



The Lake Fern Montessorian

Volume 29 Issue 9

September 2010

Roxanne's Reflections

News for all LFMA families!

◆ What a great start to the new year! The children are very excited to get back to school. There were lots of hugs and big smiles all around the campus for the first several days. Since then it seems that the students are getting back in the groove pretty easily.

As always, I have to say we have a great LFMA community. All the parents have been very supportive from making sure their child is ready for the day to asking teachers "What can I do to help?". Remember to volunteer in your child's classroom. There are many things you can do to help.

If you attended the orientation we discussed our year long playground project that will kick off this month. The parent meeting will be Thursday, September 23rd at 7:00 PM and will last about an hour. Many of you have said you would like to participate in some way so here is your chance. Our initial plan is to come up with some ideas for upper and lower level age appropriate equipment that we can build. The use of wood is discouraged because it's a maintenance nightmare! Plastic wood is OK, but bear in mind that it is not as structurally supportive as regular wood. Let's see what great minds can come up with! See you there!

Beginning in October we are bringing back Pizza Friday's! Kelsey's has the best pizza in town and has agreed to supply us once again. Stay tuned for details coming this month and in the meantime visit Kelsey's on Garden Street and enjoy some of Nick Iltopolous' great food (Nick is Maria's dad, one of Mrs. Price's students).

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Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ The school year is now in full swing and the children are beginning to settle into the routine. September will be a busy month for our classroom, as we have lots of activities planned. To begin with, students will be making our take on the flat Stanleys within the first couple of weeks of September and will send them home as soon as they are completed. Please see the homework section on our class page at www.lakefernmontessori.com for details on completing this year long project. We have started discussing it in class and are reading some of the Flat Stanley chapter books during the day. The children are excited to see how many places their Stanleys will visit and our class goal is to have representation from all 50 states and at least 6 continents.

The students have begun learning a little bit about the United States of America and will continue throughout this month. I am hoping that many of them will learn several of the states and capitals, as well as common plants, animals, and landmarks of the area. On October 1st, we will have a luau and students are asked to bring in a food representative of Hawaii. A sign up sheet will be in the foyer if you would like to bring in something to share. Students will be making hula skirts and leis and will even be learning a couple of hula dances for the occasion.

Our first field trip will be on October 22nd to the Orlando Science Center. Information forms will be in the family files within the next week. The cost is \$10.50 for children and adults and includes admission into three exhibit halls, a live show, and an I-max film. Students that are not attending with a parent must bring a lunch box. Otherwise, a Subway is located in the building for

Pre-Primary Class News

Miss Jennifer and Miss Jessica

♦ We are glad to say that the first week in the pre-primary/VPK classrooms went very well! Thank you to our parents that had their children and their items (slippers, lunches etc.) ready. We believe that being prepared helps set your child's day in the right direction. If you have not sent in your child's items (slippers, extra change of clothes etc.) please do so as soon as possible.

We will continue to study the human body and Africa this month. For the week of August 30th through September 6th our letter will be "b". For the weeks of September 13th and 20th our letter will be "m". For the weeks of September 27th and October 4th our letter will be "t". On Fridays we welcome your child to bring a share item that corresponds with that weeks letter.

LFMA will be closed on September 6th in observance of Labor Day. We will also be resuming Pizza Friday's! As more information becomes available we will post it in the foyer. Have a fantastic September!

Mrs. Price's Class News (cont.)

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. Money is due to Mrs. Manley no later than September 17th.

This year our class will be celebrating all kinds of silly and fun monthly themes. Here are a few if you want to participate with your children at home:

9/3: Waffles for breakfast day

9/12: Chocolate Milkshake Day

9/15: Fortune Cookie Day (It would be fun to bring them in lunchboxes)

9/27: Good Neighbor Day and Family Health and Fitness Day (Spend some time doing a good deed for a neighbor and exercising together as a family.)

On a final note, some of the parents have asked if they may send in a small protein with fruit for morning snack and that is absolutely fine. Some ideas for a great pick-me-up snack include apples and peanut butter, pears and cheese cubes, cashews and an orange slices, etc. Please remind students they can't eat their sandwich or main protein for a snack. (Some of them have already tried!) Thanks!



