

Miniapple Int'l Montessori Newsletter

November 2015

DIRECTOR NOTES

The cold weather will be arriving soon, (although we have loved this fall weather), so please make sure your child is dressed for outdoor play. We will go outside every day as long as the temperature is at least 15 degrees (with wind-chill) for Preschoolers and at least 20 degrees for toddlers. Please label coats, hats, mittens, boots, and any extra clothing items brought to school. All classes have a labeling marker for this purpose. There have been some items that may have gone home with someone else by accident and labeling items can greatly reduce this problem. Also, please double check to make sure all items you take home are yours. As the season changes, it is also a good time to check the extra clothes box for your child to make sure they have at least 2 pairs of pants, underwear, socks, and long-sleeved shirts.

Many families travel or take time off to enjoy the holiday and we would like to staff our school accordingly. We will post a holiday vacation schedule soon. Please take a moment to mark the days you will attend on the spread sheet outside your child's classroom. This allows us to grant holiday vacations to staff.

Our annual Thanksgiving Feast is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 19th. We will post a sign-up outside each class, to bring a dish to share with your child's class for the lunchtime classroom potluck. Parents/families are welcome to attend, if you would like to help serve food. If you would like to attend this potluck feast, please speak with your child's teacher for more information. We will also be collecting non-perishable food items for a food drive from 11/16-11/20. The food drive will benefit East Side Neighborhood Services.

(NEW DATE!) SAVE THE DATE!

We have our Winter Program scheduled for December 16th. Each classroom will have more specific information coming soon. All families and friends are welcome to attend!

We will have a Montessori Parent Education Night: Journey and Discovery on Thursday, November 12th from 6:00-7:00. Come and learn about Montessori Education and various works that your children may be learning. We hope you can make it.

We are completing a survey for the Minnesota Department of Health on immunizations. Each year they require a completed list (without names) of the number of vaccines that the children in our school have completed. If you haven't submitted an updated immunization record, please do so right away. We would like to give them accurate information about which vaccines have been administered among our many families.

Thank you to our families, you bought \$940 worth of books! That means we got \$470 in free books! You are the best! Thank you!

Communication is the key to a successful relationship between school and families. Make sure to read the newsletters, classroom and entryway whiteboards, and notes posted on cubbies. Please let us know as questions or concerns arise. We are grateful for our wonderful MIM families!

Thank you. Lee & Lindsay

School Closings

Thur. 11/26: Thanksgiving-CLOSED

Friday 11/27: CLOSED

Thursday 12/24: CLOSED

Friday 12/25: Christmas: CLOSED

Thursday 12/31: New Year's: CLOSED

Friday 1/1: CLOSED

Dates to Remember

Tues. 11/10: Picture retake day

Thur. 11/12: Montessori Education Night

Mon. 11/16: Food Drive begins

Thurs. 11/19: Thanksgiving Feast

Wed. 12/16: WINTER PROGRAM!

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Classroom News

INFANTS

This November we are thankful for our loving and beautiful babies. We are also very grateful as we continue to grow positive, constructive relationships between the teachers and our parents. Our infant potluck is scheduled for November 11th. We have a school-wide Thanksgiving Feast on November 19th, a sign-up to be posted soon. We are proud to announce Rose as our baby of the month. We will try and take walks if the weather is warm enough, but if not, we will go into the activity room for large muscle time. Our Winter Program will be Dec. 16th, so save the date. All the babies will be wearing white for the program. We wish Adrien a happy 1st birthday this month! We are welcoming a volunteer, a student at the University of MN, named Mallory. She will be helping in the baby room once or twice a week. Thank you for everything! Nicole, Hailey, Lauren, and Amy

Toddler House 1

Dear Toddler Parents,
First we want to thank you so much for making our classroom potluck night so lovely. We were very glad to see all of our parents and, of course, enjoy delicious food. Thank you to all the parents who participated in the Halloween parade. We hope you had a good time, despite the chilly weather. Winter is around the corner. Please check your child's extra clothes box for long sleeved shirts and pants. Always remember to label hats, mittens, and jackets. Our November calendar is also full of fun activities. We will learn about animal sounds, Thanksgiving, and numbers. We are going to celebrate Thanksgiving with a feast at lunch time on Thursday, November 19th. A sign-up sheet will be posted outside the classroom. Our Winter Program is December 16th, so please

save the date. We send a very happy birthday wish to Juniper on November 21st! If you have any questions, please let us know.

