Andover SCHOOL OF MONTESSORI | Together, we grow

CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER

Children's House Kindergarten | September 2026 Issue 1

IMPORTANT DATES

10/2	First Friday Coffee 8:15-8:35 a.m. All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
10/6	Head of School Coffee 8:30-9:30 a.m.
10/6	Children's House Curriculum Overview 5:00-7:00 p.m. Childcare with pizza available
10/8	Portrait Day Pizza Lunch
10/9	School Closed: Professional Development Day (Childcare Fun Day available)
10/12	School Closed: Indigenous Peoples' Day
10/16	All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
10/21	Screenagers: Generation AI showing 6:30-7:30 p.m.
10/23	All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
10/25	Open House for Prospective Families 11:00 a.m.-1:00p.m.
10/30	All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
10/30	Halloween Fair 3:30-5:00 p.m. (No Enrichment)
11/6	First Friday Coffee 8:15-8:35 a.m. All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
11/6	Children's House Open Classrooms 9:15-10:00 a.m. or 2:15-3:00 p.m.

Click here to see the full ASM calendar!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOM



Morning Kindergarten



Afternoon Kindergarten

Kindergarten Lunch

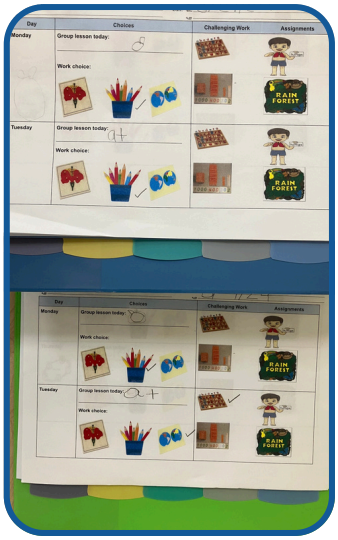
It is so exciting to be able to have lunch in the lunchroom! Adding to our excitement, Kindergarteners from both the morning and afternoon sessions have lunch together. For those of us who have a friend in the opposite session, lunchtime is an opportunity to reconnect and enjoy each other's company. We are all trying to find the balance between chatting and eating while getting to know one another!





Kindergarten Responsibilities

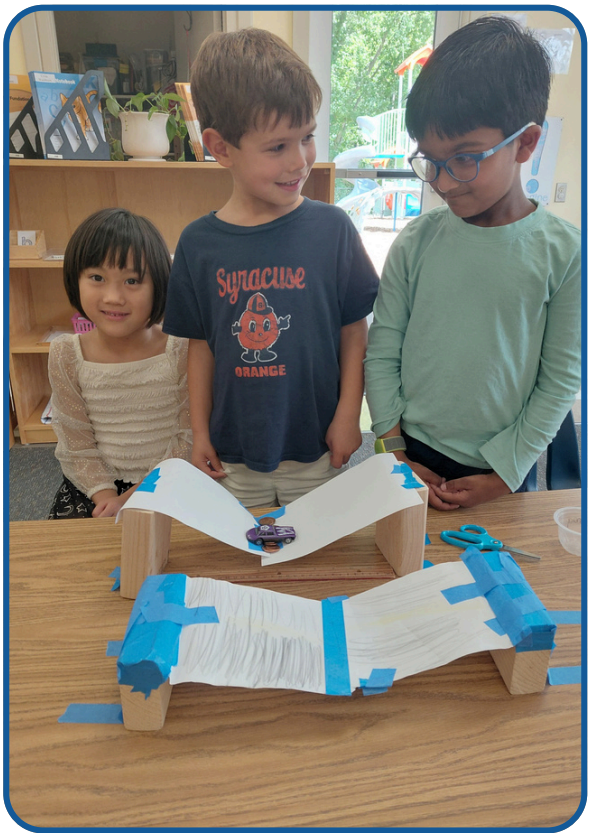
In addition to our classroom jobs, we are developing our understanding of our Kindergarten Work Plan. At the beginning of the week, we write our first name and the abbreviated date. Then, each day, we write the name of the activity/lesson that was presented during circle time in the designated area. Initially, some of us drew the work/activity rather than writing the name of it. As our understanding deepens, we will also use our work plan to check off either the work choices we made during the work cycle or the work choices we plan to make during the work cycle. We do this by checking off the picture representing the curriculum area associated with that work choice. Either way, this is hard work. We are getting the hang of it and applying our mantra “we do not give up”. It seems hard to believe that we have already completed five work plans!





STEM Class

Our first engineering challenge was the Paper Bridge Challenge. The challenge was to construct a bridge with a span of 12 inches between two abutments. Then, with a partner, using the materials provided, we placed our abutments (wooden blocks) 12 inches apart at the ends of our bridge. Next, we measured the paper pieces to create the 12-inch span between the blocks or abutments and attached them. Once each student pair had their bridge constructed, they used pennies as weights to test the strength of their bridge. Everyone wanted to see how many pennies their bridge could hold before collapsing. This was very exciting, and each pair experienced success! Persistence was the word of the day! Hard tasks can make you want to give up, but if you stay with a hard task, you might make something that is great!





