Andover SCHOOL OF MONTESSORI | Together, we grow

CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER

Children's House Kindergarten | October 2026 Issue 2

IMPORTANT DATES

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.
11/11	School Closed: Veterans Day
11/13	All-School Meeting 8:45-9:00 a.m.
11/16-17	School Closed: Parent Teacher Conferences (Childcare Fun Day available)
11/20	Grandparents and Special Friends Day
11/24	Pizza Lunch
11/25-27	School Closed: Thanksgiving Break
12/1	Giving Tuesday
12/8	Kindergarten: The Leadership Year Presentation 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. (childcare available)
12/8	Kindergarten Classroom Observations 9:00-10:00 a.m. (for rising Kindergarten families)
12/11	Children's House Winter Concert 9:00-9:30 a.m.

Click here to see the full ASM calendar!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOM



Morning Kindergarten

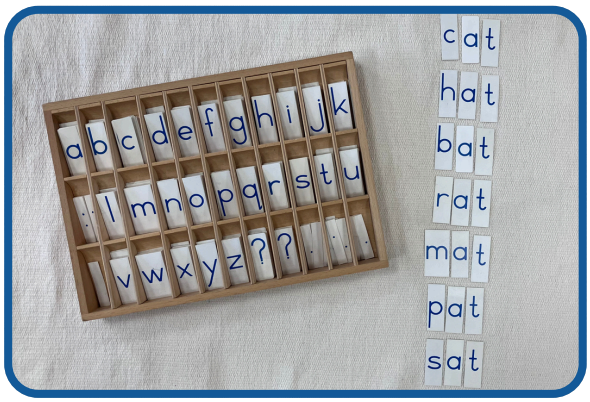


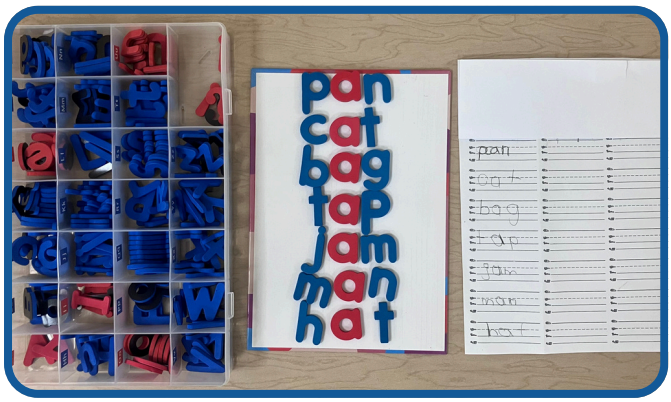
Afternoon Kindergarten

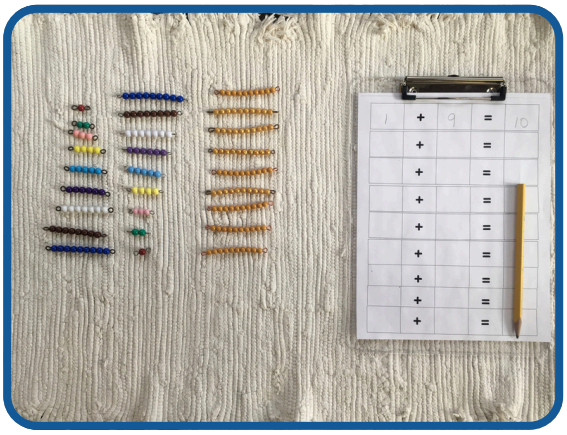
LEARNING IN OUR CLASSROOM

Language

Phonological awareness is a child's ability to break spoken words into individual sounds and understand that these sounds correspond to written letters. The Movable Alphabet and letter boxes are used frequently for developing or furthering this understanding. Some students are working with short vowel word families (rhyming) and others with CVC words (different beginning & ending sounds). The picture below on the left shows a word family with the middle (vowel) and ending sounds staying the same. This child is making words by finding a specific letter (after being given the sound orally) to place at the beginning of the word to complete it. Other students are building (CVC) words (given orally) with the same vowel (middle) and different beginning 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.









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 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.

