Andover SCHOOL OF MONTESSORI | Together, we grow

CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER

Upper Elementary | October 9, 2026
Issue 2

IMPORTANT DATES

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. (Adults only)
10/23	All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
10/23	Lower Elementary United Nations Day Luncheon 12:00-1:00 p.m.
10/25	Open House for Prospective Families 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.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.
11/11	School Closed: Veterans Day
11/13	All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
11/16	School Closed: Parent Teacher Conferences (Childcare Fun Day available)
11/17	School In Session: Parent Teacher Conferences 3:30 - 5:30 (conference care available)
11/17	Grandparents and Special Friends Day

Click here to see the full ASM calendar!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOM



We have several exciting things happening in the UE classroom! Students are busy preparing for United Nations Day on Friday, October 23. Students are researching a country and will prepare a presentation to share on UN Day. **We also ask that UE families sign up to bring in a food item representing your child's assigned country.**

Here is a link to the sign-up sheet.

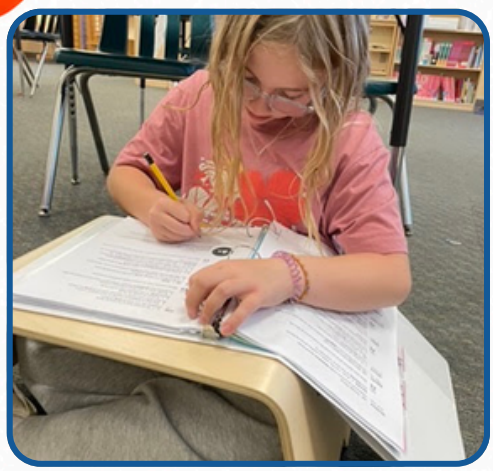
Please contact Ms. Franklin or Dr. Blanchard if you have further questions or have issues accessing the sign-up sheet.

LEARNING IN OUR CLASSROOM



Math

In math, students are finishing their work with Table C, where they find all the factor pairs for numbers 1 through 100, and building their understanding of multiplication and division patterns. They are moving on to new Montessori materials, like the pegboard, to explore multiples and factors in a hands-on way.



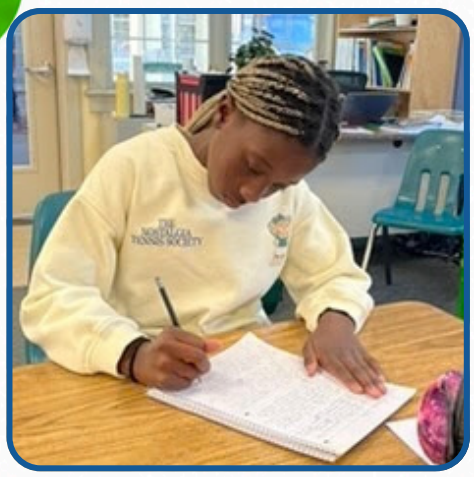
Language

In literature circle, students read *The Trojan Horse* and practiced how to make connections between the text and experiences or events outside the text. Students also read *Māui and the Sun* and practiced identifying character traits and using evidence from the story to support their thinking.



Cultural

Students are beginning their country research in preparation for UN Day on October 23. They are also exploring the question, "what makes a country a country?" and learning about the characteristics that make countries unique and the ways they are connected to one another around the world.



Science

In science, students are beginning a planet research as they explore the planets of our solar system. They are also learning about the relationship between the Sun and Earth, including how the Sun's light and energy affect our planet.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS

STEM



During the past two weeks, students reviewed the types of energy we previously discussed before completing an activity to find out 'how much energy do we consume?' Students worked in their groups to analyze the amount of energy consumed by different electical devices and modeled it by creating a bar graph.

Practical Life



In Practical Life, students have begun preparing group snack together for the classroom. This gives them the opportunity to practice independence, cooperation, food preparation, and care for others in a meaningful way. Students are also taking responsibility for caring for our classroom plants and making sure they have the water and attention they need to thrive. They continue to practice caring for their shared environment by organizing materials, keeping their work spaces orderly, and sorting through their cubbies and unfinished work folders each week. Completed work will be sent home in students' unfinished work folders.

Looking Ahead



Students have started learning about the solar system and the relationship between the Sun and Earth. Students have also started researching the planets. Students chose between making a booklet overview of all eight planets or doing more in depth research on one planet. Students will continue to collect information before presenting their research to the class.

LEARNING IN OUR CLASSROOM



Land Study

New this year, our Upper Elementary students are participating in Land Study, an extension of the hands-on, outdoor learning that is an important part of our Montessori curriculum. The program also builds a natural connection to the Land Study work our students continue in Middle School. Through Land Study, students spend meaningful time outdoors learning about agriculture and caring for the land on a small scale. So far, students have helped build raised garden beds, prepared the beds for planting, and learned how to mix soil with the appropriate amount of compost. Through this work, students are developing an understanding of where food comes from, how healthy soil is created, and the care and responsibility involved in growing plants.

Social Emotional Learning & Executive Functioning

In EF/SEL, we've been focusing on inclusivity—what it means to make others feel welcomed, valued, and like they belong. Students have been thinking about the ways their words, actions, and choices can help create a community where everyone feels seen and included.

We're proud to see this work come to life throughout ASM! Inclusivity can look like inviting someone to join a game, making space for a new idea, noticing when someone may be feeling left out, using kind and respectful language, celebrating our differences, and remembering that everyone has something valuable to contribute. Our students have shown a genuine dedication to putting these ideas into practice, often reminding one another that inclusion is something we all have a role in creating.



Seeking Support



Our **Open House for Prospective Families** will be held on Sunday, October 25, from 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to explore ASM, learn about our many different leveled programs, and discover what makes our Montessori community so special.

Please help us spread the word to your friends and family! We would love to welcome new families to campus and give them the opportunity to learn more about all that ASM has to offer.

We are excited to celebrate United Nations Day on Friday, October 23! Students will celebrate cultures from around the world through their research, food, and family traditions. Students are also encouraged to wear traditional clothing that represents their family's heritage.

Families can contribute a cultural dish to our potluck luncheon. Please use the links below to sign up.

Potluck Sign-Up