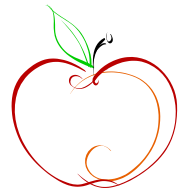


Countryside Montessori School

October Newsletter

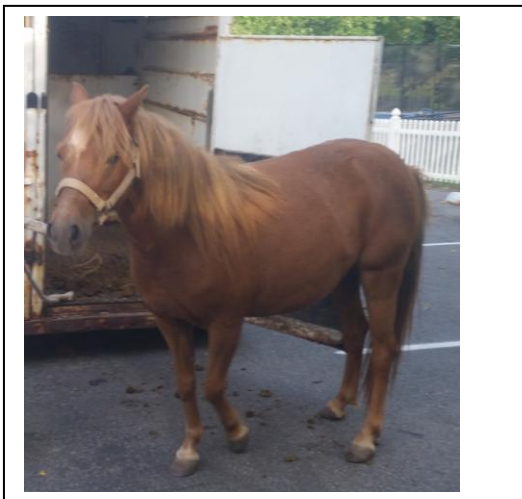


What an awesome Countryside family we have this year!! The joy I receive watching your children learn and grow each day is the best gift. Children are truly amazing and the innocence they bring to the world is so wonderful. I enjoy watching the children as they learn new things, especially when you can see them processing new information they have just learned. And, to watch them interact with their friends is even more amazing. Even the infants interact with one another...

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to attend the field trip to Eckert's Orchard. I was unable to attend but heard from the staff that everyone had a wonderful time picking apples. Apparently the pig races were fun to watch and the play area was a big hit! Some of the children also enjoyed feeding the farm animals. Our next field trip will not be until February. If you have a place in mind that would suit children between the ages of 1-5 please let us know. We need a place that is indoors and can entertain the children.

FAMILY PHOTOS: Just in case you missed this information, each year we ask the parents to bring in a family photo. Each classroom places the family photos on the wall so the children can see their family and share the photo with their friends. In our Infant Room, we place the family photo next to the child's crib so the babies can see their family photo while they fall asleep and wake up. In our other classrooms we place the photos together on the wall. If you have not brought in a picture of your family, please bring one in as soon as possible.

Butterscotch has arrived! We were able to pick her up on Saturday and she is doing great! Noelle seems to like Butterscotch and kept following her around. Once Butterscotch is comfortable in her new environment we will begin training her so she will be ready for pony rides next Spring. She is one beautiful pony!



Upcoming Events:

OCTOBER

- 7 DONUTS WITH DAD-TODDLER CLASS
- 8 DONUTS WITH DAD-PRESCHOOL CLASS
- 8 Fire Truck Visit

7:45-8:15 A.M.

7:45-8:15 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

NOVEMBER

- 26 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
- 27-28 THANKSGIVING RECESS

NO SCHOOL

NO SCHOOL

Infant Room

Classroom Phone: 314-873-2262



September has flown by and now it's time for those cool October days and nights that we have all been looking forward to. Just like last month, we have many new and exciting stories for each of our friends. This month we will be saying goodbye to our friend Michael; he is transitioning to Moms Day Out after his birthday October 10th. Good luck on your new adventure big guy! Parker has become quite brave this last month and is pulling herself to standing position. She has even let go a time or two. Sophia is on the move as well; she is trying very hard to pull up on everything and everyone. Gabriella has learned to pull herself around too. She is fun to watch get where she is going with those little arms of hers. She is getting so strong! Irene has been getting herself into crawling position and rocking away. It won't be long and she will be off and moving. Brooke has learned to sit up supported by our boppy pillow. She smiles so big while sitting and watching all that is happening around the room. Nolan has graduated to our table food menu. He is beginning to get used to feeding himself. He is sure to let us know when he is finished with the "sweep the tray" motion all of our friends learn to do. Some days it gets a little messy during lunch. Sebastian is spending more and more time exploring during tummy time. His muscles are getting stronger and he is working hard to hold his head up and explore different toys. Jule has discovered her voice and is very quick to give a happy squeal or two throughout the day. Sometimes she is quite boisterous!

Just a reminder for parents to please look at our classroom lesson plan for upcoming activities, we are doing a lot more art, music & literature activities each month. We can provide you with recipes, book lists and song lyrics at any time.

Looking for something to do this month? Check out "Boo at the Zoo" at the St Louis Zoo. October 17, 18, 24, 25 & 30 from 530-830pm. For more info go to www.stlzoo.org. I have attended for the past several years and it is fun for the whole family, including infants.

Enjoy this wonderful Fall weather and we will see you next month! - Ms Amanda & Ms Claire



Story time with a ladybug puppet!



Painting through a Ziploc bag allows the child to be independently creative and not get messy!



Outdoor Fun!

