

The Spencer House Montessori News

Volume 1, Issue 5

October 2005

SCHOOL NEWS

Special Times

The month of September saw our Specials teachers start their classes again. Madame Vistelle has returned to teach French and Ms. Julie Taylor is back teaching music class. Our own Ms. Betsy of the Infant class is an art major and has begun teaching art to the VPK and K-1 students on Thursday mornings. Our Occupational Therapist, Ms. Stacey Cricchio, is working with the children to identify any developmental issues that may arise so that they can be addressed at as young of an age as possible. Finally, P.E. continues twice a week...Mr. Keven got an official coaches whistle and thinks he is pretty special officiating those action-packed soccer matches the four year olds put on!

Upcoming Events

UF's Homecoming parade is this Friday the 7th. If your child will be coming to school, please sign them up.

October 31st is the date of our 6th Annual Fall Festival! We'll have a costume parade, face painting, the Bounce House, pumpkin carving and more! Please see your child's teacher for details.

If your child will be attending our Winter Camp, please return your application soon. Space is limited!

CLASS NOTES

Infants

"Babbles from the Babies"

If you're like me you're happy to have the cooler weather right around the corner. We'll all enjoy going outside more and feeling the cool breeze and lower temperatures. Speaking of lower temperatures, I will be going on vacation to New Hampshire the week of October 10th. The foliage is supposed to be at its peak! I'm very excited!

We welcomed Kayden Zimmerman into our class this month and she's been alot of fun. She has beautiful red hair and a smile to capture your heart. Sadly, she didn't stay with us very long, she's one already, and is moving on to the Beginner's Class. I know she'll enjoy learning new things, making new friends, and playing out on the playground. We'll miss you Kayden...have fun!



It's getting very exciting in the Infant Room. Conner will be one October 4th, HAPPY BIRTHDAY! He is up and cruising around. He'll be "stepping out" real soon. He has such an infectious smile and keeps us

laughing. Emilee is standing by herself and is just about ready to take her first steps. She's always smiling and she's enjoying our new nesting cups...thanks Amanda! Molly "the feisty girl" is on the go and will catch up to Conner and Emilee if they don't watch out! She's tried her hand at coloring, too, and has some pretty pictures on the wall. Thanks again Amanda for our new rainbow crayons...we love them! Summer is starting to sit up by herself with a little help and is reaching for toys. She has a lot to say these days!! She loves to watch the big kids...I think she is taking notes! Easton is also happy to watch the kids play, and occasionally they will bring him and Summer something to hold. We encourage the children to "talk" to each other and touch each other with a soft rubbing motion.

We'd like to remind parents to make sure and read your child's Daily Sheet. We ask that on the first of the month you would bring a box of facial tissues. We thank you for your continuous support and look forward to another happy and healthy month!

Ms. Vicki and Ms. Betsy

Beginners

We are excited about Dance Time! We are shining our lights to "This Little Light of Mine" and "Kookabura" is one of our knee-bending favorites. Fingerplays at circle time capture our interest, We are working on "thumbkin", Itsy-Bitsy-Spider, and Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.

CLASS NOTES cont.

We are looking for small pinecones, about 4 inches long, for a fall project. Any help would be appreciated! We can always use plastic grocery bags if you would like to donate some. They are great for sending dirty clothes home in. Finally, please don't forget your monthly supply of snacks, wipes, paper towels, and tissues. Thank you for all you do to help us take care of your children!

Ms. Cheryl, Ms. Shara and
Ms. Lindsey

Pre-Primary

The two year olds have been working really hard on recognizing the first three letters of the alphabet and one, two and three. They are learning their shapes in Spanish along with the colors. They can now count to 20 in Spanish and we have started learning the names of body parts.

The three year olds have continued to work on practicing the names of the continents and their locations on the globe. We have also begun to work in journals in September. Many of the children are practicing writing their names, others have been tracing and stamping in them with the goal being that they do a fine motor coordination activity in it each week.

The children have really enjoyed relay races in P.E. and working with interesting musical instruments with Ms. Julie each Thursday in music.

Thank you all so much for your continued support and generous classroom contributions!

Ms. Rebecca & Ms. Radha

Primary

The students have been enjoying their special classes! On Monday we have French with Madame Vistelle. On Tuesday, Ms. Stacey, an occupational therapist, works with us in the afternoon. On Wednesday and Friday we have P.E. with Mr. Keven, and on Thursday we have music with Ms. Julie.

We are going to try switching Science to Tuesday morning and do a "Letter of the Week" basket on Monday morning at circle time. The VPK students can bring something in for the basket. The K-1 students are already doing a letter basket. The VPK morning circle starts at 8:35. We take roll, pick a student to lead us in counting the number of students in English, we then pick another student to lead the count in Spanish, and a third student is then picked to do the calendar. We say the months of the year, days of the week, and count the days of the month.

We'd like to thank the Thompson's for our wonderful beanbag chair. The children love to take turns relaxing and reading in a comfortable place. We'd like to thank the LeBlanc's for their many contributions to the class in all areas, the Milsap's for the posters and paper, Theresa Edwards for for several paper products, and Erin Mawby for all her contributions,

laminating efforts and thinking about us whenever she comes across a great sale. We'd also like to thank the many other parents for their generous contributions of paper products, art supplies and snacks. Everything is greatly appreciated.

Ms. Roberta, Ms. Alice,
and Ms. Carol

Afterchool Enrichment

My name is Kathleen Crawford and I am very happy to have joined the staff here at Spencer House Montessori.



We have gradually been working towards a more structured program. We now have circle time each day after coming in from the playground at about 3:45. We have been reading both storybooks and library books on nature and animal life. The children especially enjoyed our studies of giraffes and insects. We also watched some videos from the library. I am presently adding group games to circle time.

For October I have selected weekly themes which will be posted, and a daily craft time will follow our circle time. Thank you for your support!

Ms. Kathleen

Important Dates

Friday October 7	UF Homecoming/sign-up now...
Friday October 28	Parent's Nite Out
Monday October 31	Fall Festival