Andover SCHOOL OF MONTESSORI | Together, we grow

CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER

Children's House Red Maple | 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



This October...

We have been watching the trees on our playground slowly become bare, and the children have been raking the fallen leaves into piles to jump into!

Our Red Maple classroom is filled with the scent of cinnamon as children work on grating cinnamon sticks in the practical life area.

The children have begun using coat hangers to hang up their coats and sweaters in the cubby area.

We talked about which flag the children wanted to paint for UN Day and located that country on our globe.

We focused on the continent of North America, including the animals of North America, and read about the indigenous peoples as well as the voyage of Christopher Columbus.

United Nations Day

A special thank you to Randall's mom, Karen, and Charlie's mom, Vicky, for giving a wonderful presentation on China for United Nations Day. Our class learned about the legend of Chinese New Year and why bright lights, loud noises, and wearing red are part of the traditional celebrations.

The children also learned about Giant Pandas, their bamboo diet, and how they eat up to 12 hours a day. We also learned that a newborn Panda is as small as a stick of butter!

In this photo, we can see two friends representing their cultural attire. One from India and one from China.





Van Gogh "Sunflowers" study

This month we read about artist Vincent Van Gogh and observed his work, "Sunflowers". At our easel, we painted our own sunflowers. To further our inspiration, we read "Katie and the Sunflowers" and "The Sunflower Diary," as well as other books about sunflowers.

Work on the shelf included learning about parts of a sunflower, the sunflower life cycle coloring booklets, and sunflower puzzles.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS

Exploring Pumpkins

Our class has been exploring pumpkins. We opened a pumpkin and took turns scooping out the seeds, then estimated the amount of seeds we would find, and counted the pumpkin seeds by 10's. We found 393!

In the practical life area we scrubbed pumpkins and hammered pegs into a pumpkin. In the science area work included the pumpkin life cycle 3 part cards along with a parts of a pumpkin puzzle and pumpkin Q-tip painting in the art area.





Sharing

We have begun our sharing circle this month. The children are exhibiting confidence as they talk about what they've brought in to share with their friends as well as asking very thoughtful questions.

Teachers are also sharing! In this photo, Ms. Millie brought in a giant mushroom called, "Hen of the Woods". The children took turns touching the mushroom and describing it as smelling like the earth. We learned that this mushroom was filled with good vitamins and minerals and can be very tasty to eat!

Music

This October in Children's House music, we explored musical elements including dynamics, tempo, and tonality while singing, playing, and moving to seasonal songs. We dove into minor keys, singing several songs, including "Pass the Pumpkin," "Bitty Bitty Bat," and "Down by the (Spooky) Bay," all featuring a minor tonality. Students learned musical terms for dynamics, including piano, forte, and crescendo, and practiced demonstrating these dynamics, listening for them in musical examples, and acting them out. One favorite was In the Hall of the Mountain King, which features a crescendo as the music gradually gets louder and an accelerando as it gets faster. Another favorite was "Fairies and Giants," where students explored different timbres by moving with scarves in different ways depending on the sounds they heard. Lastly, we explored oral traditions by reading the South African song story Abiyoyo. Overall, it was a fun month of musical exploration!



Spanish



Children's House starts the Spanish class with the 'Hola, hola, ¿Cómo estás?' song. They are learning how to answer the question ¿Cómo estás? and we have been listening to songs about farm animals. La Granja de Zénon where all the farm animals are mentioned and what noise they make. Having the focus on la vaca and los pollitos. Singing the song La vaca Lola and Los Pollitos Dicen, while holding a stuffed toy chick or stuffed toy cow to have their turn to talk. At the same time we danced and did the motions to the song Cabeza, Hombros, Rodillas y Pies (Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes), to start recognizing the parts of the body. They are excited to see other farm animals, sing songs about them, and dance Spanish to songs.



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**