



# The Lake Fern Montessorian

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## Roxanne's Reflections

### News for all LFMA families!

◆ According to the calendar it is supposed to be fall, but around here it still feels like summer. Hopefully we will feel a hint of fall by the 29<sup>th</sup> of October. That Friday is our annual Fall Festival. At that celebration we play games, have our faces painted and enjoy some special treats. We do need parent volunteers to assist the children while playing games and set up or clean up. If you are interested a sign up sheet will be posted in the foyer one week prior to the festival.

This month there are a few other dates to keep in mind:

Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM Playground Planning Meeting – This is our second meeting. We have a powerful mix of parents that are interested in completing our project. We welcome all parents and grandparents interested in helping. We do have a basic plan which includes a concrete slab on the north side of the main building. It will be designed for basketball, volleyball, tennis, bad mitten, four square, hopscotch and so forth. In the main playground we will construct an obstacle course to incorporate other things such as hanging ropes, gymnast hoops, tunnels etc. As you can see this project will take all sorts of people with different talents and interests from construction to organizing fund raising. Please join us on Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> Picture Day – We will be having our school pictures taken. These photos will be the regular head shots. If you would like your child to wear something other than a uniform please pack a change of clothes for after the picture session. Remember, the pictures will only be from the chest up in these pictures. We will have spring portraits done in March.

## Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ The first few weeks of school have flown by and I have been impressed with what the students have already started to learn. Some of them have taken a major interest in the United States and are able to label the entire U.S. map and identify common animals, plants, and landmarks found here. Others are very interested in the Solar System, the earth, and weather and can label the parts of the sun, name and provide interesting information about the planets, identify the phases of the moon and diagram the water cycle. Most students are settling into the routine and have done well with the new math concepts, spelling, vocabulary, and literature. The first and second graders have completed the reading comprehension inventory test and I will be sending home their lexile (reading) levels soon. The kindergarteners did a fantastic job on their readiness tests with the school system (the required test for students who were in VPK last year) and all of them scored in the proficient range.

This month, we will begin studying North America, with major emphasis on Canada and Mexico. We will be doing a unit on disability awareness. We will study some famous people who had specific challenges and how they made a difference in the world. The students will also be simulating some of these disabilities to learn what it might be like to face certain challenges. Some of the simulations will include performing tasks while blindfolded, using only one arm for tasks that most people typically do two-handed, moving through obstacle courses in a wheel chair or with a walker, etc. I hope to encourage empathy in our students and to inspire them to appreciate the similarities and differences in others.

## Pre-Primary Class News

### Miss Jessica and Miss Jennifer

♦ We are all so happy to welcome fall in; hopefully it will begin to feel like it outside! The children have been very excited to discuss the changes in the air, the changing of the leaves' colors and of course, Halloween and pumpkins! We will continue talking about the changes that happen in fall, so if you have something to share please feel free to send it in!

During October we will continue to study the human body and the Continent of Africa. We will continue studying the letter "t" through the week of October 4<sup>th</sup>. We will study the letter "a" the week of October 11<sup>th</sup>. We will study the letter "c" through the week of October 25<sup>th</sup>.

This month will be a very busy one! On Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> we will be doing individual school portraits. These will be standard head shots. On Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> we will have our Fall Festival. We will begin at 9:30 AM. Please keep your eyes peeled for sign up sheets for goodies and volunteers! We would love to have you join us for a morning of fun! The week of October 25-29 we will be having VPK and Montessori preschool conferences. Please sign up for the appropriate conference ASAP to ensure you get a time that is good for you. If you do not see a time that fits your needs, please see a preschool teacher.

Lastly, our children have been working very hard on identifying colors, shapes, numbers and letters. To reinforce these concepts at home you can play different games such as I Spy, matching etc. Time spent in the car is a great time to play these games too!

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Scholastic orders will be due Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Bring in the new season with some great books!

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*I must say I find television very educational. The minute somebody turns it on, I go to the library and read a good book.*

Groucho Marx (1886-1961)

### Mrs. Price's Class News (cont.)

Our first field trip will be on October 22<sup>nd</sup> to the Orlando Science Center. The students are excited about attending and are counting down the days until we go. Please remember that students who are not attending with a parent must bring a lunch box. Otherwise, a Subway is located in the building for lunch purchases. Lunch forms will be in the foyer for your convenience and it is recommended that you decide on your lunch purchase in advance and turn it in upon arrival so that there is no delay during lunch time.

Our Fall Festival will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be in the foyer if you would like to bring a snack or help out with activities. Thanks to those who brought in snacks for our Hawaiian Luau. It was fun to watch the students learn to hula! It is harder than it looks, believe me!!!



## Mrs. Manley's Class News

◆ Happy fall to everyone! This is the time of year that I start getting the desire to take a road trip to see the colors of autumn. I love this time of year in Florida also. We are finally starting to cool down just enough that we can start spending more time outside.