Mom's Day Out Program/One Year Old's

Classroom Phone: 314-704-5255

What's Happening in Mom's Day Out?

The children in Mom's Day Out really seem to love music time. We have made an interactive music board that displays all of the songs that we sing. Each song title, along with a picture that correlates, is on a note card and attached with Velcro to the board. The children each get a turn to come up and choose a song for us to sing. They are beginning to recognize the picture card for their favorite songs and will look for them when it is their turn. We would love to know your child's favorite songs to sing at home so that we can add them to our collection of favorites.

The songs we have on the board are:

I'm A Little Teapot
Row, Row, Row Your Boat
If You're Happy and You Know It
Itsy Bitsy Spider
Jump Up And Down
Old McDonald
Open, Shut Them
Five Little Ducks
Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star
The Wheels on the Bus
Ten Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed
ABC's
Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes
Five Little Monkeys Swinging in the Tree



Music Time with our new Music Board

Our friends are growing and learning new things every day. We are excited to share some of them with you. Akshay has made great strides with his communication skills by using some simple signs and is beginning to understand that language is made up of sounds. Anderson is learning how to carry his Montessori work to and from the table independently. Cecilia is speaking in sentences and tells us how excited she is to move over to the Toddler class. Eli just joined our class a few weeks ago and he is adjusting to our schedule and routine. Eston has been talking more each day and loves blowing kisses to everyone when he heads home. Ethan loves playing outside and is working on using his words when he is ready to swing. Henry loves the youngest kiddos in our class and they look up to him and follow his example. Michael will be joining our class soon from the infant room. We can't wait to get to work with him. Molly is making animal sounds and learning to say her name. Navya will be joining our class this month. We can't wait to meet her and introduce her to the class. Ousuke is always smiling and singing to himself. We will miss that when he transitions next door. Preston has said goodbye to his bottle and is drinking milk from his sippy cup like a pro. Quinn recently started walking and even tried to run across the room this week. Rush enjoys our small group time, especially the Montessori room. We know he will love work time when he moves to the Toddler room.

Toddler Program

Classroom Phone: 314-704-3419

This year is off to a great start in our 2's and 3's toddler room! We are so excited that it is a new month and even more excited to have some new friends coming to join us. This month we will welcome Cecilia, Ousuke, Olivia, Rush and Eston to our class.

We are going to be working a lot with our Practical Life works this month. This area in our classroom helps your child gain control and coordination of their movement as well as helping them become more independent. They will learn how to pour, practice family style dining during snack and lunch; we will be washing a baby, and pumpkin, simple hand transfer work, and so much more! During circle time, we always present a work and show your child how to correctly complete the work. We also encourage them to do it the way that they feel most comfortable. Maria Montessori always said, "Teach teaching, not correcting." We want your child to become independent and be comfortable to ask for help when needed.

Our math and science works are also fun! In the science center, your child will be exploring different bugs, looking through color scopes, be able to match a mommy animal to its baby, and we will be talking about magnets. In the math center, your child has been learning to count to ten, count backwards, and also count in Spanish! We have lots of work on the Math shelf to practice our counting.

In our wet room, we will be doing water works where the kids will be able to practice pouring with colored water from different containers. We also create our art in the wet room! Your child will be exploring all different kinds of art this month. From leaf rubbings to pumpkin scrubbing, fall tree art, and open minded painting, they will have lots to take home!

Remember we have our annual Donuts with Dad scheduled for October 7th from 7:45-8:15. It is a great chance for our Dads to see their children in action in the classroom. October is Fire Prevention month! The Creve Coeur Fire Department will come with the Fire Truck and Ambulance this month; once we have a date and time we will post it on the chalk board out on the porch. The fire fighters will talk to the children about Fire Safety and will show the children all of the equipment they wear to a fire including the facemask! It is important for children to see the fire fighters dressed in their full gear so they are not scared if fire fighters ever come to their house. Everyone is welcome to join us for this visit.

Five Little Pumpkins

Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate.
The first one said, "Oh, my it's getting late."
The second one said, "There is magic in the air."
The third one said, "But we don't care."
The fourth one said, "Let's run and run and run."
The fifth one said, "I'm ready for some fun."
Ohhhhh, Ohhhhhh went the wind
And out went the lights
And the five little pumpkins rolled out of sight.



Scarecrow Song

Scarecrow, Scarecrow
Turn around
Scarecrow, Scarecrow
Touch the Ground
Scarecrow, Scarecrow
Reach up high
Scarecrow, Scarecrow
Touch the Sky
Scarecrow, Scarecrow
Bend down low
Scarecrow, Scarecrow
Touch your toes



Preschool/Kindergarten Program

Classroom Phone: 314-704-3401

The leaves will be changing colors and the temperature will drop....Fall is here!

