

CALENDAR

- 10/31 Halloween No Enrichment
- 11/3 PACE Diwali Celebration 3:30 p.m. (American Room)
- 11/9 Grandparents and Special Friends Day
- 11/9 Pizza Thursday
- 11/10 School Closed (Veterans Day)
- 11/13-14 Parent Teacher Conferences (No School)
- 11/22-24 School Closed (Thanksgiving Break)
- 11/28 Children's House Curriculum Workshop: Part One 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
- 12/1 Spirit Day All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 12/1 Portrait Retake Day & Sibling Portrait Day
- 12/8 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 12/8 Edible House Decorating Social sponsored by PACE 3:30 p.m. (American Room)
- 12/15 Elementary & Middle School Winter Concert 2:30 p.m. (American Room)
- 12/21-1/1 School Closed (Winter Break)

Click here to view ASM's calendar!

Red Maple Classroom Newsletter October 2023

Our Classroom...



Science

Autumn began in September, but the seasonal changes outside began late this year. We began our study of the two types of trees: Deciduous and Evergreen by taking an observation walk outside. During our exploration we counted two varieties of evergreens and five deciduous trees. The children noted the differences between each tree by feeling the back and shapes of the leaf blades or needles.

As the evenings began to cool down and the daylight shortened, the leaves began to lose their chlorophyll and the muted parade of colors began. The children also learned about the parts of a leaf and leaf shapes: simple, lobed, and compound.



Curriculum Highlights

Geography and Culture

The children listened to stories and learned who discovered that the planet earth was not "flat"; it was a sphere traveling through space. It orbits around the sun taking 365 days. When your child celebrates their birthday walk; they walk this journey around the sun for each year of their life.

During the week of October 23-27, the class celebrated their diversity by enjoying the parent-child presentations of different family cultures, which included: Chile, China, Macedonia, Uganda, Italy, India, and Native American Cultures.

The children had the opportunity to color the flag of their heritages. We would like to give a huge "Thank You" to the parents of Edith, Joseph, Aria, Violet, Nia, and Margot.







Food Preparation

The children did apple polishing and cutting. We washed them and then we cooked the apples in a crock pot with a splash of water and made yummy applesauce. The use of six varieties of apples was our secret to making the best, all natural, no sugar added applesauce. Almost everyone wanted seconds and before you know the pot was empty. The children also did sewing of apples with needle and thread and then coloring them either red, yellow, or green. They loved this activity and were so focused!

Guest Reader

Our students had a guest reader, Mrs. Orlowitz, come in and share the story called Pat's Pizza! The children enjoyed her sharing and then learned about the pizza fraction game.



Math

To quote Michael Duffy, a noted Montessorian and author, "One of the most basic principles of Montessori mathematics is that the students always learn new concepts with concrete materials." Montessori materials are designed to lead your child step by step from the most concrete to pure abstraction. When working with materials, children engage in mathematical thinking with all their senses. The Children's House student begins with numeration materials: Sandpaper Numerals, Number Rods and Number Cards, sets baskets, Spindle Box, Teen, Tens and Hundreds Boards and Squaring and Cubing Chains.

Once conservation of numbers quantity and sequence are established, the young child is able to perform complex mathematical operations; addition, multiplication, subtraction, and division. These operations are done using the Golden Beads materials, Stamp Game, and small and large bead frames.







Looking Ahead...

November Topics

- Migration
- Parts of a Canada Goose
- The story of settlement in Massachusetts
- Parts of a Turkey
- Winter birds
- Land forms continued

Reminders to Parents:

- Remember that your child needs inside shoes AND outside shoes or boots.
- Please put your child's name on ALL outside clothing, lunch box, backpacks and boots.
- Layering clothing is best to cover the daily temperature changes.
- Please update spare clothing for the seasonal change.
- Items for Sharing Days:
 - Something your child has drawn, painted or constructed
 - Something they found in nature
 - A favorite book to share
 - An artifact from a special place
 - Please no toys or stuffed animals