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OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES:

October 13-16: Parent Teacher Conferences - Classes closed; Childcare provided for those in our 7-6 All Day Program

October 23-24: Picture Days – Life Touch Photography

October 31: Halloween Celebrations 9 to 11 AM

The start of our school year has gone well. We appreciate you coming to the Back-to-School Night on August 31. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher or the office staff.

We hope you enjoyed our Bring Your Parent to School Night on September 28th. This is a wonderful time for the children to show you their favorite materials and how much they are learning!

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

All three classrooms will hold Parent/Teacher Conferences on Monday and Friday, October 13 and 16, in Classroom 1. The sign-up sheets are on the lobby counter. If you have not yet signed up, please do so!

Each conference will be scheduled for 20 minutes. If your child will be with you, you are welcome to bring them to Classroom 2 while you are in your conference.

It will also be helpful to have questions in mind or jotted down when you come in to talk with your child's teacher, so you can gather the information you have been wondering about.

PICTURE DAYS

Individual pictures will be taken by Life Touch Photography on Monday, October 23 and Tuesday, October 24. Please look for information in your parent pocket the week of the 9th. We need your permission to take the photos, so please be sure to return the forms to us by Wednesday, October 18th. On the form, we will let you know which day your child will be photographed.

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS

Halloween parties will be held in each morning classroom on Tuesday, October 31. The parties will begin at 9:00am and run until 11:00am. If your child usually comes to school in the afternoon, they are welcome to join us in the morning for this fun event. If your child does not usually attend on Tuesdays, they are welcome to come in and join the party!

Children and adults are invited to wear their costumes! We only ask that costumes not be a scary theme, no masks and no weapons (like swords, guns, etc.) Also, please bring clothes that your child can change into later in the day for nap and outdoor play. Each classroom will post a volunteer sheet for helping with the activities or providing something like plates, cups, treats, etc.

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CHILDREN'S CUBBIES

We checked the children's cubbies a week or so ago and found that some of you had the children's clothes neatly in a plastic bag. This is convenient, but we cannot have plastic bags in the cubbies where children have access to them. (This is a health department rule for childcare centers.) So, please just leave the clothing loose in the cubby. Also, many of the children had no extra clothing available in their cubbies. Please make sure your child has a complete set of clothing available and if they are still in the toilet learning process, have two or three sets available. Older children also need to have extra clothing just in case they get wet working with water or in the snow, when that occurs. It is very helpful to us when all clothing is labeled! Each year we end up donating so many jackets, hats, mittens, boots, sweaters, and sweat shirts that are not labeled. When a child misplaces something, we look for a name so that it can be returned to the child's cubby or hung up on the classroom coat racks. Thank you for helping us with this!

FIRE SAFETY WEEK

Fire Safety Week is October 9 - 12. The Louisville Fire Department will come to visit and talk to the children about fire safety.

BITS OF INFORMATION

- ✓ Please be sure to label your child's lunch box! That helps us to make sure it gets to the right classroom.
- ✓ Please make sure to bring your child's nap items home regularly for washing!
- ✓ Please remember we are a PEANUT-FREE school!

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

There is a notebook of community resources available in Boulder and Broomfield counties that Judy printed from the following website:

www.bouldercounty.org/doc/publichealth/parentsdir.pdf .

The notebook is on the front lobby desk top. We wanted to draw your attention to this in case you need to look into any of the resources available to any of us.

SNOW DAYS

When the Boulder Valley School District closes due to snow or other inclement weather, we also close. We will call in a closure and it will be shown on KCNC-TV, Channel 4. You may also check the www.bvsd.org for closure information. Once we are closed for the day we will not reopen. If the snow starts and gets very bad throughout the day, we will stay open until all the children are picked up.

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NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

CLASSROOM 1: SHELLIE ZEILER, PRISCILLA WILSON, PARVATHY BALAJI

I hope everyone is enjoying the fall weather. It is always a great time to go on nature walks and a drive to see the changing of the leaves.

Our class is continuing to enjoy our study of the planets with a focus on the phases of the moon. We also have started studying the life cycle of an apple and a pumpkin. We will be having a taste test of all the yummy apples, doing apple prints, and making a batch of applesauce.

A few reminders: Please keep an eye open for volunteer opportunities for our trip to the pumpkin patch and our Halloween party. I'm hoping to have them up soon. I look forward to our conferences on October 13th and October 16th. The sign-up sheet is on the counter in the entryway. Finally, please don't forget to pick up and return your child's Friday folder.

Thank you, Shellie, Priscilla and Parvathy

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kindergarten has been settling into a beautiful work cycle. They are learning to balance their lessons, social time and work lists. It is a process that will grow and mature as the school year progresses.

