



FALL 2017
VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1



cmh connections

UPCOMING EVENTS

October

- 21 PACT Social - Sips & Sweets
Hosted by the Walker/Medeiros Family
6:30pm
- 23 PP Parent & Child Work Day
3:00-4:00pm
- 23 & 25 JR Parent & Child Night
5:30-6:30pm
- 29 CMH Open House
2:00-4:00pm

November

- 4 CMH Habitat Help Day
- 10 No School - Veterans Days Observed
- 15 Family Astronomy Night
6:30-7:30pm
- 17 CMH Turkey Trot
- 21 PP Fall Celebration
JR Thanksgiving Feast/Family Dessert
SR Thanksgiving Feast
- 22-24 No School/Thanksgiving Break

December

- 19 Winter Concert
7:00pm
- 21 Last Day of School Before Winter Break
8:30-11:30am - JR & SR Holiday Celebration
11:30am - Dismissal All Students
11:45am-12:45pm - Staff Holiday Luncheon
12:00-2:00pm - PACT Skating Party
- 22- Jan 2 No School - Winter Break

SAVE THE DATE - MARCH 10!
CMH Spring Auction

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear CMH Families,

Children's Meeting House Montessori School is celebrating our 45th anniversary this year by doing what we do best—cultivating a culture that is rich in tradition and providing an education to children based on the principles of Maria Montessori. While traditional education continues to revise the methods, programs, laws, testing and role of the teacher year after year, Dr. Montessori nailed it over 100 years ago through thoughtful research and observation of the needs of children and how and when they learn best. We will be forever grateful to her as her methods and philosophy continue to grow and be recognized internationally.

"It is the child who makes the man, and no man exists who was not made by the child he once was."
- Maria Montessori

We are looking forward to the traditions that the season of Fall brings along with it each year: Field trips to the Farm, Turkey Trot, Thanksgiving Feasts and Celebrations, Parent Teacher Conferences, the launch of our Annual Fund Campaign and our Open House to showcase our program to our future families. The beauty of the leaves changing color is a view we are fortunate to experience when we glance outside any window. The children enjoy their walks around campus and through the woods, and revel in the lessons and experiences whether they are 3 years old or 10 years old.

"When children come into contact with nature, they reveal their strength."
- Maria Montessori

Celebrate your child and this season of their life and be assured that we will be doing the same every day as well.



Casey
Casey Reed
CMH Director

NEWS FROM PP1

Our school year is off to a wonderful beginning in PP1 and we are so excited to be sharing this time with all the children! Our new children are busy learning the rules and routines of their new Montessori classroom, and the returning children are learning how to navigate their familiar classroom with new friends and new expectations. We take many weeks to orient the children to the ground rules of our Montessori environment—things that make our classroom calm and peaceful and set the stage for the independence, concentration, and growth that will happen when everyone understands and is comfortable with these ground rules.

We are also spending this time helping the children get to know each other, get to know their teachers, and get to know themselves. It is a true gift that Montessori environments are designed to allow children the freedom of choice, within the limits of the ground rules. The children are learning how to become a community of friends. These first months of school are so busy and filled with new lessons each day—learning how to choose a work, how to put it back where it belongs, how to find a friend to work with, exploring magnets, plants, and the butterfly life cycle, just to name a few!

A great way to get an inside peak of the happenings of the classroom is to observe. Schedule time in our Observation Room and you will be amazed at all you can see from just watching for a half-hour!

Kim, Michelle, and Jeanne



NEWS FROM PP2

Happy Fall! The PP2 children have had a great start to our new school year. The children have been working hard on learning the rules and routines of the classroom and are continuing to get orientated to their environment. This is a lengthy process that differs for each child. It can differ in length depending on the child's age, how many days a week they are at school, whether this is a new environment for them, or whether they are a returning child. We are patient with this process and in time the children will internalize all of the routines, rules and expectations of their environment.

In September we were able to observe the entire life cycle of a butterfly and had two monarch butterflies hatch in our classroom! We were then able to release our butterflies into the wild. Another new exciting work in our classroom is the snack table. The children are now able to choose the snack table as a work and serve themselves snack during the morning work time. This is always a very popular work! In the Art area the children have been introduced to the primary colors and will soon be introduced to the secondary colors through various color mixing activities. In Zoology the children have been introduced to the differences between living and non-living things and between plants and animals. Lastly in Geography the children have been introduced to the world using our globes and the world puzzle map. After studying the world in depth they will begin their study of North America.

We are looking forward to an exciting year of growth and development for your children. Thank you for sharing them with us each day!

Andrea, Megan and Anne



NEWS FROM PP3

Beginnings. Starting something new, perhaps a new place to work. Joining a new community. We all do it differently. Some of us quietly go about our work while observing others. What should I do? How should I do it? They learn by watching. Others jump right in. No challenge is beyond them. They learn by doing. Through the days we become more comfortable, begin to find favorite works to do, and make friends. The community becomes ours. This is the work of the new students. The returning students also face a new community with new classmates that they guide, sometimes with lessons, sometimes by being a role model. They revisit works they remember and find new works to challenge themselves. Each child learns in their own way at their own time.

PP3 is a community of 26 unique individuals—8 Kindergarteners, 7 second levels, 9 first levels, and 2 teachers. We have spent our first weeks of school settling into the routines of the day. Through observations and lessons, we teachers are getting to know the newest students and reacquainting ourselves with the returning. The greatest lessons have been about moving carefully in the classroom, working peacefully, patiently waiting for a turn to do a favored work, and developing respect for each other. We all possess the ability to be someone great and in our Montessori classroom that is the goal we foster. We are so excited to see how the future unfolds.

