



The Lake Fern Montessorian

Volume 26 Issue 11

November 2007

Roxanne's Reflections

News for all LFMA families!

◆ Wow, the first 10 weeks of this school year have flown by. Each year seems to be busier than the last. I am enjoying this year a little more compared to the last since I am only working 10 hours a day instead of 12! These 2 hours seem to make a big difference in my overall health, energy level and attitude. Since school began I have had a chance to get to know our new students and their families. As I have always said we have so many wonderful people in our Montessori community ready to help in any way. This eagerness has been very evident in the last month, with parents volunteering to help in many ways. Mr. Sparks saw that we needed new step benches outside and made 3 new ones that are just perfect to help our shorter students reach the water fountains on the playground. We had many parents join us for the Fall Festival. Even though the weather forced us inside for the games and activities, no one seemed to mind. The children enjoyed having parents to help them play games and share snacks. Thank you very much for sharing your valuable time with us.

This month we will celebrate Thanksgiving with our traditional feast on Friday, November 16th beginning at 11:30 AM. As in the past the school will supply drinks, paper products and again feature Mr. Jeff's famous fried turkey! If you would like to share a side dish, there will be a sheet posted closer to that time. Extended family members and friends are always invited. Don't forget to bring a blanket or chair to sit on, as we will gather family style on the playground.

Speaking of Family gatherings, please reserve December 7th at 7 PM for our Family Holiday Gathering. Due to an ever increasing attendance at this program, this year it will be held at First Christian Church on Jay Jay road in North Titusville. This facility will allow us to

Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ We are beginning to enter my favorite time of year. Although the holiday season comes with what often seems like too much hustle and bustle, this is a wonderful time of year to spend with family and friends. At LFMA, we are preparing to spend time with all of our friends and family as we celebrate this season together. There will be our annual Thanksgiving Feast on Friday November 16th and I for one can't wait to get some of Mr. Jeff's famous fried turkey. Also, our Family Holiday gathering will be on Friday, December 7th. Our children have been working on a number of songs to sing during the program and they are very excited in anticipation of the gathering. As a reminder, the school will be closed on Monday November 12th for Veteran's Day and November 22nd and 23rd for Thanksgiving.

In class, students will begin learning about the human body and the solar system. With the nights beginning to get cooler and the skies starting to clear, a great family activity would be to grab a thermos of hot cocoa, take a drive into an area away from city lights, and set up a blanket to watch the stars. It's a great idea to help children pick out various constellations in the night sky.

Our homework project this month should be great fun and a wonderful help for mom and dad. Since we will be studying nutrition this month, students are asked to create a meal using all of the major food groups. Students must help parents to plan, shop, prepare, serve, and cleanup after the meal. Pictures should be taken of the students doing this process and then put together in a book format so that they may share with the other students in class.

Our next field trip will be to Arabian Nights in December. Payment envelopes will be going out this month, however, as I have to return a deposit before we actually attend the program. We had a wonderful time last year and this promises to be a fun activity with Christmas flair.

accommodate our large group comfortably. We have started to practice for our program, so if your family is NOT able to join us, please talk to your child's teacher.

Pre-Primary Class News

◆ This month we will study the letter sounds h and f. Many of the older students have started spelling 3 letter words and reading. Please continue to work on sounds the letters make. We will continue with Africa and plants and insects through December. All the students have had fun with the projects and experiments relating to these topics.

Last week I met with many families. During our conferences I explained the concepts your children have mastered. It is great fun to watch them make discoveries in all areas of the classroom.

Remember, parental involvement makes a huge difference in a child's educational success. Take time out of your day to spend with your little one. The more time you invest the more secure and successful in life he or she will be.

Mrs. Manley's Class News

◆ Wow, I can't believe it's November already! We have just finished reading Charlotte's Web and we all enjoyed it so much. The next book we will be reading is a book called Frindle. It's a great book that I know the kids will have great fun with. In social studies we will be continuing with the North East States and in Science we will be learning about different body systems. In math we are learning our multiplication tables. I cannot stress enough the importance of practicing multiplication with your kids. From this point forward they will have multiplication in every area of math, so please have them memorize the multiplication tables through the twelve's. We are rapidly coming to the holiday season and the children are preparing for the Holiday Gathering. During our specials, our class is joining Mrs. Price's class for performing arts where they are working on the music for the holiday gathering. The songs are great and the kids are doing fabulous with all music. Don't forget we are having our annual LMFA Thanksgiving feast on Friday, November 16, 2007. Just a reminder, we are closed November 12th for Veterans Day and the 22nd & 23rd for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Finally, let me remind everyone of conferences during the week of November 13-16th. I will be giving out report cards during this time and would like to meet with each family. Sign up sheets are in the foyer. Happy holidays!

Mr. Price's Class News

◆ November is here. May we be thankful for blessings bestowed upon us and celebrate with joyous hearts this Thanksgiving time of year!

In literature we have completed Children of the Longhouse and have begun Sammy Keyes and the Skeleton Man. For social studies this month, we have begun our curriculum on American History. It will, as with science, be presented in more of a multi-media format, including videos, power points, and Internet exploration. In science we will begin our study of the human body.

We are preparing for our play, "A Christmas Carol," for performance at our December 7th Christmas program. I hope you can be there because the children have been working hard on it.

There have been a few changes in classroom protocols and procedures. The schedule has been changed so that math will be first in the morning, followed by science or social studies, and then literature. Grammar, writing, and specials will be conducted in the afternoons. These changes are made in the hopes of creating more opportunities for the children to complete assignments during the day. These changes also support a new reward system where behavior and effort may offer them additional time outside. I will provide additional information during conferences.

Please remember to sign up for parent conferences for the week of November 13 through November 16. I will issue report cards during the conferences. Also remember that we will be closed for Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. Here is just a reminder; there is no field trip this month. The next field trip is in December.

Calendar of Events

- **Veterans Day, School Closed**
 - Monday, November 12th
- **Annual LMFA Thanksgiving Feast!**
 - Friday, November 16th at 1130
- **Thanksgiving Holiday, School Closed**
 - November 22nd and 23rd