



NOV

26

Thanksgiving Break: School Closed Nov. 26-28

DEC

2

Giving Tuesday

DEC

4

Portrait Re-Takes and Sibling Portrait Day

DEC

5

ASM Spirit Day!
All-School Meeting 8:45-9 a.m.
Field Trip: Tsongas Industrial History Center

DEC

10

Board of Directors' Open House 6:30-8:00 p.m.

DEC

12

Elementary and Middle School Winter Concert 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Pizza Lunch

DEC

16

Looking Ahead to Middle School 8:30-9:30 .am.

DEC

17

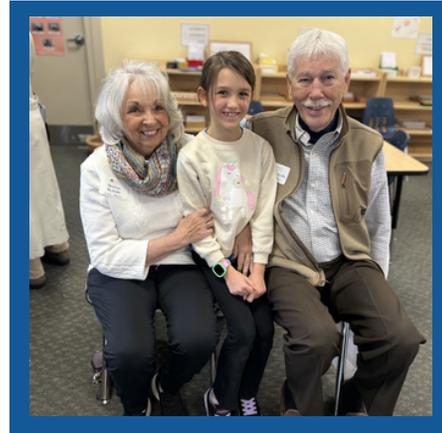
Looking Ahead to Upper Elementary 8:30-9:30 .am.

DEC

19

All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
Pizza Lunch

Our Classroom...



A heartfelt thank you to all of the families, grandparents, and special friends who joined us for Grandparent's and Special Friend's Day! It was truly wonderful to see our students proudly share the Montessori materials they've been working with and demonstrate their growing knowledge. Your presence made the day especially meaningful, and we are grateful for the support and joy you bring to our community.



Third Years began their typing lessons in October. In LE, students use Chromebooks for a dedicated half-hour typing session each week, helping them build foundational skills they will use in the upper grades. After being introduced to their Chromebooks and learning how to log in, they began lessons on the home-row keys and have been typing diligently each week since. They are enthusiastic about their progress and are off to a strong start.

Math

November is the final month in our classroom with a primary focus on number sense and operations. In December, we will begin our unit on telling time, and as the year progresses, students will move into additional units on money, fractions, measurement, and graphing. Throughout these transitions, students will continue practicing operations alongside these new areas of study, as well as their ongoing geometry work. Math remains a vibrant part of the Montessori classroom, offering a wide range of engaging materials for students to explore during Work Cycle.



Cultural

Our next biology study focuses on the flowering plant. Using a marigold as our model, students discovered that they already have a strong foundation of knowledge about these plants from their time outdoors and their observations in nature. As with all of our biology studies, the class collaborated to create a wall chart illustrating the many parts of a flowering plant and their corresponding names.



Language

At our Parent–Teacher Conferences, we were glad to share the writing work students have been developing this year, including their Thankful Writing pieces. This time of year offers a meaningful opportunity to reflect on gratitude, and students did a wonderful job expressing appreciation for both the big and small things in their lives.

This week, students spent time catching up on writing assignments and adding new entries to their journals. Journal writing is available whenever students complete their required work, and they may choose to write about events in their lives or respond to a prompt from the monthly prompt calendar displayed in our classroom. It is always a joy to read their thoughtful and creative entries.



STEM



In STEM, students have begun our new unit on engineering with a focus on harnessing the power of wind. The unit opened with the storybook *Leif Catches the Wind*, which follows a boy in Denmark who exchanges emails with a friend about the weather in their two cities and how wind power can help their pet fish. This story introduces students to the basic principles behind wind turbines and windmills. As we concentrate on the Ask stage of the Engineering Design Process, students are preparing to design their own sails, which they will later use to construct a working model windmill.

Practical Life

Our Lower Elementary students played a special role in preparing for our 50th anniversary celebration by creating the lovely centerpieces that adorned the event. In true Montessori fashion, the work of flower arranging offers far more than aesthetic beauty—it provides a rich, hands-on learning experience. As students selected, trimmed, and thoughtfully arranged each stem, they practiced concentration, fine-motor coordination, and care for their environment. They explored balance, color, and design while developing a sense of responsibility and pride in contributing to our community's celebration. Most importantly, they experienced the joy that comes from purposeful work and creating something to be shared with others. We are so proud of their efforts and grateful for the beauty they brought to this special milestone.



