S. is our school treasurer and she handles *all* financial matters. She balances the books, collects and tracks tuition and fees, issues receipts, pays school bills and salaries, submits employee tax withholdings, and runs employee background checks. If you have questions about what you owe, or need a receipt for reimbursement of child care expenses, contact Perry Lou. Perry Lou is usually in the office on Monday and Friday mornings. Her e-mail address is Perrylou@MontessoriAdventure.com.

Clerical: Anne Z. is the office manager and she responds to e-mail and phone messages, prepares and distributes the newsletter and other communications, and tracks student files required by the State of Wisconsin to keep the school in compliance with our license. She also submits quarterly tax reports and state unemployment filings. If you have questions about your child's files, need to change contact information, wish to have something included in the newsletter or distributed to the parents, or need a letter of acknowledgement of a donation for tax purposes, contact Anne. Anne is usually in the office on Monday and Friday mornings through lunch, and from 10:00am to 2:00pm on Tuesdays. E-mail her at Anne@MontessoriAdventure.com

Note: Emily Forslin is the only "full-time" employee of the school; all others are part-time. The best way to make contact is either through e-mail, since it creates a paper-trail and avoids handwriting problems, or, for Emily, through phone calls over the lunch hour.

Happy Birthday!

October Birthdays:



Aarush G. – October 8
Isabella L. – October 11



- ♥ To the family of Isabella L. for the donation of a counting book and hanging basket.
- ♥ To the family of Melia W. for the donation of an air purifier.



HELPING HANDS NEEDED:

We have Montessori materials that need touch-up painting. If you can help, please let Mrs. Forslin know.

Because the school was closed up over the summer, this year as part of our health and safety annual review, we included mold testing in the basement rooms. Testing was conducted by The EnviroScreening Lab and we are happy to report that all results were within acceptable limits. We will continue to remain alert for potential problems and find ways to resolve them.

Mark Your Calendars:



Friday, Oct. 2 – Fireman Visit 9:30am
Friday Oct. 9 – Apple-picking Field Trip
Oct. 12-16 – Applesauce-making week
Friday, Oct 30 – Halloween Party 10:00am
TBA – Fall Kick-Off Meeting

Looking Ahead: November 2009

THURS, NOV 12 – PAC FIELD TRIP for
Preschool/Kindergarten Children
“CLICK, CLACK, MOO” 9:30AM

WED-FRI, NOV 25-27 – THANKSGIVING
NO SCHOOL ALL CHILDREN



We usually have an adults-only parent and staff get-together around the holidays either at someone’s house or at a restaurant. If you would be interested in hosting a party or know of a restaurant with meat and vegetarian entrees that would be a good venue, please let Mrs. Forslin know.



Halloween Party



Our Halloween party will be on Friday, October 30th starting at 10:00 am. We will not hold regular classes for toddlers or preschool children that day.

- Parents of Preschool and Toddler children are asked to bring their children at 10:00 dressed in their costume for the party.
- Parents of PLUS children are asked to send the costume in a bag or if possible, arrive just prior to 10:00 dressed in their costume. If your PLUS child remains after the party, please make sure your child's costume is easily removable as we don't want it ruined. Bring either the costume or the play clothes in a bag, based on what arrival time fits your schedule. At the end of the party, the costume will be removed and placed in the bag.



We look forward to seeing lots of unique costumes.

Parents are encouraged to dress-up, too! Often, this helps children feel less different or afraid.



NO MASKS are allowed inside the classroom for safety reasons.

Parents will enjoy seeing the children in their costumes, and we hope that all of you can be present for the party as it gives your child a feeling of security and loving pride. Halloween is a parent-child event and the first opportunity for our Montessori children to be in front of adults. Part of our celebration includes giving each child an opportunity to stand, introduce herself and show off her costume. Some children will enjoy this while others will not. This is OK. Come and enjoy your child whether he performs or not, and have some of the treats you and others bring.

TO HELP US PLAN AHEAD, PARENTS WHO WISH TO DECORATE AND/OR BRING SOMETHING SPECIAL (NO CANDY, PLEASE) FOR THE PARTY ARE ASKED TO WATCH THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR A SIGN-UP SHEET.