

CHILDREN'S HOUSE CHATTER

Wednesday, October 13, 2010.

Thanks to all the parents who joined us for Open House on Tuesday. We enjoyed visiting with everyone.

SCHOOL PICTURES will be taken on Wednesday, October 22, beginning at 9:00am.

BOOK FAIR Our annual Book Fair will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, November 10 & 11.

SILENT AUCTION We will have our Silent Auction on November. Further details later.

PARENTS' DIRECTORIES If you did not pick up your Directory at the Open House, it will be in your child's folder. Thank you.

DOWNSTAIRS TODDLER CLASS

Thanks to all the parents who attended our open House. The children really enjoyed sharing their classroom environment and favorite lessons. This week in Sign Language we learned the signs for "boy" and "girl". Please ask Ms. Caroline if you would like a copy of the signs, so you can sign with your child. Also, talk to Ms. Caroline about signing up for the Hallowe'en Carnival. We still have plenty of open spots for volunteers!

JUNIOR ELEMENTARY CLASS

It was nice to have so many parents attend the Open House. The Juniors sang beautifully and enjoyed giving their parents a tour of the classrooms. We celebrated Owen's birthday on Monday with a hot dog & pizza lunch, and Olive's on Wednesday with a spaghetti lunch. This Friday, October 15, we will go to the Wildwood Pumpkin Patch. Please ask your Junior to dress in layers as the weather can be unpredictable. We will leave school promptly at 9:40am. If you are sending a car seat for your child, please send the smaller, more portable style. We thank our parent drivers/chaperones: Colleen Cafferty, Kate Moffitt, Jennifer Triplett, David Dixon, Summer McFarland, and Clay Shuffield.

DOWNSTAIRS CLASS

We had a big attendance at Open House. Thanks to all the parents and grandparents who came. I have made more copies of the Sign Language sheets, so if you have not received one, please let me know. We will be posting pictures bi-monthly of the children doing their lessons. Please do not take your child's picture down from the wall - we will put

it (them) in your child's folder when you can take them home. Please remember to check your child's folder daily. Thank you.

UPSTAIRS CLASSROOM Thanks to all the parents who went with us to the pumpkin Patch. We had a wonderful time. We also enjoyed seeing so many parents at Open House last night. Parents - please send a picture of your child (which we can keep at school).

For your convenience, we usually have a selection of spare clothes at school to use in case a child has none of his/her own. However, parents have not been returning these items, and we are now left with no extras. If you have some clothes that you have not returned, or if you just have some extras to donate to our 'emergency' supply, we will be glad to receive them. We need tops, pants, socks, etc. This would also be a good time to make sure your child enough spare clothing here at school. Thank you.

OUTSIDE CLASS

Thanks to all the parents who come to Open House. Also, thanks to all the parents who went with us on our field trip to the Pumpkin Patch last week. We had a great time.

THE PREPARED ENVIRONMENT

Montessori classrooms are commonly referred to as a 'prepared environment'. This name reflects the care and attention that is given to creating a learning environment that will reinforce the children's independence and intellectual development. The rooms are set up to facilitate student discussion and stimulate collaborative learning. The Montessori classroom is organized into several curriculum areas, usually including: language arts; mathematics & geometry; everyday living skills; sensory awareness exercises and puzzles; geography; history; science; art; music; and movement. There is a wide variety of materials on open display, ready for use as the children select them. Students will be found scattered around the classroom, working alone or with one or two others. The teacher may be found working with one or two children at a time: advising, presenting a new lesson or quietly observing the class at work.