With love, Reshma & Alie

TODDLER HOUSE 2

Happy fall everyone! Thank you all for joining us on our Halloween parade. It was so great to see all the wonderful costumes. The time of year has come for extra clothing. Please be sure to label all items. Also, please bring extra shoes/slippers for your child to wear inside the classroom. Our winter program is coming up on December 16th. The Thanksgiving Feast is scheduled for November 19th, during lunchtime. A sign up will be posted soon. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Amanda, Hayat and Katie

Children's House 1

What a wonderfully busy October! Thank you so much for a fantastic month of potlucks, conferences, and many CH1 birthdays! Our friends are settling into our fall schedule with ease and excitement, focusing on new works revolving around the season's changing; pumpkin carving, life cycle of a tree, and many delicious science/cooking works. We are looking forward to our Thanksgiving Feast and hunkering down for the winter with our new bead works, books and language projects. Much love, Annah and Krista

Children's House Two

Thank you for attending the potluck and conferences. It was great to see you and learn more about you and your families.

Please note that CH2 leaves the climber at 8:20am on days when it is rainy or too cold in the mornings. If you arrive when there are already children in the classroom, please say goodbye in the hallway and send your child into the classroom quietly and on their own with their belongings. This will help us maintain a quiet and focused classroom. This is very important so please be mindful of this!

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November 2015

Also, now that the children are familiar with the routines and their classmates, we won't have a morning circle. We will just have a circle after worktime.

It's time for cold weather gear! Please label every item of clothing! We ask that the children put their mittens in the hat and their hat and scarf inside their coat sleeves to minimize things getting lost.

Towards the end of the month, we'll be focusing on what being thankful means and talk about the things we're thankful for. We'll also have our annual Thanksgiving Feast for the kids. Look out for more information on that.

A really popular work in our classroom right now is tweezing dried corn off a cob. We are going through corn cobs very fast, so if you'd like to donate some, they will be put to good use.

Happy November! Mia & Blake

Children's House Three

Another month comes to a close in CH3. This month we enjoyed all the fun activities from grandparents day, potluck, Halloween, picture day, and the book fair. Your child grew and learned about the world around them. Your child learned letter sounds of w, g, i, and l. They also learned facts about oceans and bats. We took full advantage of the beautiful weather making crafts from nature and enjoying peace walks. We welcomed teacher Lilah and a new student named Vanessa to our community. We are looking forward to November where we will focus on the community and togetherness in our global family. Reminders: Please refer to "Tips for Difficult Drop Offs" for those touchy mornings. I suggest bringing a sweater or sweatshirt to keep in your child's cubby for cooler days. Please have your child bring inside shoes that they are able to put on and take off themselves. Thank you so much! Molly & Lilah

Children's House Four

CH4 wishes a heartfelt welcome to Finnegan and his family to our classroom. Our friends have been very understanding and been very helpful to all the newcomers. Our fall parent/teacher conferences were very diligent. It's nice to talk about concerns,

thoughts and plans for the next year. We appreciate your time. Our class potluck turned out way better than we anticipated. A lot more families joined in and we had a variety of good food to eat. We loved all your efforts despite all your busy lives. November is the month to show our appreciation to all the wonderful Miniapple families, by getting together and having a Thanksgiving feast on November 19th. It will be at lunch time, 11:30-12:30. We will post more details on the bulletin board soon.

Thank you all, Wangmo and Najat

CHILDREN'S HOUSE 5

Kay and I would like to thank everyone who came to the potluck. It was a lot of fun. We are having our Thanksgiving Feast on November 19th. Please keep your eyes open for a sign-up sheet. Please bring inside shoes, labeled, and ones that your child can put on and take off him/herself. Now is a good time to change out your child's extra clothes to warmer options. I would like to thank all our parents for respecting our 8:30am start time. This month we will be focusing on caring for our plants. If you have not brought in a family photo, please bring one in. The children love looking at all the pictures. I love seeing all the joy the children get out of learning new works.

