

Fall 2023 Newsletter

From the Directors

Dear Parents,

Lindsay and I have been spending time in each classroom observing your children, and we have noticed that many of the children were overjoyed to see the Montessori materials return to their shelves as the teachers prepared the classroom environments. The children are enjoying the independence of choosing work, preparing their snack, and caring for their environment. It is so exciting to see the older children become the leaders in the classroom and help to guide the youngest children. As we move from classroom to classroom, we hear so many joyous shouts of “I did it!” and see proud, satisfied smiles. The teachers are guiding the older students through complex math and language work while giving lessons to the younger children from the sensorial and practical life areas of the classroom to develop concentration and help to refine their senses. The children are exploring the outdoors as they return to the woods for weekly walks, snacks, and treasure hunts. Everywhere we look there is joy, independence, exploration, and curiosity!

We are excited about a few fall events! We hope you can join us on September 22 for our *Parent Night at Preschool*. It will be a wonderful opportunity to share conversation, good food, good wine and Montessori Principles with our Hope community.

October 4, we are thrilled to host a parent seminar with a National speaker and Montessori colleague, Luz Casquejo Johnston. Luz will introduce parents to us "What's Right with Your Child". I know you will find her topic engaging, informative and relatable.

Parents are also invited to join us on October 20 for our annual Fall Festival.

We see each of our special events as valuable and also believe they help to create the “unique” community that is **Hope**. It also means the world to your child that you are a regular part of his/her school.

Thank you for choosing to be a part of our Hope community.

Warmly,

Theresa and Lindsay

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 21

Montessori Sing for Peace Around the World

September 22

Preschool Night for Parents

September 28

School Picture Day

October 4

Parent Seminar - "What's Right with Your Child"

October 20

Hope Fall Festival

October 31

Halloween Celebration

November 2

Parent Breakfast - "Importance of Practical Life"

November 6-17

Parent Teacher Conferences

November 14

Diwali Celebration

November 23-24

Thanksgiving Holiday

SCHOOL CLOSED

Notes from the office...

Just a reminder, because the temperature seems to really fluctuate throughout the day, please be sure your child has the right clothing for the day. If your child eats breakfast with us, please be sure to leave a jacket or sweatshirt in the multipurpose room if it is chilly.



Sing for Peace

On September 21, 2023, the United Nations is hosting its annual International Day of Peace. Montessori schools from all over the globe will be joining together for a special Sing Peace Around the World Celebration. The song *Light a Candle for Peace* will begin on the shores of New Zealand and continue to travel from country to country, time zone to time zone, until it reaches the Hawaiian Islands 24 hours later. Each year there are over 65,000 children singing for peace as one of the largest UN 'Day of Peace' celebrations ever. I am thrilled to include Hope Creve Coeur in joining fellow Montessori schools from across the earth to Sing for Peace. Our scheduled time to sing will be at 10:00 a.m. We will video tape the event and provide parents with the link for viewing.

Preschool Night for Parents September 22, 2023

We are happy to invite our new and returning parents to join us for the Preschool Night for Parents on Friday, September 22. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. and we will end by 8:00 p.m. Parents will have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom, meet other families, learn a bit more about the Montessori approach to education, and listen as your child's teacher describes a typical day at Hope. We will also save time for questions and answers.

Kindergarten Parents please join Mark In Room 5 at 5:45-6:30.

Some foods seem to go naturally together.... so as a special treat for all our parents, we will be serving ***Wine and Non-alcoholic beverages, paired with Cheeses***. We hope both parents can attend, but we also completely understand if only one parent can join us. This is one of the few Hope events that is just for parents. Please put this night on your calendar and book your sitter. It is an informative and fun evening.



Hope Presents...

Dr. Luz Casquejo Johnston

"What's Right With Your Child"

An Interactive Parent Seminar

"Dr. Luz" will help parents to understand what is going on with children developmentally that may cause big feelings or acting out. She will guide parents to understand the "magic" and be aware of what is happening behind the scenes. Families will be introduced to the 3-step "What's Right with Your Child" process. There will be a quick review of 0-3 and 3-6 development and many of strategies to apply in the moment.

Dr. Luz has been in the field of education for over 20 years. She was a Montessori student, a Montessori educator, and a Montessori administrator. She currently serves on the American Montessori Society (AMS) Board of Directors and presents nationally and internationally on a variety of Montessori related topics.

October 4, 2023 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Hope Montessori Academy – Creve
Coeur, MO

(In the Multipurpose Room at the
Preschool)

Hope Fall Festival

On October 20, we will have our third annual Hope Fall Festival. By classroom, the children will visit the soccer field which will be set up with fun fall activities. There they can visit a petting zoo area, navigate a hay bale maze, receive Halloween tattoos, decorate their individual pumpkin, enjoy a fall snack, and more. This year we would like to invite parents to participate during their children's class scheduled times for events. The Fall Festival schedule will be posted outside your child's classroom and at the sign-in desk. The event will take place during the hours of 8:30-11:30. The Festival will conclude with a **pizza lunch for children and staff only** at 11:30.



Halloween Celebration, October 31st

Every fall, Mark Robinson leads us in a fun Halloween Celebration at Hope. Each class carves a pumpkin and our center hallway is transformed into a magical space. Mark sings songs with the children, and we are also treated to a special parade by the Andrews Academy children. Again, please do not send costumes. Also, we do not serve candy to the children as part of the celebration.

Parent Seminar.....

November 2nd 7:30 am - 8:30am

"The Importance of Practical Life" with Krista Casagrande

Please join us for a parent breakfast on November 2nd. Krista Casagrande a lead teacher at Hope (Room 6). She is an AMS Certified Teacher, Montessori parent, and Montessori Adult Educator.

Do you wonder when your child will do math and language materials instead of making bubbles and transferring objects?

Krista will discuss the importance of the practical life materials in regards to your child's development in the Montessori classroom. You will also leave with some wonderful ideas to help your child at home.



Diwali Celebration-Tuesday, November 14th-10:30 a.m.

Tuesday morning, November 14, is our Diwali Celebration, recognizing the ancient Hindu festival of India. The "Festival of Lights" spiritually signifies the victory of light over darkness. Padma Gumidelli (lead teacher in Room 7) is helping to organize the celebration this year.

If you would like to send your child in his/her special Indian attire, please send a change of clothes for the remainder of the day. We hope you can join us for this special celebration from 10:30-11:00 Wednesday morning. We invite you to join your child's classroom for a traditional Indian lunch at 11:30.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences,
November 6-17, 2023**

The November conference sign-up sheets will be posted outside your child's classroom door starting on Monday, October 23. The conferences are 25 minutes long, and we do our very best to start and end on time, so please be prompt. Parents will have the options to choose an in person or virtual conference. The teachers prepare a lengthy and thorough conference report form. Please make sure to sign up for a conference. We truly value this time to talk and listen to each other.