In-House Field Trip

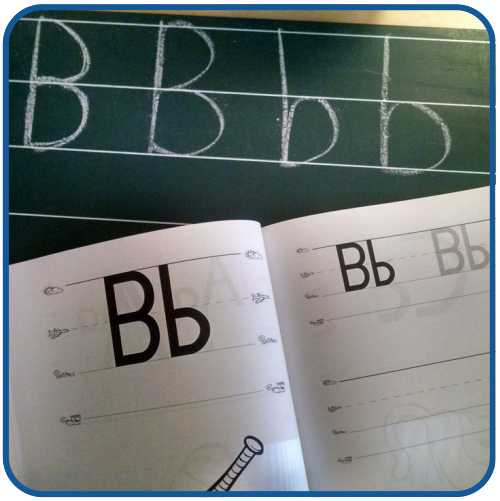
Our first event, Coastal Habitats, formerly known as "Tide Pools to Go", is designed to teach children about marine life in tide pools. The program uses hands-on activities and live animals in touch tanks to teach about how these animals survive in their natural environments.



CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS

Fundations Writing

Through the Wilson Fundations writing program, we are learning to write uppercase and lowercase letters at the same time. Starting with the group of skyline letters, we practice on the chalkboards first, then write the letters in our Fundations notebook using a pencil. What makes a letter a skyline letter? It starts at the skyline! We are curious about which letters will bring us to the worm line. For our Fundations lessons, Kindergarteners use the library!



Our Classroom Community

After a discussion about peaceful communities and the qualities within them, we talked about a unique quality that each one of us brings to our classroom community. Some examples are confidence, patience, happiness, helpfulness, respect, and honesty. We saw a demonstration of how easy it is to break one stick and how hard, if not impossible, it is to break a bundle of them. The idea that this activity is meant to illustrate is that we are stronger together. Then, everyone was given a stick and asked to think about what special quality they will bring to the Kindergarten classroom this year. When ready, each of us shared our unique quality and put our stick in the center of the rug. Once everyone had a turn, the sticks were tied into a bundle. The bundle of sticks stays on the shelf as a reminder of how strong we are together. As a follow-up activity, we glued our printed quality onto a mini hand and made the hands into a garland. This too will remind us of what we said we will represent in our classroom community this year.



Reminders

- Please be sure to check your child's Kindergarten change of clothing bin to be sure that there is a complete change of clothes.
- Kindergarteners need sneakers for PE. Both sessions have PE class on Mondays.

Montessori Quote

"The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child's own natural desire to learn."
~Maria Montessori

INTEGRATED ARTS



Art

The Kindergarten students are working together to establish an art class environment where creativity, experimentation, and encouragement can flourish. We read A Beautiful Oops! by Barney Saltzberg, which encourages one to embrace mistakes and see them as opportunities for creativity. In the spirit of the book, students transformed simple ink splatters into imaginative pictures. We also read The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds, a story that inspires students to take creative risks, believe in their abilities, and encourage one another. They each made their own “dots” that contributed to a group display in the hall.

Music

Kindergarten kicked off the school year with fun songs and movement-based activities while learning classroom and instrument expectations. Students learned and sang the ASM school song, as well as other fun songs like “Blowing in the Wind” and “Hickety Pickety Bumblebee.” Additionally, students engaged with music using shakers, rhythm sticks, and scarves, practicing how to handle each properly. Students were introduced to quarter notes and eighth notes (Ta and TiTi), beginning their journey in reading music notation. They practiced reading, saying and playing simple rhythms.





Spanish

Kindergarten students initiated the Spanish class with a warm welcoming song called ‘Hola, Hola, ¿cómo estas?’ Introducing everybody and learned how to greet. They incorporated the Spanish lyrics with the movements of the body and they enjoyed starting with the sounds of the Spanish Alphabet.

Physical Education

Kindergarten PE is off to a great start! We have had lots of fun moving with animal walks, learning the Chicken Dance, and practicing jumping skills. We also reviewed our class expectations and then jumped right into the fun! It has been a great start to the year, and we look forward to continuing to build their skills while having lots of fun together.



Coming Up...

Children's House Curriculum Overview

Tuesday, October 6
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

ASM's Curriculum Overviews offer a special opportunity to experience the Montessori curriculum and philosophy firsthand. These events offer a glimpse into your child's daily learning, highlighting how carefully prepared classroom environments and hands-on materials nurture independence, critical thinking, and creativity. Whether your child is new to a program level or continuing, there is always something new to discover!

Childcare and pizza available: $10 per family

RSVP





