



Classroom I Newsletter

October 2010

Classroom One is in full swing! The children have normalized to our daily routine and activities. Please make time to observe. You will see children studying maps, counting long chains, practicing letters sounds, tracing geometric shapes, preparing a snack, making jello, and so much more. Call the office to schedule an observation! You can get a glimpse into the minds of some amazing children!

The Latest



Mrs. Spencer showed the children a few lessons involving apples. The first was a simple lesson with a great message. The children were shown three apples—one green, one red and one yellow. We discussed how different the apples look on the outside (one was bruised, one had no stem, each was a different color, etc.). Mrs. Spencer then cut each apple in half to show that although the apples looked very different on the outside, they were all the same on the inside. We discussed how it is the same with people. We each look very different from one another, but we are all the same on the inside. Each one of us has a heart, bones to support our body, etc., and we all the same basic needs (air to breathe, food to eat and water to live).

Other apple lessons included the life cycle of an apple (seed, seedling, tree bud, flower, fruit), an apple collage', and painting a still life. In addition, we now have apple slicing available as a work choice during the morning. The children are enjoying helping themselves to an apple wedge, slicing it, and eating it with a fork. Then they get to wash the dishes!!

Thank you to everyone who helped celebrate the World Equestrian Games with Mrs. Kessinger! The week was a huge success! The classroom looked as if



we had used WEG wallpaper with all the clippings the children brought from home. Mrs. Kessinger taught the class the details of the eight different disciplines of the World Equestrian Games (Dressage, Para-Dressage, Vaulting, Reining, Endurance, Jumping, Eventing, and Driving). She introduced the class to the company Alltech and the healthy

vitamins they provide for farm animals, including horses. Mrs. Kessinger also discussed how special the 2010 games are because they have never been held in our city, in our state, in our country, or on our continent ever before! Some children chose to make a map of the world that Mrs. Kessinger prepared that identified all 58 countries participating in the World Equestrian Games. It was a great week and everyone, including the teachers, learned something new! Go equestrian team USA!!!



Who sailed the ocean blue in 1492? Christopher Columbus, of course! Mrs. Young will be discussing the life, adventures, and discoveries of this famous Italian explorer. We will hear about Columbus' strong will and determination to find a new route to the Indies. We will learn about Columbus' voyage aboard the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria. We will study the simple parts of a ship. This unit will enhance our already rich geography curriculum . Mrs. Young will teach lessons

on directionality (introducing the compass rose) and the different hemispheres. The children will perform an “in house” play on the “Adventures of Christopher Columbus.” Each child will participate in the play. The older children will have the leads while the younger children will have supporting roles! This will be tons of fun for all!

Introducing

We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful Montessori intern in our classroom this year! Mrs. Dugan has already proven that she is an amazing teacher. She is kind, caring and enthusiastic! The children love her! She is the perfect addition to our classroom family. Below is a note from Mrs. Dugan introducing herself to you.

Dear Parents,

I have always been very drawn to teaching of some form and the quest of making a difference. I knew that traditional education was not an option for me. Somehow I became surrounded by young people who were Montessori students, parents of Montessori students and Montessori teachers.

I researched into pursuing this path and was fortunate to learn that Providence Montessori had a teacher training program. So this summer I took a leap of faith and enrolled in the training course and it has been a life changing experience.

To say that I am excited about having the opportunity to be able to be an intern at Providence and in Classroom One would be an understatement. I am so thankful to have Mrs. Young, Mrs, Kessinger and Mrs. Spencer as mentors as I embark upon this journey.

It has been a wonderful experience being within the classroom during the last month and getting acquainted with all the students . I am looking forward to continuing to learn and to observe throughout the school year. On the first day of orientation for the first year students I felt as though I was starting my journey along with them.

Bernadette Dugan

Reminders and Requests

We are running low on extra clothing. If your child has been sent home in a change of clothes, please return them to our classroom as soon as possible. We are in need of girls panties (sizes 3, 4, and 5) and girls and boys socks. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Apple slicing is such a popular work choice that we may send the snack bag home with a special request for more apples or other food items needed to replenish our supplies. If you have already purchased snack for your child's snack day, **please don't worry about making another trip to the store!** If you are able to accommodate the request, we certainly appreciate it! Our morning work cycle is long and the children do get hungry, especially if they have snack early in the day. Food choices are very popular and always involve practicing a skill such as pouring, scooping, slicing, spreading, and, of course, cleaning up after oneself. From these choices, the children also learn the importance of "taking only their fair share" so that we have enough for others. For all of these reasons, we appreciate your help so that we can continue offering these experiences to the children!

Dates to Remember

October 7th- No School-Scheduled conference day for first year students. Mrs. Spencer is scheduling first year conferences after school. If you have not already met or scheduled a conference time, please e-mail Mrs. Spencer at Diane.Spencer@providencemontessoriky.org

October 8th and 11th - No School- Fall break

October 14th- Parent Education Night- Come and learn about Geography!

October 24th- Grandparent's Day/ Open House

November 5th-No School-Scheduled conference day for 2nd year students. Mrs. Kessinger is scheduling second year conferences after school. Please e-mail Mrs. Kessinger to schedule a conference time at cgkessinger@gmail.com

November 24th-26th-No School-Thanksgiving break

Thanks To You

To the Kidd family for the beautiful wind chimes!

To Shawnetta Okpebholo for our bean bag chair!

To all the parents who contributed to our "Spooky Halloween Basket!"

To Jennifer Brocato for strumming her guitar and singing us "Puff the Magic Dragon!"

Thanks for reading our classroom news!

Joan, Christie and Diane

"The roots of every plant seek out, from among the many substances which the soil contains, only those which they need."

Dr. Maria Montessori