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

Looking Ahead...

Next week, students will be on Thanksgiving Break from November 26–28. Due to the short week, no homework will be assigned. We hope everyone enjoys a restful holiday and a wonderful time with family and friends.

Homework will resume on Friday, December 5. If you have any questions regarding homework, please feel free to reach out to us.



Integrated Arts Update

Art

After studying historic examples of Greek temples, students designed and constructed their own multimedia temple projects. They incorporated historically accurate architectural features and dedicated their temples to a Greek god of their choice. Each student added the deity's symbol to the pediment, created a figurine representing the god, and enriched the overall presentation with colored pencil details and three-dimensional elements.



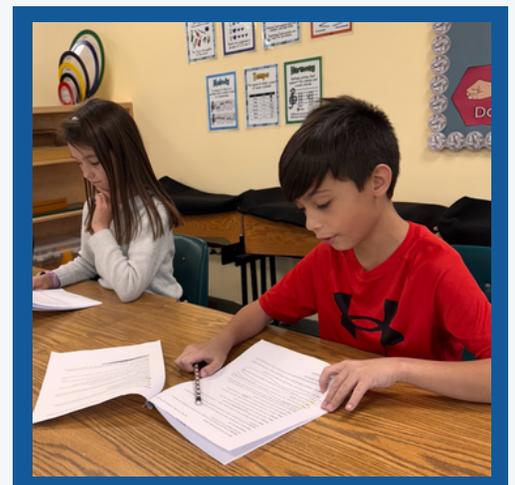
Music

Lower Elementary students have had a productive November in music class as they prepared for multiple performances, including Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day and the upcoming Winter Concert. They learned several heartfelt songs for Grandparents' and Special Friends' Day, such as "You've Got a Friend in Me" and "I Just Called to Say I Love You," and have begun practicing seasonal pieces for the Winter Concert, which is already shaping up to be an exciting event. In addition, students have continued strengthening their recorder skills while preparing the piece "Sparkling Snowflakes," with a focus on reading music notation, practicing articulation, and developing a strong sense of rhythm and rests.



Theater

This November in Theater, Lower Elementary students continued their script read-throughs, applying feedback to strengthen their performances. They began exploring basic blocking, learning simple choreography for sections of the play, and imagining how their characters might move on stage. Students also participated in several workshop games, including "Dog and Bone" and "Why Are You Late," which provided opportunities to practice improvisation, build creativity, and sharpen their observation skills.



Integrated Arts Update

Spanish

During November, the children explored farm animals in depth. They practiced identifying each animal and learned how to use singular and plural forms correctly. By the end of the month, they were able to create their own sentences about farm animals, applying colors and using the verbs “es” and “son” appropriately.

We also worked on forming plurals and building more structured sentences. The children were exposed to simple questions like “¿De qué color es la vaca?” and were able to answer using full sentences, such as “La vaca es de color blanco y negro.” They showed great progress and confidence using new vocabulary and grammar in a meaningful way.



Physical Education

Lower Elementary students are growing stronger each day, especially in their running, planks, and pushups. They have also enjoyed playing soccer, pillow polo, and kickball. Open gym continues to be a favorite—students love having the freedom to play sports, dance, jump rope, or practice pull-ups. Throughout every activity, we reinforce the importance of good sportsmanship, and students are working on demonstrating kindness, fairness, and respect during gameplay. No matter the activity, our goal remains the same: keep their bodies moving and have fun!



Looking Ahead...

We are thrilled to announce several exciting opportunities to witness the culmination of the hard work put in by our Integrated Arts faculty as they support students in preparing for key events at ASM. Below are the important dates for these events. Additional logistics will be provided as we approach each date.

- December 12.....Elementary and Middle School Winter Concert
- May 6.....Art Show Opening
- May 21.....Lower Elementary Theater Performance
- June 1.....Field Day

