

CALENDAR

- 11/1 PACE Coffee Meetup and Meeting
8:30-8:45 a.m.
All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Children's House Open Classroom
9-9:45 a.m. and 2:25-3:00 p.m.
Spirit Day
Pizza Lunch
- 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)
- 11/27-29 School Closed
(Thanksgiving Break)
- 11/28 Children's House Curriculum
Workshop: Part One
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Our Classroom...



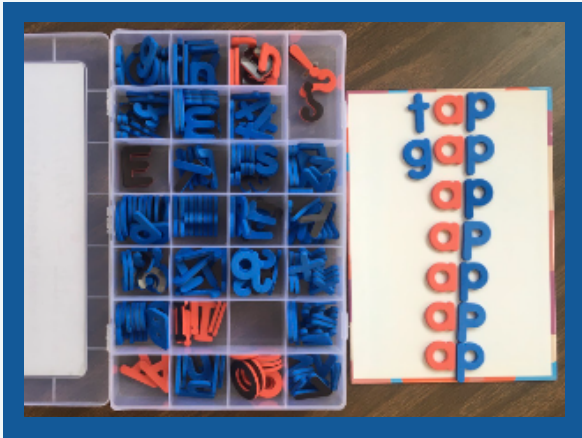
Morning Kindergarten



Afternoon Kindergarten

Language

Phonological awareness is the child's ability to understand that spoken words can be pulled apart into individual spoken sounds and an understanding that these sounds correspond to a written letter. The Moveable Alphabet and letter boxes are used frequently for this purpose. Some students are working with short vowel word families. In the picture below, the middle (vowel) and ending sounds stay the same. This child is making words by finding a specific beginning letter to make each word. Other students are able to build words given orally with differing middle and ending sounds. When phonemic knowledge is combined with trick or sight word vocabulary it fosters fluency and comprehension. This same material is then used to make sentences and stories.



STEM

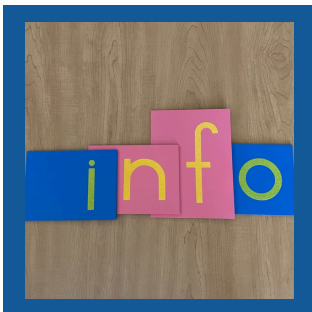
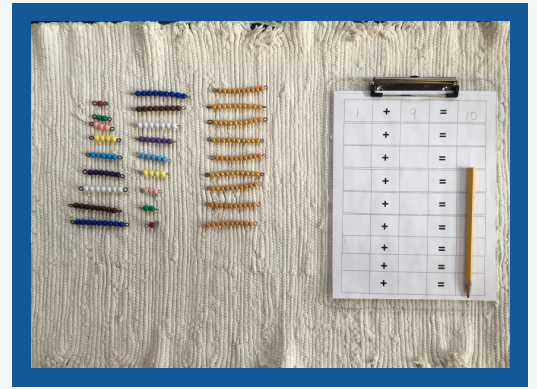
In STEM we finished a mini unit about NASA and some of their missions to Mars. An irresistible example of innovative thinking, engineering and basically all things STEM. We watched a combination of videos about the Mars rovers; Spirit & Opportunity (Oppy), Curiosity, and then Perseverance. A favorite topic was the Mars helicopter Ingenuity that accompanied Perseverance to Mars. This was a NASA experiment to see if they could get technology to fly! We were in awe just watching Ingenuity hovering near Perseverance and the thought that these Rovers and Ingenuity are being controlled remotely by the engineers back at NASA (on planet Earth) just left us shaking our heads in amazement! This class concluded with each of us making our own Ingenuity. We were disappointed to hear that Ingenuity is no longer working as a helicopter due to a crash landing. It is however being utilized as a Mars weather station. After watching the rocket launch of both Curiosity and Perseverance and their landing by parachute, we made straw rockets and a parachute in our two subsequent classes. Thankfully, the weather cooperated and our testing went off successfully. Pictured here is the Mars helicopter Ingenuity. Video links of the straw rocket and parachute "launches" can be found in the photo folder.



Math

Some of us have been introduced to the Snake Game. With this material the child starts with a colored “snake” using the colored unit beads which are strategically arranged in pairs that equal 10 and to reflect the commutative property of addition. The child starts counting and stops each time they reach ten and then exchanges the colored beads for a golden ten bar. Once the snake has turned golden, the beads are laid out in separate equations. This activity teaches basic math facts, the concept of exchanging and that $a+b=b+a$.

Some of us are also honing our skills in the area of decimal system place values and static addition (no carry-overs) math packets. The packets include equations that start with single digit numbers and progress to four digit numbers.



Reminder

Please be sure to check your child’s change of clothing bin in Kindergarten to be sure that they have a complete change of clothes.

Montessori Quote

“Imagination does not become great until human beings, given the courage and the strength, use it to create.”



Special Message from the Director of Children's House

Dear Parents,

As we gear up for Halloween, I realize the Thanksgiving holiday is just around the corner. Heading into November is the perfect time to begin conversations with your children around gratitude and appreciation. Some of us share the story of the first Thanksgiving as a family. There is so much to be thankful for beyond this, taking the lesson deeper. We have family and friends, neighbors and community members, and of course, our teachers. We can be thankful for food, clothing, water, and the Earth and sun.

A wonderful activity to work on with children at home is making a tree with leaves of fall colors. On each leaf is written something they are thankful for. Or you could make a turkey and each feather is something they are thankful for.

Below is a link to a list of books speaking to these topics with a short description of each one. Perhaps you already have some of these on your bookshelf! Reading books is a lovely segue into open conversations with children. You can start by asking "What was your favorite part of the story?" or "What did you like about this story?" You could also ask about a particular part you would like to dive into further.

However you celebrate or appreciate, I wish you a November filled with peace and joy. I am grateful for each family collaborating with us here at ASM!

With gratitude,

Michelle Toppi

<https://www.thekidlitmama.com/home/food-family-community-gratitude-10-picture-books-to-enjoy-this-november>