Birte and Theresa



NEWS FROM JUNIORS

Welcome back! We have several new faces as well as our returning students. As a classroom, we have worked together with a whole class exercise to help us establish the ever important sense of community. We have done this by greeting each other in new and different ways each day, as well as having our daily sharing circle. We have also added a question of the day in which the students can ask or answer the questions.

Our students have already been so busy this school year. The third levels have been introduced to a new work plan and are doing well with it. Each student is expected to complete one math, one language, and one cultural everyday. Students are also practicing their spelling words and their reading skills.

We have been learning about North America and have even gone on our first field trip to the Warren County Historical Society in Lebanon. We were able to learn about a lot of North American history that took place right here in Warren County, Ohio. We even learned about the Underground Railroad and the importance of what many people went through just to be free citizens.

We will continue to learn more about North America and start on a big project soon. We are really enjoying our second year at CMH!

Jessica and Nicki



NATURE NOTES

I love my job. I have worked as a Naturalist with Cincinnati Parks, Hamilton County Parks, and Clermont County Parks. So much was learned while working with other naturalists, the general public, and school groups. But I love my job at CMH because I really get to know your children, watch them develop and see their appreciation for nature grow and blossom. As 3 year olds, each discovery outdoors is special and exciting. They become comfortable with being outside, and practice observation and listening skills. They get used to the questions I ask. *What do you think will happen to these leaves on the ground? What animal made this shiny little trail on the sidewalk? What will this caterpillar become?* The answers they give aren't really important at this age, but I do enjoy their responses and how I get to see them beginning to think about the world of Nature, how it works, and their place in it.

Each year progresses into new years, and sharing Nature with Juniors and Seniors is such an amazing experience, especially those that began here as 3 years olds with me. I have seen them become comfortable, confident, questioning mini-naturalists. Their observation skills are generally better than mine, as they see and hear just about everything and show me things I could otherwise overlook. They are competent with the tools of a naturalist. They have opinions, can ask their own questions, and willingly share their special niches of interests about birding, insects, gardening, fossils, and more. Most important to me is the respect I see from these older children as they explore and find the connections between the outdoors and themselves.

Veronica
Veronica Brannen
CMH Naturalist

NEWS FROM SENIORS

We began the year with student interviews and self-portraits. The children took turns introducing their classmates to each other. The sixth levels started the year off with a bang! They presented Montessori's Great Lessons with experiments to both the Juniors and Seniors. We look forward to creek day every year. Hiking down, looking for fossils, getting wet, playing with clay, and catching critters make for a full day of fun.

Red River Gorge was the Senior overnight for this year. On the way down we stopped at the Red River Museum in Clay City, Kentucky. The museum treated us to demonstrations of making corn husk dolls, woodworking and long rifles. It was two days packed full of hikes to Natural Bridge and the caves, night hikes and Gray's Arch. Jim Harrison of the Kentucky Reptile Zoo demonstrated how he milks venomous snakes, and we got to see many venomous snakes from around the world as well as many other reptiles.

We finished up with an afternoon at the Living Archaeology Weekend. Artisans and craftsmen presented the Native American way of life during prehistoric times. The children enjoyed atlatl throwing, bow drill boring, flint napping, hide tanning, and many other crafts.

John and Dana



CMH Spiritwear



Check out CMH spiritwear coming soon on queencityspirits.com! Look for the CMH Montessori page with our new spiritwear offerings as well as our treasured tie dye t-shirts. Watch for details in e-news on a Fall spiritwear campaign detailing how you can place your order. Don't forget to wear your CMH Spiritwear every Friday to show your school pride!



MONTESSORI LEADERSHIP

CMH had the pleasure of welcoming Montessori educational consultant Jonathan Wolff earlier this month. In addition to spending two days observing and working with staff, Jonathan hosted a parent workshop on ***The Value and Values of a Montessori Education***. The evening began with a simple question: *What qualities would you look for in a CEO of a company or organization?* The audience immediately chimed in sharing characteristics they value such as: leadership, humility, team player, emotional intelligence, innovative, critical thinking skills, people skills, kindness, fairness, strong collaborator, flexible, ability to think outside the box, and many others. Jonathan circled back to share that a Montessori education emphasizes and hones these very characteristics alongside the academic curriculum. The creators of companies like Google and Amazon, both credit their Montessori foundation to the current culture and climate of their companies. They, in a way, operate like a Montessori classroom and it seems to be working out pretty well. Montessori education prepares students to be the leaders of tomorrow's workforce that has yet to be imagined.

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How Can You Support CMH?

Participation Programs are such an easy way to support CMH in your day to day life. THANK YOU!

Box Tops

Send them in to the office throughout the year. CMH receives ten cents per box top or label.

Kroger Community Rewards

If you shop at Kroger please be sure you register your Kroger Rewards card with CMH as your designated organization. Remember you need to re-register each year for this program.

Amazon Smile Program

Amazon shoppers be sure to register CMH as your organization of choice and we in turn enjoy .5% percent of your online shopping.

Marco's Pizza Day

The 3rd Tuesday of each month all orders placed for pick up or delivery at the Loveland Marco's pizza will help support CMH by sharing 20% back to CMH. All you have to do is order and mention CMH!

For Small Hands

Peruse this Montessori catalog, and CMH will earn a percentage off of our own order for materials.
School Customer Number: 103399

Scholastic Reading Club

See the current books available.
CMH Code: PCB24

For up-to-date information, follow CMH on

