

CALENDAR

- 9/14 Hike For Hope in Andover
- 9/20 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
- 9/21 ASM at Andover Day
- 9/24 Lower Elementary
Curriculum Overview
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
- 9/27 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
- 10/2 Field Trip:
Project Adventure
- 10/4 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
ASM Spirit Day
Pizza Lunch
Book Report Goes Home
- 10/10 Portrait Day
Pizza Lunch
- 10/11 School Closed - Professional
Development Day
- 10/14 School Closed - Indigenous
Peoples' Day

Our Classroom...



We are thrilled to be back in school and to be fostering our classroom community. Our returning students are doing an excellent job assisting their new peers in navigating the classroom. Additionally, we are engaged in activities designed to help us get to know one another better, including our "All About Me" collages and the "Guess Who?" project.



Community building also involves collaboration with the Hummingbird classroom. We dedicated time to blending the two groups for cooperative games and shared a lesson on the creation of the universe. This collaborative approach not only fostered teamwork and communication skills among the students but also enriched their understanding of scientific concepts through peer interaction. By integrating our classrooms, we created an inclusive environment that promotes mutual respect and shared learning experiences, ultimately strengthening the sense of community within our school.

[Click here to see the full ASM calendar!](#)

Math

After taking the time to assess students' math skills at the beginning of the year, we prioritized a review of place value in our classroom. We believe that a strong understanding of place value is essential for students as they progress in their mathematical education. Students participated in an engaging lesson that utilized large materials to help them understand the concept of large numbers and contextualize place value effectively. This hands-on approach not only fosters engagement but also allows students to visualize and grasp abstract concepts more concretely. In addition to our place value review, students continue to practice their math facts daily, reinforcing their computational skills and building confidence in their abilities.



Cultural

Cultural studies always start off with a bang as we explore the creation of the universe. We have also begun our studies of North America, including the elements of state flags. Students have engaged with puzzle maps of North America and the United States while learning about the various state flags through pin maps. Learning about different state flags is important because each flag tells a story about the state's history, culture, and values. Understanding these symbols fosters a sense of identity and belonging among students and promotes appreciation for the diverse backgrounds that make up our nation. This knowledge can also enhance critical thinking and geographical awareness.

Language

We have already accomplished significant progress in language work this year! We began the year by writing a short story about summer vacation. Students have also started focusing on grammar and participating in Literature Circles. Additionally, our Literature Circles encourage collaborative discussion and critical thinking, allowing students to delve deeper into the texts they read and share diverse perspectives. First-year students have been working with the movable alphabet and the Waseca reading program, while second- and third-year students are reviewing their grammar in preparation for more advanced learning.





STEM

Each year in STEM, we begin by discussing what STEM stands for and exploring the concept of technology. Students discovered that technology is all around them in the classroom, and many were surprised to learn that even a simple bag can be considered a form of technology! After this discussion, we began reading the book that accompanies our STEM kit. We learned about Mariana's plant and the challenges it faced due to a lack of pollination. Following this, we reviewed the Engineering Design Process and examined how it was applied in the story.

[Click here for more classroom photos!](#)

Looking Ahead...

Please join us for our Lower Elementary Curriculum Night on September 24 from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Your child's teachers will be going over the curriculum that will be covered for the current school year and show you a highlight of the Montessori materials that will be used. Please be on the lookout for a communication from Ms. Young that will include a sign up sheet so you can RSVP and let us know that you will be attending the event. We hope to see everyone there!