Take care, Gabrielle and Kay

Preschool French

Bonjour à toutes les familles et joyeux mois de Novembre. This month of November is a month of thanks, so we will focus our French lesson on how to say Thank You (merci), You Are Welcome (de rien), Please (s'il vous plait). We are working on our numbers 1-20, working on our alphabet song, and learning our colors by looking at the beautiful fall leaves. We are learning about some of the food we eat for Thanksgiving like: Pomme de terre (potatoes), dinde (turkey), petit pois (peas), mais (corn) and pain (bread). We will finish the story of the Three Witches and start "les oeufs verts au jambon" Green Eggs and Ham. For our song, we are learning Je suis une pizza and we will work on Rac à Tac Tac. Merci et joyeux Thanksgiving. Najat

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Join Us For

JOURNEY AND DISCOVERY PARENT EDUCATION NIGHT

Thursday, November 12, 2015

6:00-7:00pm

A new event, JOURNEY AND DISCOVERY aims to give parents a more in-depth, hands-on experience of the Montessori Children's House.

Explore the areas of Practical Life, Sensorial and Art. In March, you will explore the areas of Math, Language, Science and Culture

Childcare provided!

Registration form is on the sign-in table. Your child will not be with you during this presentation, but childcare is provided.

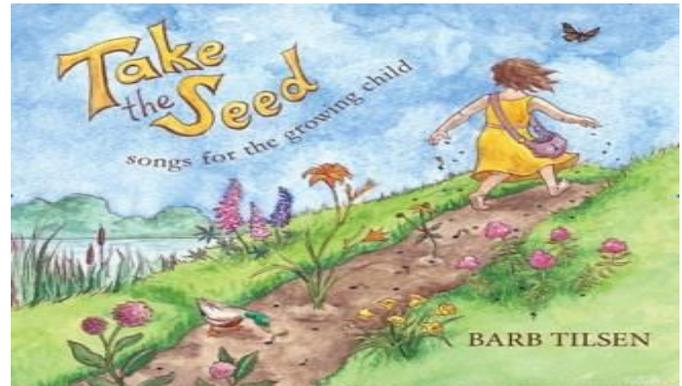
We hope you can join us!

THANKSGIVING

POTLUCK/FOOD DRIVE

On Thursday, November 19th we will be having our annual Thanksgiving Feast.

There will be a potluck sign up posted outside your child's classroom. We welcome parents to join your child and their classmates. We will also be having a food drive, starting on Monday, November 16th. Please bring/send a non-perishable food item that we will collect for local food shelves. We will collect food until November 20th.



"Take the Seed" is a new recording of songs for children and their families by Barb Tilsen, our former music teacher of 20 years! Filled with an enjoyable mix of Barb's original songs, traditional tunes and beloved contemporary music written by some of today's most gifted songwriters, this CD is a great choice whether for the preschool/elementary classroom or the family porch and living room! Songs of planting & growth, dance & play, love & hope, range in style from pure folk to a little bit of reggae to a little bit of blues with lots of fun weaving all the way through. There are songs in French, Spanish, and Swahili; songs for the winter and songs for spring; songs about peace and the environment; and musical poems and games that make you want to dance! This is a wonderful recording for the whole family! **PLEASE JOIN US ON DECEMBER 8th FOR A CD SIGNING AND SALE to support Barb**



FOR SMALL HANDS

For Small Hands is a holiday catalog filled with child-size, age-appropriate materials that support Montessori in the home. These items would make great holiday gifts for friends and family.

10% of each purchase made over \$25.00 will go toward free materials for Miniapple and our classrooms through December! All children received a catalogue in their cubby. Here is a link to their website. <http://www.forsmallhands.com/>

When you order, please use our Customer #: 114507 when ordering.

Thank you for supporting Miniapple!