

One World Montessori School  
1170 Foxworthy Ave  
San Jose, CA 95118  
(408) 723-5140  
(408) 723-9443 fax



One World Montessori School  
4343 Leigh Avenue  
San Jose, CA 95124  
(408) 615-1254  
(408) 784-3303 fax



# October 2020 Primary Newsletter

## EVENTS TO TAKE NOTE OF IN OCTOBER 2020

**Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Gandhi's birthday. No school.

**Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>:** Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day

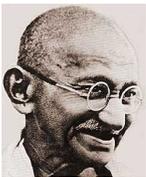
**Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>:** United Nations Day. Minimum day. School ends at 12:00 noon.

**Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>:** Minimum day.

School ends at 12:00 noon. Parent-teacher conferences for **new** students in the afternoon.

**Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>:** Halloween celebration

## GANDHI'S BIRTHDAY



We will honor Gandhi's birthday on **Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**. There will be no school. Please take the time to discuss the idea of nonviolence as a preferable way to resolve differences with your family.

We hope this helps keep the lines of communication open.



As each conversation is private, one family at a time will be admitted from the waiting room. You may drop

in anytime during that hour; please be patient while you wait your turn.

## COLUMBUS/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY



We will acknowledge the discovery of North and South America by the Europeans and discuss its impact on the indigenous people who were living here

on **Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Meeting ID: 489-622-1895. Passcode: 4343

## UNITED NATIONS DAY



Maria Montessori believed it was important for even very young children to become aware that all people have similar needs,

but may satisfy them in different ways, depending on what is available to them within their environment. She believed that imparting this information to children is essential if we are to evolve into a more accepting and peaceful species. For that reason, we include "Peoples of the World"

## ZOOM MEETING WITH TEACHERS

Just a reminder that the classroom staff will be available every Tuesday afternoon (except on school closures) via Zoom if you need to "drop in" and discuss anything with them.

and “Fundamental Needs of People” materials in our classrooms. We also celebrate United Nations Day. Although all of us now live in the United States of America, and many of our families have done so for generations, all of the people presently living in North America, aside from Native Americans, originally came from a different continent and followed customs from different countries.

We will be acknowledging and enjoying the richness of this cultural diversity on United Nations Day -- **Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. (Time TBD). Please note that this will also be a minimum day; school will end at 12:00 noon.**

Please join us on Zoom at  
489 622 1895  
PW 4343

For United Nations Day, the children come to school dressed in the traditional garb of the country of one of their ancestors. If



you are having trouble coming up with a costume, please speak with us. We will help you. All the children need to wear a special costume on United Nations Day. We will be learning songs, greetings, and phrases from each country that is represented.

For our traditional international potluck, this year, we will not be able to have parents prepare and bring food. Instead, there will a sign-up sheet for each family to bring something ordered from a restaurant or bought from a store.

The sign-up sheet will be located with the sign in/out sheet.

Thank you for signing up as soon as possible to allow us to figure out what will be offered to the children.

Remember that we are a nut free environment and to make sure that not nut or nut oil is used in the food you are ordering. Thank you.

## PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES



Although we are happy to discuss any issues that come up during the school year at any time, we hold formal

conferences twice a year. For new parents, we schedule our first conference after the first six weeks of school, so that we have an opportunity to touch base with one another and review how your child has made the adjustment to our school, answer questions, and address any concerns.

These conferences for all **new parents are scheduled for Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 to 3:00 pm**. A sign-up sheet will be emailed to all new families.

**Please note that this will also be a minimum day; school will end at 12:00 noon.**

## CREDIT TOWARDS VOLUNTEER TIME

How many minimum days are in October? The answer is found in this newsletter, so please read it thoroughly!

The first two people to send an e-mail to the office – [office@oneworldmontessori.org](mailto:office@oneworldmontessori.org) - with the correct answer will win two hours of volunteer time credit for this school year.

## HALLOWEEN



On **Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>** we will celebrate Halloween with special activities in the morning, including arts and crafts and trick-or-treating.

Costumes: The children and staff will be coming to school in costume. Halloween can be a lot of fun for children, as they love to dress up and make believe. However, it can sometimes be frightening for a child to see familiar people dressed so differently.

We would like all the children to enjoy it this year, so we are including an outline of our celebration and some guidelines we have set up for their costumes. Because it is hard for children at this age to wait, and because we want to be sure that the half-day children can participate, our celebration will be in the morning. The children should come to school in costume, but send a change of clothes as we will be changing back into our normal selves after the celebration. **Please leave all accessories that go with the costume at home (e.g., handcuffs for policemen).**

When choosing a costume with your child, make sure that it is comfortable and allows for freedom of movement. Make sure that it does not limit or obscure their field of vision. We do not allow masks at school, as they often frighten the little ones and obscure vision. Weapons are also not permitted (even though they might seem to go with the costume), and will be taken away. Costumes that are likely to promote violent or threatening behavior (e.g., ninjas, Superman, Spiderman, etc.) are also not permitted. We also would like to avoid costumes of cartoon characters (e.g., Cinderella, Belle, etc.). We cannot stress this strongly enough! If children come to school dressed in such costumes, we will remove them and give the children some other costume to wear. If you are having trouble coming up with non-violent costumes, come see us, we'll help!

