

CALENDAR

- 1/2 School Resumes
- 1/3 PACE Parent Coffee Meetup and Meeting 8:30 - 8:45 a.m.
All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
ASM Spirit Day
Pizza Lunch
- 1/8 Kindergarten in House Field trip: NASA
- 1/10 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
- 1/14 Looking Ahead to Lower Elementary: Presentation 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Looking Ahead to Lower Elementary: Observation 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Kindergarten: The Leadership Year (A hands-on workshop for parents) 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- 1/17 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
- 1/20 No School: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 1/24 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch
- 1/29 Portrait of a Graduate 7:00 - 7:45 p.m.
- 1/31 All-School Meeting 8:45 a.m.
Pizza Lunch

Practical Life: Funnel Pouring

This month, the children practiced hand-eye coordination and precision by pouring colorful sand from a wide-mouth container into a narrow one using a funnel. This activity is an excellent way for children to enhance their concentration skills.



Sensorial: Sound Cylinders

The purpose of the Sound Cylinders is to help children develop their auditory sense and sound discrimination skills. Each cylinder is filled with different materials that produce sounds ranging from soft to loud. The Sound Cylinders are presented in two wooden boxes on the shelf: one with a red lid and the other with a blue lid. Each box contains six cylinders, with a matching pair in each box. The child learns to match each cylinder with its corresponding sound partner using only their auditory sense.



Cultural & Geography

Winter brings a host of holiday festivities: Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa. The children learned about all three of these holidays and did various activities related to each. We learned about the Menorah and why Hanukkah is celebrated for 8 nights. The children also learned that Kwanzaa means “first fruits”. Christmas traditions and celebrations in various cultures around the world were discussed with the children.



Science

We talked and read about the season of winter. We also began the month by saying goodbye to some of our creature friends who prepare for the winter months by hibernating. The children learned about the different animals that use these strategies to survive the dark, cold winter months.

Language: CVC Words

Once a child knows all their letter names and sounds they can start constructing three-letter CVC (Consonant-Vowel-Consonant) words using the cut out letters of the Moveable Alphabet. Here you see a child building these phonetic words using the picture cards.





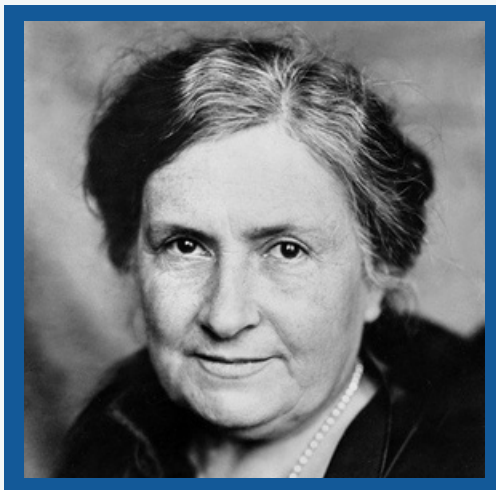
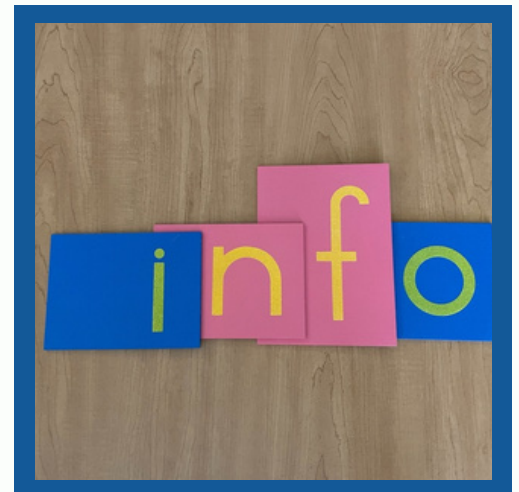
Looking Ahead...

- Adaptation
- Snowflakes
- Birds
- Polar Regions
 - Penguins

More Information...

Please send your children with appropriate winter clothing (winter jacket, snow pants, boots, water proof mittens, and hat). Children are welcome to keep a pair of snow pants on their hook. Also please make the necessary changes to your child's spare clothes box and label all their belongings.

Happy holidays, and wishing you a fantastic New Year!



“In these times, more than ever before,
our hope is that education will offer an
aid to better the condition of the world.”
~Maria Montessori

Special Message from the Director of Children's House

Dear Children's House Parents,

You may have already answered the question, 'Why Montessori?' for your family. The question now becomes 'Why stay in a Montessori school?'

The Montessori journey is a unique one in education. The aims are to help the child build social-emotional awareness and empathy, encourage them to follow their interests along their individual path of learning, empower them to become independent thinkers, and support them in becoming conscious global citizens.

Below are links to videos from our website about our school from the perspective of our parents, students, faculty, and alumni. Enjoy! Thank you for choosing ASM for your Montessori journey!

[Children's House](#)
[Lower Elementary](#)
[Upper Elementary](#)
[Middle School](#)

To learn more about the next program levels at ASM, we invite you to attend our upcoming events.

On Tuesday, January 14, 2025, from 5:00-6:00 p.m., we will have our preview of the Kindergarten program called "Kindergarten: The Leadership Year (A Hand-On Workshop)" Come hear about what makes the Kindergarten year at ASM unique and try some of the activities for yourself! Following this workshop, there will be classroom observation slots available to see our current Kindergarteners in action on Wednesday, January 15, 2025. *Look for the sign-ups and RSVP in the January 2 TIP!

Also on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, we will have a Looking Ahead to Lower Elementary presentation at 8:30 a.m. followed by observations in the Lower Elementary classrooms at 9:30 a.m.

On Thursday, January 16, 2025, we have our Looking Ahead to Upper Elementary presentation at 8:30 a.m. followed by observations in the Upper Elementary classroom at 9:30 a.m.

On Wednesday, January 8, 2025, we will have our Looking Ahead to Middle School presentation at 8:30 a.m.

Happy New Year!

Michelle

Upcoming In-House Field Trips and Events:

January 7- Children's House Visit from the Andover Police Department. More information will be sent through email ahead of the event.

January 8 - K In-House Field Trip- NASA - Learn about working and living in space. This is a virtual event that will take place in the Kindergarten classroom.

January 9 - Virtual In-House field trip with author Peter H. Reynolds
Peter H. Reynolds is a children's book author famous for writing the "Creatrilogy" *The Dot, Ish, and Sky Color*. Peter has also written and illustrated many books encouraging children's confidence, creativity, compassion, interests, independence, and joy. We are very excited to have Peter join us for a book reading, a draw along, and take some questions from our students. If you want to read more, there is a link to his website below.
<https://www.peterhreynolds.com/>

February 4 - Children's House Curriculum Workshop: Part 2, all about the Sensorial and Math areas of the classroom. We hope you will join us! Look for the RSVP in the TIP on January 23, 2025.

