Andover SCHOOL OF MONTESSORI | Together, we grow

CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER

Children's House Willow | 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



Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we near the end of October we are aware of the developmental changes of the children. We hear them talking more, using the words in their poem in stories that they tell, learning more sounds of the alphabet, writing with more care, helping keep order and choosing more work.

Here is a photo of a typical work day after chores.



LEARNING IN OUR CLASSROOM

Nature Walks

We enjoyed our walk last Friday to the bridge again. It is a 10 to 15 minutes walk and we are careful to listen for birds, to stay on the trail and to raise our hands to share what we see. We noticed the changes that had taken place as well as the lessened water under the bridge.

We look forward to our next nature walk to observe more changes!





Classroom Grace and Courtesy

The children are also learning about how to respect peers and the classroom environment. They are using the words “excuse me” when peers are in the way. When a peer is working on something, watching quietly so you don't disturb them, or waiting until they are ready to address you can help them concentrate.

Sometimes children see when work is not used properly and want to help. That is when children can ask to take a turn. When crumbs fall on the floor, the children know they can sweep them up although it may not be theirs. If mats are around, children know to walk around them, not to disturb the work on them, and when work is finished, children know they have to prepare it for the next person, filling a pitcher or replacing paper for painting, coloring, or tracing.

LEARNING IN OUR CLASSROOM

Sensorial

In the last newsletter, we shared some of the practical life work. Here is a glimpse of some sensorial work being explored. Lightness of touch, the use of gradation, dimension, length, width, and breadth are explored here - geometry comes first. Children learn to refine thier sense of touch (as you see in the picture below of a child matching objects with a blindfold on), sight, sound, and smell through hands-on activities in this area. This preparation of the senses supports all thier future learning.





This month we have been exploring plants, birds, water, and lastly the painted globe that illustrates our world and all the nations.It was a good foundation for United Nations Day. After celebratio and sharing our flag, we sang a verse of This Is My Song" that you might recognize.

"May truth and freedom come to every nation,
May peace abound where strife has raged so long,
That each may seek to love and build together,
A world untied, righting every wrong, A world united in its love for freedom, Proclaiming peace together in one song."

We truly enjoyed your company during Curriculum Overview Night, and if you have any follow-up questions, please consider responding to the survey or emailing us with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for all you do.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS

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**