Be wary of costumes that tie around the neck; they tend to rip very easily, and if the cape gets caught on something, a child can choke.

## BIRTHDAYS



At this time, we are unable to invite parents to the birthday celebrations. We will be sure to let you know when parents are welcome back into the classroom to celebrate with us.

Meanwhile, you are welcome to join the celebration on Zoom:  
489 622 1895  
PW 4343  
We will let you know the day and the time.

Please do not send treats to school on your child's birthday. We will provide something appropriate for the children. Instead, we would greatly appreciate a donation of something for the classroom in your child's honor – a book for the library, a CD of music, or a contribution toward the items on a classroom wish list. Please see your child's teacher for suggestions.

## ABSENCES AT SCHOOL



We would like to remind you to call the school if your child will be absent for any reason. If your child is ill, please be sure to let us know the diagnosis (if there is one), as we are required by law to distribute exposure notices for certain communicable illnesses.

## SIGNING IN AND OUT AT SCHOOL REMINDER

Remember that your child/ren need to be signed in and out every day.

Parents/caregivers need to write their complete **first and last names legibly on this form, as well as the time when dropping off and picking up their child.**

## REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR OWN PEN.

This procedure is **REQUIRED BY LAW** to insure the security of each child, so please remember to follow through! If a child is not checked in/out properly, we can be fined by Licensing. If this occurs, this fine will be passed on to you.

Failure to abide by this policy (forgetting to write your complete, legible name or to

indicate the time) will result in a charge of \$5 per child and per occurrence.

## SOILED CLOTHES



For the time being, we will no longer provide washable tote bags for soiled clothing. Soiled clothes will be sent home in the Ziploc bags that you provided us with your child's clean clothes.

## CLOTHING REMINDER



We would like to remind you about our “no characters” policy, as stated in the Primary handbook (page 10, section 27):

*Clothing with super heroes, Pokémon, violent motifs of any kind as well as other cartoon characters (e.g., Disney, Thomas the Train, Sesame Street characters, etc.) are also not allowed. Shoes with lights are a distraction and are not permitted.”*

Children will be given their extra clothing to wear if they come unacceptably clad. Please note that this policy includes anything brought to school, including shoes, lunch boxes, blankets for napping, etc.

## LUNCH REMINDER



If your child stays for lunch, s/he should bring a lunch in a labeled lunch box or bag. Be sure to include all utensils and a cloth napkin. Siblings should not share a lunchbox or any

containers/utensils.

We do not allow cartoon characters or action figures on the lunchbox. Plain boxes or those with generic pictures are required. When using a container, make sure that you label both the container AND the lid.

Suggestions for lunch include sandwich squares, carrot sticks, fruits, yogurt (no gogurt!), cheese, celery with cream cheese.

Due to our COVID-19 health and safety requirements, **we are unable to refrigerate or heat up** any food at this time. Please be sure to include an ice pack in your child's lunch box and/or pack warm items in a thermos.

We do not allow junk food or sweet drinks (e.g., soda, sweetened juice, chocolate milk, cookies, candy, etc.), as well as any tree nut or peanut containing products.

This month, Hot Lunch will be available on 10/9 – 10/16 and 10/30.

As part of One World's commitment to sustainability and waste reduction, we encourage parents to pack lunches that are as close to waste-free as possible. Here are some suggestions for reducing the amount of waste in students' lunches:

Pack lunches in a reusable lunch box or bag rather than a paper or plastic bag. Plastic or glass food containers cut down on the need for disposable plastic bags, which are difficult to recycle and therefore wind up in our landfills. Another alternative to Ziploc bags for smaller items are reusable fabric sandwich and snack bags, which can be purchased or even made if you're handy with a sewing machine.

## PEANUT BUTTER ALTERNATIVES



Our classrooms are peanut and tree nut-free environments this year. There are alternatives to peanut butter at your local market -- sun butter and Soynut butter.

We thank you for not sending peanuts and tree nuts in your child's lunch.

## A NOTE OF APPRECIATION



. Thank you to the Leonov family for their donation in honor of Robert's third birthday and the Souri family (Alumni Ryan and Adrian's family) for their donation to support the school.

Both donations will be matched by Svetlana and Kamyar's employers.

. Thank you to Justin Buck for refinishing our outdoor wooden bench.

. Thank you to the families who have contributed food scraps (and grubs) for the chickens.

## NOVEMBER PREVIEW

**Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020:**  
Veterans' Day. No school.

**Thursday and Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** Parent-Teacher conferences for returning students. No school.

**Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020:**  
Minimum day. School ends at 12:00 pm.

**Thursday and Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** Thanksgiving break. No school.