| October News |
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| Armand Bayou Montessori  | October 2022 |

Welcome to October !

**Mark Your Calendars:**

 **Dates to Remember:**

\*Friday, October 14- Open House

8:30-10:00

\*Scholastic Book Fair- October 14-21

**Montessori Quote for the Month:**

“Any child who is self-sufficient, who can tie his shoes, dress or undress himself, reflects in his joy and sense of achievement the image of human dignity, which is derived from a sense of independence.” -Maria Montessori

**Gentle Reminders:**

\*Please check your child’s folder every day. It’s a good way to start a dialogue with your child about their day.

\*Please make sure your child has an extra change of clothing.

\*For the safety of children, tennis shoes and socks are a requirement.

**Safety Reminders:**

Children may not be left alone in the car. All cars must be turned off. **It’s The Law!!**

**Infant/Toddler News:**

We welcome Lylah Baker and her family to the Infant room.

All of the children in the infant room are developing a variety of skills; our younger group of children Charlotte and Eli are busy observing and discovering their new environment and challenging themselves with their gross motor skills like rolling over, tummy time and reaching for the mobiles. Eloise is happy to move around, discovering how her hands are such a wonderful tool for reaching and grasping objects.

Finn, Rayyan and Ayzel are working on mastering their independence by learning how to feed themselves, and socializing with their friends, pulling over, walking and choosing their work. Leo, Aadya, George and Paul are working with more challenging materials such as transferring objects in different trays, knobs cylinder for precise refined pincer grasp. Bead stringing, play dough, coloring and self-care: washing their hands and stand up diaper changing, all these practical life materials are preparing them for a more challenging environment. They are developing better and longer concentration time during play and work cycles.

Welcome to the toddler environment!

We are following our winter schedule which includes focusing more on work and less time outside. You can find the schedule posted in the classroom.

If your child is a “picky eater”, please bring a variety of nutritious foods that we can try. Your child will eat when he/she is hungry. “Around the age of two, children’s growth begins to taper and they have difficulty sitting still, so eating will often temporarily slow down. During this time, it’s more important than ever to continue offering healthy foods. Most children are “grazers” at this age so don’t get frustrated when your child won’t sit and eat an entire meal. Allow your child to eat throughout the day, just make sure you are offering healthy fruits,

vegetables, whole grains, and protein versus things that are empty on nutrients. To get a child to try new foods, role model! If your children see you eating different types of food, they eventually will, too. Children eat what they know.

This month we are talking about the pumpkin and the life cycle of the pumpkin. All of the

toddlers will have an opportunity to do “Pumpkin Scrubbing”.

As parents, it is normal to be concerned if your child doesn’t seem to keep up with other infants or toddlers. Please take a moment to think about all the milestones your child has already achieved!

Each child is a unique individual and will complete milestones at his/her own pace.

We appreciate all of your support in providing nutritious group snacks for our toddlers.

**Infant and Toddler Fall Conferences:** Monday-Friday, November 7-11. Please sign up in the classroom**.**

**Just a few parent reminders:**

Parents are responsible for the morning application of bug repellent and sunscreen. If you want us to apply in the afternoon, please provide the teachers with a can of spray with your child’s name and last initial.

Please bring a light jacket or sweatshirt to keep at school as the weather gets cooler. Thanks for your continued cooperation.

Please continue to label all of your child’s items (food/drink containers, snacks, clothing, etc.)

Licensing requires us to have these items labeled with first name and last initial.

**Licensing also requires that the person signing in a child record the time and their initials.**

**Early Childhood News:**

 October is a very busy month for us! We will have plenty of volunteer opportunities for parents who wish to help out.

 This month we will have an emphasis on Geography beginning with Air, Land and Water. We then move on to a study of globes and map making, learning the names of the continents as well as special things about each continent. We close out the month with a study of leaves and study the Life Cycle of the Pumpkin. We will also do leaf printing on t-shirts.

 Our annual pumpkin patch will take place on Friday, October 14. The 3- and 4- year olds will have theirs on campus and the Kindergarteners will go to a local pumpkin patch.

**Important dates:**

**Open House:** Friday, October 14, 8:30-10:00

**Pumpkin Patch-Field Trip (Kindergarteners only):** Friday, October 14, 10:00

**Pumpkin Patch on Campus:** Friday, October 14 at 10:00

**Freeman Library-Field Trip-**Friday, October 14, 1:00

**Freeman Library-Field Trip-** Friday, October 28, 1:00

**Fall Conferences**- November 7-11 please sign up in the classroom

**Friendly Reminders:**

Class begins promptly at 8:30. Please bring your children on time to avoid missing important lessons and group activities.

Please remember to bring healthy snacks such as cut fresh fruit or cheese sticks with 100% juice.

If your child needs to eat breakfast at school, you must arrive before 8:00am.

**Elementary Room News:**

Have you ever lived a day without using numbers? We see numbers on calendars, clocks, page numbers, speed limits, and many other ways. How did numbers begin? Were they always as we write them today? I wonder.

Lower Elementary has begun exploring the History of Numbers, Montessori’s fourth Great Lesson. Upper Elementary is extending their knowledge of the History of Numbers using ancient number systems like tally marks for recording survey responses and writing Roman Numerals. Friday, October 14th is our Open House from 8:30-10:00 am. This is your opportunity to visit our classroom and see your student’s favorite lessons. The Open House also coincides with our Annual Scholastic Book Fair. The Book Fair will run from Friday, October 14th – Friday, October 21st.

**Important Elementary Dates:**

**Monday, October 10** – No School, Child Care Only

**Friday, October 14 –** Open House from 8:30-10:00

**Friday, October 14 –** Pumpkin Patch Field Trip 10:00

**Friday, October 14 –** Freeman Library field trip 1:00

**Friday, October 14-21 –** Scholastic Book Fair

**Friday, October 28**- Freeman Library field trip 1:00

**Montessori Terminology**

**Absorbent Mind**

The mental activity in the brain during the

first few years of life which allows

everything coming from the environment

to be received, processed, and stored with

no effort using a form of unconscious

absorption.

**Prepared Environment**

The surroundings appropriate to the stage of development of the individual child that are deliberately and thoughtfully provided for him or her.

**“Making the Match”**

Finding developmentally appropriate work that meets a child’s needs.

**Normalization**

Children are called “normalized” when they are self-directed, autonomous, and can make meaningful decisions for themselves.

**Sense of Order**

Routine is the same every day; materials are in the same place every day. The children know what to expect.

**Control of Error**

Materials are made so that mistakes are easily seen by the child and he or she can correct the mistake independently.

**Work**

Physical and mental activity freely chosen by an individual; activity that has meaning because it promotes growth of self and contribution to society.

 **Sensitive Periods**

Blocks of time in a child’s life when he or she is particularly receptive to certain stimuli to the exclusion of others. Any given “sensitive period”

lasts only until a necessity is filled and then it passes.