



Classroom III



Fall News

Things are buzzing now inside of Classroom III. The children are adjusting well to the all day routine and we are off to a wonderful start! We have really enjoyed meeting all of our new families and reconnecting with our returning families and we feel like this will be a truly wonderful year!

What's New?

Our classroom journey began this year with lessons on our ground rules. We spent a week with Mrs. Campbell learning the signs for important messages in our room. We use sign language as a non-verbal cue to the children. They can now say and understand “sit on the line”, “please”, “choose work”, “thank you”, “please stop”, and “lower your voice” in sign language! Mrs. Latimer also spent a week talking with the children about the 3 rules of respect: respect each other, respect the classroom, & respect yourself. We believe that this discussion of how to

respect the space and the people around us is key to helping us create a peaceful classroom environment.

We have also begun our cultural study. In our classroom, we begin our discussion of geography and culture with the continents on the World Map. The children have learned our continent song and have begun to talk and think about children around the world. Since the “whole world” is such an abstract concept, we start slowly by talking about how there are children in different places who are like us in some ways and different from us in others. We ended the week with a discussion about how people all around the world look different. The children talked about how none of us look exactly alike, but we are all beautiful in our own way. We then made self-portraits, which is one of our favorite works! We brought some books into the room to help generate these thoughts (two of our favorites are by Karen Katz – “Can You Say Peace?” & “Colors of Us”). These books are beautifully illustrated and have a wonderful message). The children seem to really be enjoying this! We will continue to study the different continents and cultures throughout the year.

Mrs. Huntzinger is also taking us to the World Equestrian Games this week! She will begin the week discussing how people from all over the world (a concept they had just studied) are here in Lexington

to participate. We are excited to see what this unit will bring!

Reminders & Thoughts

**There will be NO SCHOOL Thursday, October 7th, Friday, October 8th, & Monday, October 11th.

**Pizza day is every Friday. If your child would like pizza, please send in \$2.50. If there is no school on Friday, it will be on the last school day of that week.

**Please have your child in the classroom by 8:30 a.m. The children receive their daily letter sound then and begin their three hour work cycle at this time and it can be disruptive to your child to arrive any later.

**Please plan on joining us on our first Parent Education night (it is scheduled for Thursday, October 14th). These nights are great ways to learn more about what and how your child is learning in the classroom!

**We know that school can sometimes feel like a mystery to parents. We want to encourage you to stop by and take a look at our shelves and see how they are growing. We are also happy to offer clarification on what your child is working on (their

descriptions can often be muddled and slightly lacking!). We love to give lessons to eager parents too!

Thank you for taking the time to read our news.
Please stop by, email, or call anytime!
Gretchen, Heather, JoAnn, Viviana, & Melissa



“Free the child's potential, and you will transform him into the world” ~Maria Montessori