



## **Classroom III October News**



**The children have settled into the school year and there is so much wonderful work going on inside of our classroom! We encourage more of you to stop by and observe and thank those of you who have.**

### **What's New**

**We are continuing with our music appreciation lessons and the children are really starting to give us some wonderful feedback. I was informed one week that while Britten's selection was "different" it was not as good as the others! Last week we listened to Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik. The next two selections will be Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition and Bach's Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (which should be interesting because this version is sung in German!).**

**Our group lessons have covered many topics. Ms. Shedd did an introduction on Impressionism and Seurat, Mrs. Campbell gave us an introduction on the signs of Fall, while I did a weeklong unit about the parts of a tree. Last week we learned about the Solar System. Next week we will talk about the Election process, followed by a unit on painting.**

**The shelves continue to change and evolve with the needs of the children. In Practical Life, the children are doing pumpkin scrubbing, cutting, and have planted tulip bulbs. Math is growing to include lessons on exchanging and pumpkin counting, while Sensorial is focusing on sense sorting cards and fabric matching. Language now includes rhyming, story writing, and spelling boxes. Our Geography area is focusing on features of North America and Science is full of choices about trees and leaves.**

### **Reminders & Thoughts**

**\*\*\* 2<sup>nd</sup> Year conferences are on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please call the office to set up a conference.**

**\*\*\*There will be NO SCHOOL on Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please label your child's coat, hats, and gloves. As it becomes colder, our classroom begins to overflow with winter clothes and it helps us keep them all straight if you label them at home.**

**We have had a lot of questions about our "calming area." This is an area of our classroom where the children go to calm their body and mind. It is a simple corner with some small pillows where the children can choose to go if they need a break or if they are feeling upset, sad, or angry. Sometimes, we will encourage them to go there and explain to them that it is an area where they can regain self-control and learn how to self-calm. Feel free to stop by and take a look!**

**We would like to invite the children to bring in a book to share on their birthdays. It will be a way for them to share their favorite story with their friends and help celebrate their special day.**

## **Words of Wisdom**

**We hear so many funny, touching, and true things from the children everyday. We have started writing them down and I would like to share one with you each month in our newsletter. It is a little food for thought – I wish that I saw the world in such a simple way!**

**I was sitting with a child the other day doing a letter choice and she began to look a little pensive. I asked her what she was thinking about and our conversation went something like this:**

**“Miss Klaus, why do we talk?”**

**“Well, we talk to express our feelings and thoughts and share them with other people.”**

**“No, no” she said “What *makes* us talk?”**

**“There is something inside of our throat called a voice box and when we want to speak our brain tells our voice box to talk.”**

**“Oh,” she said “Well then how do we stop talking?”**

**“I guess that our brain tells our voice box to stop talking.” She sat quietly for a moment and then said, “So when we need to stop talking, our brain tells the box inside of our throat to put a lid on it.”**

**“Yes,” I said “I guess that it does.”**

**Please email, call, or stop by anytime!**

**Gretchen, Heather, Janet, & Viviana**