It's all about Safety this month! This month in our preschool classroom we will be discussing safety methods. We will be sending home a "Fire Escape Route" form, for our families to fill out and practice their escape route at home. The children will return the form to school and show the class their escape route. The children will also find all of the fire alarms in their house and draw them on the paper we will provide them. The children will be learning how to recognize poisons and what we do when we see them. We will also be getting a visit from the Creve Coeur fire department. They will show the children their equipment and their fire truck!

Since the weather will be getting colder we do ask our parents to bring in jackets/sweaters and an appropriate change of clothes in case of accidents. We would like to remind everyone "Donuts with Dad" will be on Oct. 8th @ 7:45-8:15, this is a time to eat breakfast with our child here at school and meet other dads too. (PS. you do not need to stay the whole 30min. you may leave when you are done with your donuts)

In the language room we will have work that relates to our discussions on safety. We will also do activities/work on opposites, mothers and their babies, silhouette matching, recognizing fire fighters and police officers, continuing sound books and learning about magnetic and non-magnetic. In the Practical Life area we have new work such as the nesting doll, dressing frames, screwdriver activity, pricking pumpkins and sorting fall material. We will be introducing wood polishing and pumpkin scrubbing. In the sensorial room we have out our geometric shapes for building and the binomial cube that all the children will work with. In Math we are working on cards and counters with the children and 1-10 material. Every child works at their own pace and we are happy to say everyone is learning something new every day!

We will have fall colors and fall activities all around our room this month and the month of November. This month the students will get to see what's inside a pumpkin, and we will cook the seeds so the children can eat them. The children will also make pumpkin bread to eat as well! We look forward to the month ahead of us and can't wait to get started.

Autumn Leaves

Autumn leaves are falling down
Falling down, falling down
Autumn leaves are falling down, this fine morning.
Rake the leaves into a pile
Into a pile, into a pile
Rake the leaves into a pile, this fine morning.
Take the leaves and put them in a basket
Into a basket, into a basket
Take the leaves and put them in a basket,
This fine morning.
(London Bridges tone)

Five Little Pumpkins

Five little pumpkins sitting on a gate
The first one said, "oh, my it's getting late"
The second one said, "There are leaves in the air"
The third one said, "Let's run and run and run"
The fourth one said, "I'm ready for some fun!"
Then WHOOOOO went the wind
And OUT (clap) went the light
And the five little pumpkins rolled out of sight





Upcoming Events

Big Truck Day at The Magic House

October 4 – 5, 2014

10:30 am – 2:30 pm

Big trucks will be a big deal at The Magic House on Saturday, October 4 and Sunday, October 5! Visitors can register to attend the Big Truck Day celebration where they can get up close and personal with some very big trucks including a cement mixer, crane, fire truck and more! Big Truck Day includes a meal, decorating a construction hat to take home and all-day admission to The Magic House. **RESERVE YOUR SPOT ASAP!**

Cost:

\$18 per person for non-members

\$12 per person for members

Tom Huck: Bugs Exhibit

Date: Friday, October 3, 2014 until Sunday, February 1, 2015

Venue: Laumeier Sculpture Park

Local artist Tom Huck has designed three bug “springers” based on a series of his original woodcut designs inspired by the many insects inhabiting the micro-environment of Laumeier Sculpture Park. The monumental insects, to be installed in the Children’s Sculpture Garden, reflect Huck’s signature beautifully grotesque stylized illustrations in his infamous woodblocks. These interactive works also illustrate how both nature and art experienced together, with a sprinkle of mischief, can inspire creativity and amusement in both children and adults. *Bugs* will include a catalog in the form of a children’s coloring book with an essay and 15-20 one-color reproduction of the artist’s insect woodcuts.

Emerson Free Family Night at The Magic House

Date: Friday, October 17, 2014

Venue: The Magic House, St. Louis Children's Museum

This special night allows a family (no more than two adults and four of their own children) to enjoy more than 100 hands-on exhibits at The Magic House at no charge. Reservations are not required. 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.,

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Presents Legends

Date: Friday, October 17, 2014 until Sunday, October 19, 2014

Venue: Scottrade Center

Experience unimaginable family fun, as amazing performers from around the globe perform awe-inspiring feats of daring, spectacles of strength and thrills of wonder to summon the mythical and the mysterious: a Unicorn, a Pegasus and a Woolly Mammoth. The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Clown College® takes place on the arena floor one hour before show time at the All Access Pre-show – FREE to all ticket holders. This is your chance to meet the performers up close, get autographs and see an amazing elephant that paints. There is no pre-show prior to the Friday 10:30 a.m. performance. Doors open one hour prior to start of show. Performance times are 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; 11:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.