

The Montessori Schoolhouse

1301 E. Ft. Lowell, Tucson, AZ 85719

www.themontessorischoolhouse.com T: 520.319.8668

Dear Parents,

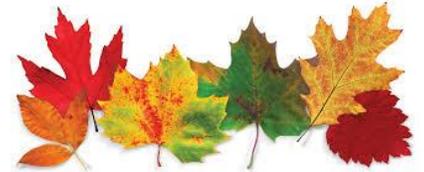
We all welcome our chilly weather and the coming of the holidays. Our classrooms are buzzing with activity and the announcement of Fall Projects. And we enjoyed visiting with all of you in Parent Conferences: our chance to focus on your child's particular achievements and talents.

LOWER ELEMENTARY

So many of you came to our **Parent Picnic** in the beautiful desert weather. We all enjoyed sandwiches and mingling. Meanwhile, our classroom has embarked on **Safari** in Kenya and Tanzania. We have presented our lustrous **Object Basket**, full of carved masks, beaded sculptures and African animals. The **Serengeti Grassland** job unites our cultural and **Science Biome** units in one material and features a watering hole, Acacia tree and grassland full of interesting mammals. We



Upcoming Events and Information



FALL PROJECT DUE DATE
All Classes, Mon., Dec. 3rd

WINTER BREAK
Fri., Dec. 21st – Fri., Jan. 4th
No School
CLASSES RESUME MON., JAN. 7th

UPPER ELEMENTARY CLASS
SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR
Sat., Jan. 12th

UPPER ELEMENTARY CLASS
CHOIR CONCERT
Fri., Jan. 25th (tentative)

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
Mon., Jan. 21st
No School

**REMEMBER YOUR ACTIVITY
FEE/TAX CREDIT
DONATION!**

will also be highlighting study of the **African Elephant** as a treasured and endangered species.

Olive's **Math** has exploded further into number comprehension with the **Rounding Hill** (if you can't get all the way up, you round down; 5 or more, you're over the hill!) and the gorgeous Montessori **Long Chains**, the chains of the numbers **cubed!** Students have also been fully exploring **multiplication** with sets and beads. . . .

We have only just begun our **Poetry** sequence with **Elements of a Poem** and look forward to lots more coming. In **Parts of Speech**, the **Preposition** currently reigns.

We have more **Biomes** to explore with **Rainforest** & **Ocean** coming soon. . . .

Hope your projects are coming to fruition! **All projects are due Monday, December 3rd.** Can't wait!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

In **Science**, the students have been studying the **Scientific Method**. They are applying the **Scientific Method** by conducting controlled experiments with lima bean plants. More recently, we have begun a **Chemistry Unit**, learning about **The Bohr Model**, The periodic **Table of Elements**, and **Classification of Matter**. Ask your student about spelling your name using chemical symbols from the **Periodic Table!**

In **Math**, all students are working with fractions. Our unique materials allow the students to manipulate fractions and solve complex problems. Our lessons run the gamut from adding and subtracting simple fractions to multiplying **Mixed Numbers**. In the coming weeks, 4ths and 5ths will be moving in to **Decimal Fractions**.

In **Choir**, the students are learning a variety of animal-themed songs. **Our concert is slated for January 25th.** Details and T-Shirt orders are coming!

All Upper El Fall Projects are due on Dec. 3. Students will present their projects in class. Additionally, students with **Science Experiments** will have the opportunity to participate in the **School Science Fair on Saturday, January 12, 2019.**

In **Geography** the students have been learning about the founding of the **United States** and the **Presidents**. In addition, they are digging into the object basket for **Colonial Times** and are learning about tools and objects important to the survival and daily lives of the people during this time. They are especially intrigued about the making of the first American flag, and the tools used to write letters, an inkwell and quill pen.

In **Language** the students have been having fun exploring **Prepositions** and learning about the importance of **Transition Words** in our writing. After weeks of preparation, the students also wrote their own compare and contrast essays based on mythical stories or their two favorite board games. They were especially enjoying the myths of Aeneas and Osiris, in addition to the games of Chess and Monopoly.

A Few Reminders...

WATER BOTTLES:

Please do **not** send your child to school with large water bottles. Any drinks, water included, must be contained *inside* lunchboxes.

BELL RING and its MEANING

In the Montessori classroom, the bell ring is used as a way to have the student stop what they are doing, freeze in place and listen for instruction. If you, the parent, are in the classroom when the teacher rings the bell, please follow the students' lead.

DROP-OFF and PICK-UP ETIQUETTE

With the additional students we have this year we also have additional parents picking up and dropping off. This has made the Turn-a-Round busier than in previous years. **Please see the attached sheet and follow the guidelines as requested. The safety of our community depends on your cooperation.**

AFTERSCHOOL NEEDS YOUR COOPERATION

If your child has forgotten something and you find a need to return to the school, after you have left the building, you must walk your child back in and stay with them. **No child may enter or re-enter the school, unattended, after 3:00PM.**

STATE LETTER GRADE AWARDED **A+**

Once again, we were awarded an "A" for excellence. The Montessori Schoolhouse is in the top 1% of all charter schools in the state and the top 3% of all public schools statewide. We thank all the teachers, parents and students for their dedication and hard work. *CONGRATULATIONS!*

Thank You's~

So many of you help us all the time to keep our physical plant in repair, our computers unfrozen and our furniture solid. Here are our most recent Thank You's:



©StockPhoto / turkkal

- To **John Calor** for not only building us classroom shelves but also adding wheels and balance to our new Bead Cabinets.
- To **Alan Reilley** for all the miscellaneous jobs that keep our school running and in good repair.
- To **Firat Sever** for working with the City of Tucson to finally have school crossing signs put up on Ft Lowell and Mountain Ave.
- To **Luis Villa** who keeps our technology up to date and running smoothly.
- To **Shawn Nace** who graciously donated a secure entry, key pad for the back gate at 6th Ave.
- And lastly to **Anthony Jordan** who took such great care of us and all our physical plant needs in the past two years.

We are thankful for the beautiful, bright children who enrich our lives every day, and for our creative, tireless staff who never stop caring about education.



Happy Thanksgiving, Everyone! See you Monday, November 26th,

Regine, Hannah, Olive, Perla, Paige, Maddie, Emily, John, Gabriella, Samantha, Rosemary, Nancy & Kristine