The kids are doing fantastic and they are really into the swing of things now. The students finished Charlotte's Web and really enjoyed it. Most of them have taken an AR test on it and received 6 points. Please remind your children I required 20 points at least each semester. We are starting a new book now. It is called Al Capone Does My Shirts. It is a very interesting book that takes places during the 1930's.

In Science and Social Studies we have been working on the Water Cycle and our Scholastic News which covers a variety of subjects. The kids are really enjoying the magazines. One of the tasks we are learning to do right now is how to go back and find information through various articles. They are working very hard to learn this new tool in their education.

Please remember we are starting to eat Pizza on Friday's. If you didn't get a chance to start ordering this month we will be continuing in November. Also, don't forget about our first field trip to the Orlando Science Center. This field trip will be Friday, October 22. A itinerary will be available in a couple of weeks. I will also be taking money this month for the field trip to the King Center to see the Acrobats in February. We will be having our Fall Festival October 29<sup>th</sup>. You are more than welcome to come and attend. We will be playing some group games outside, doing crafts, and eating treats. Have a safe and relaxing October.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### - PLAYGROUND PLANNING MEETING

- MONDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM

### - PICTURE DAY

- WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>

### - VETERANS DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

- NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

### - THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED

- NOVEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> AND 25<sup>TH</sup>

## Mr. Price's Class News

◆ Happy October! We are a little over a month into the year and everything's going well. I'm very pleased with the progress of the class. Everyone is settling in and getting used to the routine. In literature, we are continuing are literary elements curriculum. This curriculum uses short stories to explore elements such as plot, theme, characters, etc. In science, our study biomes will take us into the realms of rain forests and deep oceans. In social studies, we will be exploring the fundamentals of our government.

Our first field trip will be October 22<sup>nd</sup>, to the Orlando Science Center. Please remember that students who are not attending with a parent must bring a lunch box. Otherwise, a Subway is located in the building for lunch purchases. Students that can't attend are required to complete a one page essay on a pre-approved subject, preferably one related to the field trip being missed. Our Fall Festival will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be in the foyer if you would like to bring a snack or help out with activities.

The first semester ends October 15<sup>TH</sup> and conferences will be the week of October 25<sup>TH</sup> to October 29<sup>TH</sup>. Students make sure you have all of your AR points. You need 25 for the semester.

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for your support of Scholastic Book Clubs! Due to the incredible turnout we were able to go beyond our goal of 16,000 bonus points! With these points we will be able to purchase new materials such as books, activities and even furniture! Throughout the year we will replenish these materials as needed. If you didn't get a chance to order for September, you can still have a chance to help out Lake Fern. With each online order, we will receive a \$3.00 coupon and we will continue earning bonus points with each dollar you spend! Thanks and happy reading!

Miss Jennifer

Book Club Order Due Date is October 5<sup>th</sup>.

[www.scholastic.com/bookclubs](http://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs).

See a teacher for our class activation code

## School health: The ABCs of staying healthy at school

Do you know why school kids get sick so often? The best ways to prevent illness in the classroom?

By Mayo Clinic staff

Does it seem as if your child is sick all the time? In the early school years, your child's immune system is put to the test. After all, young children in large groups are breeding grounds for the organisms that cause illness. Here's why infectious illness is so common — and what your child can do to stay healthy in the classroom.

### How infections spread

Many childhood illnesses are caused by viruses. All it takes is a single child to bring a virus to school for the spread to begin. Consider this common scenario — a child who has a cold coughs or sneezes in the classroom. The children sitting nearby inhale the infected respiratory droplets and the cold spreads. Illness-causing germs might spread from anything the sick child touches to other children who touch the same object and then put their fingers in their mouths.

### Why hand washing counts

Frequent hand washing is the simplest — and most effective — way to prevent illness, both at home and at school. Remind your child to wash his or her hands before eating and after using the toilet, blowing his or her nose, or playing outside. Suggest soaping up for as long as it takes to sing the ABCs, the "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" song or the "Happy Birthday" song.

### Other school health tips

Common sense can go a long way toward preventing illness in the classroom. In addition to frequent hand washing, teach your child other school health basics:

- **Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.** Give your child a package of tissues to keep in his or her desk. Encourage your child to cough or sneeze into a tissue — then put the tissue in the trash, and wash his or her hands or use hand sanitizer. If it isn't possible to reach a tissue in time, remind your child to cough or sneeze into the crook of his or her elbow.
- **Keep your hands away from your eyes and out of your mouth.** Remind your child that hands are often covered in germs.
- **Don't share water bottles, food or other personal items.** Offer your child this simple rule — if you put the item in your mouth, keep it to yourself. The same goes for hats and other headgear. If your child shares pencils, markers or other classroom supplies, stress the importance of keeping them out of his or her mouth.
- **Avoid anyone who's sick.** Remind your child that sitting next to or playing with someone who's sick could lead to his or her own illness.

Of course, it's also important for your child to eat a healthy diet, get plenty of sleep and stay current on his or her immunizations — including a yearly flu vaccine. To prevent spreading illness at home, use the same tips for the entire family.