



November 2018 Newsletter

From the Director

Dear Parents,

November is a time to reflect on “being thankful”. It barely seems possible that Thanksgiving will be here in just a few short weeks. Each day as I arrive at Hope, I am struck by both the children and adults I share my days with. I feel blessed to work in a loving, peaceful, and yet, exciting school. I feel grateful for such a caring community; the opportunity to guide and teach your children is a joy and blessing. How very grateful our staff is for all your generosity and kindness. Thank you for friendship and confidence and sharing your family with us.

On behalf of the Hope staff, I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. It is a special time for families to spend time together, eat delicious food, and give thanks for the countless blessings in our lives.

Theresa

Mark your
calendars:



November 5-16
Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 7

Diwali Celebration

November 22 & 23

School Closed

Thanksgiving Holiday

November 30

Parent Breakfast

December 6

Hanukkah Celebration

December 18

Christmas Celebration

December 24-31

Winter Holiday

No Montessori Classes

Childcare will be provided

December 25

School Closed

Christmas Day Observed

January 1

School Closed

New Year's Day Observed



**Diwali Celebration, Wednesday,
November 7, 9:30-10:30 a.m.**

Wednesday morning, November 7, is our Diwali Celebration, recognizing the ancient Hindu festival of India. The “Festival of Lights” spiritually signifies the victory of light over darkness. Our teachers, Padma Gumidelli and Debjani Das, are helping to organize the celebration this year.

We are looking for volunteers to help with food preparation, decorating and any music talent. The sign-up sheet is on the lobby desk, or you can stop by the office. If you would like to send your child in his/her special attire, please send a change of clothes for the remainder of the day. We hope you can join us for this special celebration.

FROM THE OFFICE.....

Daylight Savings Time, November 4. Just a reminder...with the time change, depending on when you drop off and pick up, it may still be dark outside. Please take extra care on the parking lot. Remember to drive slowly and mindfully and do not use your cell phone while driving in the parking lot. Thank you!

Fall Menus The new fall menu has been introduced. If you would like a copy, please stop by the office.

Parent/Teacher Conferences, November 5-16

Hopefully, you have scheduled your parent conference with your classroom teacher. The teachers have much to share and are also always eager to hear what you have to say. We strongly encourage both parents to attend, if possible. If, by chance, you need to reschedule your conference, we will be able to do so after all the teachers finish their conferences.



Circle of Concern, Thanksgiving Basket Donations

In November, we will be collecting canned goods and items to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for less fortunate families. The items are donated to the Circle of Concern, a food pantry located in West St. Louis County. The Circle of Concern serves families on a fixed income and/or families who have fallen on hard times. There are sheets in the lobby if you would like to sign-up to contribute to our collection. In addition to showing concern for others, this is also a wonderful way to introduce your child to the joy that comes from sharing with others. It is always touching to see children and parents carrying in their donations. The Circle sends a volunteer to collect our items, and our Kindergarteners, using every muscle in their bodies, load the boxes into the volunteer's car/van. They are always very appreciative of the generous donations from Hope. Donated items need to be here by 8:30 a.m. on Friday, November 16. Thank you in

advance for your generosity in helping those in need.

Parent Breakfast

November 30, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Our next parent breakfast is scheduled for Thursday, November 30, with Mary Meadows, New Head of School at Andrews Academy, and Sandy Weinmann, Director of Curriculum. They will present "Guidelines for Choosing an Elementary School". If you are interested in joining us for a delicious breakfast and an interesting discussion, please register at the lobby desk.



MANY THANKS ...

To all the parents and children who helped at the family work day. Many projects were completed, and I am grateful for the hard work and community effort in helping make our environment so beautiful.

To all the children, teachers, and staff that created a beautiful and welcoming environment for our visitors that joined us at our first Hope Montessori Educational Institute - Midwest Conference. Some of the feedback shared was that the children were very hard at work, they were kind to each other, they were respectful of the materials and their environment,

the teachers were fully engaged in the children and emmulated strong Montessori principles, and that our school is beautiful. I told the children and teachers that I was bursting with pride!

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