We are continuing our study in space. We have been focusing on the eight phases of the moon and their names. To follow through, we created each phase using Oreo cookies. It was a deliciously fun project.

Wednesday is our Science Experiment Day. The children look forward to both the experiment and illustrating in their science booklet. We have done "Musical Jars," we filled jars up with different levels of colored water to hear the different tones. For the "Leak-proof Bag" experiment, we sharpened five pencils, filled a Ziplock half full with water and sealed it. We pushed the pencils one by one through the bag, the long chains of molecules that make up the bag, seal back around the pencils and prevent leaking. Lastly, we watched what happens to an egg submerged in vinegar. It takes a few days, but its amazing to see the shell disintegrate!

We continue to cook a few times each month. They are enjoying sharing the fruits of their labor along with the other classrooms.

I look forward to meeting with each of you during conference time. Thank you for all you do!

Shellie and Priscilla

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CLASSROOM 2

JASMINE LEESEKAMP, BROOKE BREWSTER, HOPE MANNING AND COLIN PADDOCK

Autumn has arrived!

This last month, we welcomed Ms. Hope to our classroom. She has made a wonderful addition. She is at school from 8 to 4:30 and eats with the children in the multipurpose room. We are so lucky to have her join us in the afternoon work cycle. ©

Thank you so much for coming to visit on "Bring your Parent to School" night. We had a blast! The children had been working and thinking of their favorite choices to show you. We talked about what kind of choices mommy and daddy may want to see. As a class, we decided blocks and coloring were probably not something we needed to show. Many were excited to show "I Spy." The older children seemed to all choose a challenge they've been working on, I was one proud teacher!

We have conferences fast approaching. I will be assessing the children during the next few weeks, which means lessons will be a bit more sporadic. We will be adding a lot of materials that the whole room is able to do. These works include: the easel, window washing, and I will also be giving group lessons on some of our sensorial works. Conferences are Friday, October 13th or Monday, October 16th. We will have the classroom open to children in the All Day Care program. If your child comes to school for the conference, they may go into one of the classrooms while we meet. I am very excited to meet with you and share your child's achievements, as well as my current goals.

More Information Coming Soon... We hope to have a class field trip to 7th Generation Farms this month. We will be updating you as we get this planned (we are hoping to hear back from the farm soon. ©) We will need some parent volunteers to help drive and chaperone the children. We will be taking a tractor ride and picking a pumpkin. This will be a morning trip.

Your children have great discussions at line time. We've had many over the last month about safety. We specifically talked about seatbelts and fire safety. We will continue this month by talking about the life cycle of the pumpkin, and enjoy our time talking about what we will be for Halloween. We will have a discussion about safety for Trick-or-Treating.

October is one of my favorite months. We have so much to talk about, and the "orangest" one is PUMPKINS! The practical life area has changed to fall and soon our art shelf will be offering more collage opportunities. At the moment we have fall trees, but next will be jack-olanterns. At the end of October we will have a Halloween party. This information will also be communicated later. \odot

Things to do: Thank you for sending your child in long sleeved shirts, so they can have the option of taking off their jacket on the warmer fall days. © If your child wants to bring crocs or hard-bottomed slippers for inside the classroom, we've discussed that to be a great idea as we are moving into boot season.

Afternoon Work Time in Classroom 2: Would you please send a pillow case or reusable grocery bag for us to use to store Rest Items. We can then have the children put them in their cubby box on Fridays to be washed and returned on Mondays. :O)

Come to Conferences ©

Watch for more info on our field trip and party. Thank you!

Ms. Jasmine, Mrs. Brooke, Ms. Hope and Mrs. Colin

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CLASSROOM 3 PRESCHOOL JENELLE GREEN, JESSIE CLISHAM, ARIELLE POWERS, PARVATHY BALAJI

Happy October CR3 Family,

It has been a good start to the school year and amazingly, our school family is settling in to our routine and expectations. Thank you all for your support at home with the Montessori philosophy.

One of our goals is promoting independence, which comes with practice, so after the initial learning, the children repeat, repeat. This builds esteem, confidence and ultimately independence.

The September focus was on caring for ourselves, others and our environment, and the children are taking great pride in their "heart lights," guiding them to good decisions.

With the Fall season approaching, we will be introducing new Fall activities but will continue our eco-consciousness. We plan on having our own compost bin and will be planting some cold crops in our garden beds....I hope they grow!

We will also start our journey learning about the Solar System soon!

Happy Fall to all, Jenelle, Jessie, Arielle and Parvathy