



MCH News October 2017

October is an eventful month at school. It begins with the adventure of our first field trip and ends with the excitement of Halloween. In between what happens is a real gelling of independence and capability, visible to all at Visit School Night. There is growing awareness and joy in the sense of community we have built.



We have been quite busy in the classrooms with cultural subjects and cooking projects. Our weekly cooking class involves the children in the art of careful measuring, following a recipe, the importance of personal hygiene, knowledge of assorted ingredients and tools, plus the joy of creating something delicious from scratch to share with others. Thursday cooking classes have been quite successful so far. This month we made applesauce and soup together. We had a bountiful harvest from our school garden this year and some of the ingredients for our Fall Harvest Vegetable Soup came directly from the MCH garden. We hope you enjoyed the tasting at Visit School Night, as well as the excellent service.

Tree, leaf and seed work will be changing in November to rocks, fossils and dinosaurs in the Science area. The Cultural Geography area, which now holds our North America and Native American artifacts and activities, will be changing to Europe at the end of the month. The social grace and courtesy lessons learned with "apple cutting" have reinforced the positive experience of sharing. Teachers work hard in the Practical Life area and have had great success involving children in preparing their own snack and thriving independently in this important and busy part of the environment.



All of the classroom areas have been active and engaging for the children--from Sensorial to Mathematics and Language.



Thanks to volunteers! Our field trip to Fireside Apple Orchard was quite successful and we greatly appreciate your help in chaperoning this first outing of the year. We would also like to send out thanks to the parent volunteers who graciously committed to spending time with us in the classrooms and garden this month: Nicole Johnson, Page Nelson, and alumni parent Diane Rodman.



The Visit School Night was also great fun. Watching the children show you our classrooms with such enthusiasm and pride gives us a thrill. We love to host and give the children a chance to share their favorite work! Thank you for making the effort to come to school on that evening. The information you receive at conferences is more meaningful when you have been in your child's "shoes" at school for a bit. Feel free to schedule an appointment to observe in the classroom during any school day if you were unable to attend on the Visit Night or would just like to see MORE.

Our **Halloween party** and parade at school was so much fun! Our Jolly Goblins saw it all as we sang and shared our costume fun. We hope you have a chance to hear about some of it at home in between all of your own celebrations. Please visit the [MCH website](#) to view the photos of our exciting events at school.

Winter is coming! Although there has been no need to fully practice with winter gear, the snowy weather of the season will be upon us soon. Thank you in advance for having your child well prepared for outdoor play. Winter dressing can be practiced at home in anticipation of that first big snowfall. We have a lot of fun on the playground at recess and warm outdoor

clothes are a must. Reminder: **please label your child's clothing.**



There is a lot of news to share and we are grateful for your attendance at conferences on Monday, Nov. 4th when we can share even more about your children. Please feel free to discuss your child's school life with us at any time.



Extended Day

We were busy this past month! We've talked about and read stories in fiction, non-fiction, and poetry for our language art studies and they have enjoyed creating fall themed stories for Author's Chair on Fridays. We have been working with teen numbers, addition, and geometric shapes and solids in math. Our science study has included the parts of trees, leaves, and pumpkins, and we all had fun with the "Elephant Toothpaste in a Jack O Lantern" experiment we did this week in honor of Halloween! Anything that oozes or pops is a favorite! They have been working hard on Flags of North America books and are excited to show you their work next week.

The children have come together as a small community and are very helpful and supportive of each other. We are really enjoying our time together in the afternoon and I am looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish together this year!

Birthdays we celebrated in October:

Noah Engle – October 3

Emma Kleese & Juniper Nelson – October 16



Congratulations: To the Snyder family on the birth of baby brother, Jude, to Christopher in the downstairs class. Welcome!

New Student: Welcome to Madeline Svien and her family, recently arrived from the Chicago area. We're so glad you've joined us!

MEA Continuing Education for Staff

Most of the staff was able to attend a Montessori Mini-Conference held at St. Kate's University in St. Paul on Oct. 17. We were grateful for the chance to learn and spend the day with almost 200 Montessori educators from all over the state. See our community bulletin board for a conference schedule or ask one of us for more information!

October 2017

November Calendar

Nov 4—parent/teacher conferences-**no school**

Nov. 28 & 29 -- **no school**, Thanksgiving (While we do have school on Wednesday

Nov. 27, it would be helpful for us to know if you have plans to be gone that day.

Thanks!)