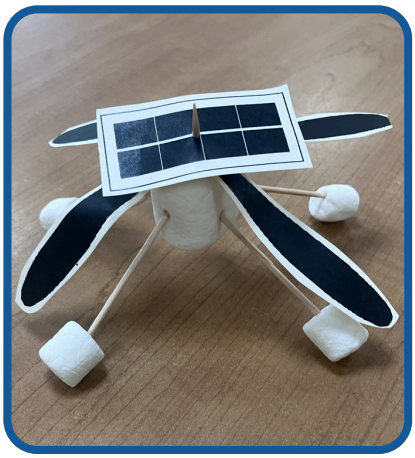
This activity teaches simple addition facts, the concept of exchanging, and that a+b=b+a. Some of us are also honing our skills in the area of decimal system place values and static addition (no carry-overs) math packets. The packets include equations that start with single-digit numbers and progress to four-digit numbers.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS

STEM

In STEM we finished a mini unit about NASA and some of their missions to Mars. An irresistible example of innovative thinking, engineering, technology, and basically all things STEM. Throughout the unit, we watched a combination of videos about the Mars rovers: Spirit & Opportunity (Oppy), Curiosity, and Perseverance. A favorite topic was the Mars helicopter, Ingenuity, which accompanied Perseverance to Mars. This was a NASA experiment to see if they could get technology to fly on the red planet! We were in awe just watching Ingenuity hovering near Perseverance and the thought that these Rovers and Ingenuity are being controlled by the engineers back at NASA (on planet Earth) this thought just left us totally amazed! The class featuring Ingenuity 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 hard landing. It is, however, being utilized for data collection and as a Mars weather station. After watching the rocket launch of both Curiosity and Perseverance, we made straw rockets. In the next class, we watched Perseverance's final descent and safe landing on Mars via parachute. We had a lot of fun making our own parachutes. Like NASA, we were depending on good weather for outdoor testing. The weather cooperated for our straw rocket launch and parachute testing outdoors. Pictured here is the Mars helicopter Ingenuity. Video links of the straw rocket and parachute testing can be found in the photo folder.









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 and that they are updated for the change of season.

Montessori Qoute

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



INTEGRATED ARTS



Art

Kindergarten students explored the life and work of Vincent van Gogh while developing their tracing, cutting, and gluing skills to create still-life collages inspired by his sunflower paintings. They also experimented with cyanotype printing, arranging objects of varied shapes into compositions on light-sensitive paper and exposing them to sunlight to create prints.

Physical Education

Kindergarten has been having fun warming up by running bases! We have been practicing different ways to move, including skipping and side galloping around the bases. We have also enjoyed playing Halloween-themed games that combine movement, imagination, and plenty of fun! We are building our movement skills while staying active and having fun together.





Spanish

Kindergarten students are singing the welcome song 'Hola, hola, ¿Cómo estás? by themselves at the beginning of each class. In October, they started with the song 'Soy una serpiente' which they loved to dance to. Little by little, they were introduced to the 'Colores' where they learned the 4 basic colours: Rojo, Verde, Amarillo, and Azul. They played a game based on separating the different colors of clothes into the correct color laundry machine and played the 'Simon says' game based on the color cards they had. We began reading a book about the colors and reinforced the alphabet sounds in Spanish.

Music

Kindergarteners had an exciting October in music class, learning the beginnings of rhythmic notation. Students learned about quarter notes, eighth notes, and their respective rests, and practiced reading rhythms in standard notation using "ta" and "ti-ti" to count. They echoed rhythms by counting them aloud and clapping them, then practiced drawing the musical symbols and composing their own four-beat patterns. After selecting their favorite patterns, students practiced and presented them to the group. To close out the month, students will be playing "Five Little Pumpkins" with instruments, giving them an opportunity to practice taking turns, listening for cues, following a conductor, and recognizing musical form. This will be a fun way to wrap up the month while building on the skills they have been developing!



CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS



We have several important events coming up that you won't want to miss!
Sign up below for...

Children's House Open Classrooms

Friday, October 6

Join your child for a visit to their work cycle! The children are very excited to share a bit of their day with you.

Visits are from 9:15 - 10:00 a.m. or 2:15-3:00 p.m.

Birch
Willow
Red Maple
Dogwood
Kindergarten

Parent Teacher Conferences

November 16 & 17

The teachers are excited to sit down together to chat about what each child has been working on since the beginning of the year. Please sign up for your time slot below.

Birch
Willow
Red Maple
Dogwood
Kindergarten

***Childcare during your conference will be available**