Pictures in this month's newsletter are from the recent Restoring Honor Rally on August 28th in Washington DC at the Lincoln Memorial and are provided by a friend of the school who was in attendance and is a great American patriot.

Mrs. Manley's Class News

◆ Hello to all! I am so excited to have the new school year start and I hope that all of you are as well. First and foremost let me say that this has been a very smooth and successful start to the school year. The kids are doing fantastic and have jumped right in and began their year off to a great start.

Our first field trip is going to be on Friday, October 22, 2010. We will be going to the Orlando Science Center. For those of you who have not had the opportunity to go to the Orlando Science Center you are in for a big treat. We will be touring many exhibits, watching a movie in their enormous Cinadome, and learning a lot of fun and exciting facts about Science. The cost for this field trip will be \$10.50 per person. A sign-up sheet for this field trip will be in the foyer along with a field trip envelope in your family file. The money and form for this trip will need to be handed in no later than September 17th to Mrs. Manley. Cash is the preferred way of payment. We would love for families to go, so parents please join us. We need drivers as well so be sure to sign up on the sign up sheet if you are willing to drive to the OSC. For those who are driving, please keep in mind that it is \$5.00 to park at OSC and they only accept cash.

In regards to our classroom, we have been very busy working and getting into the groove of things. The kids have really done well with getting back to work from their fun summers. Our first literature book we are reading is Charlotte's web. The kids adore it so far and we are learning and plethora of new vocabulary words in this book. One of the activities that the kids are learning to do is character analysis of all the characters in the book. It is interesting watching them "break apart" these characters and their traits. A child's point of view is so interesting. All of the students are doing super with our new math curriculum and I am elated with all of their progress. I can only imagine what the rest of the year will hold when they are already doing so well with all of their lessons.

Again, I am so excited to have everyone back and looking forward to another fantastic school year.

The man in the picture to the right is actually a descendent of Abraham Lincoln!

Mr. Price's Class News

◆ Welcome Back! I am very excited to be starting a fresh, new year. We have both new and returning students, so the dynamics have changed. I'd like for our smaller school setting to be a place where each student can grow and be part of tight knit group. There is great possibility for growth and development so I want to see everyone take advantage of our unique academic environment and succeed as part of the Lake Fern family!

In science, we are starting our studies with biomes and the natural world. This course of study offers students the opportunity to learn about individual biomes as well as the diversity of life found within each. They will learn how environmental factors such as distance from the equator and access to water affect the lives of entire populations of plants and animals. In social studies, we begin a study of America with the time of explorers. We will examine the countries and cultures that helped form the country we live in. We are beginning literature with the study of literary elements. The purpose of this study is to familiarize students with literary aspects, thus increasing their overall reading comprehension. In writing, we are taking a similar approach as literature. We are learning writing traits. The purpose is to teach students how to evaluate theirs and others' writing, thus teaching them to edit as well as write.

I look forward to working with everyone this year. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.



LFMA Web Site Issues

The LFMA web site is published using Microsoft Front Page 2003. Several parents have reported problems using the links to the individual class resource pages. We have found that they are generally using Mozilla as a browser, or in some cases Firefox. Apparently Front Page 2003 is not Mozilla or Firefox friendly. We intend to upgrade our publishing software in the next month and do some upgrades on the site. Hopefully that will make this problem go away. In the meantime, if you find yourself in this situation you can try Internet Explorer, or use the following links to get directly to the class resource pages:

Pre-Primary Class:

<http://www.lakefernmontessori.com/Pre-Primary/Pre-Primary.class.html>

Mrs. Price:

<http://www.lakefernmontessori.com/K-2 Class/K-2 Class.html>

Mrs Manley:

<http://www.lakefernmontessori.com/3-5 Class/3-5 Class.html>

Mr. Price:

<http://www.lakefernmontessori.com/6-8 Class/6-8 Class.html>

If all else fails, send me an email at LFMA@cfl.rr.com and I will put the files on a CD for you to use until I can get the web site squared away.

Mr. Jeff

Mind Teaser!

In the picture of the Washington Monument below, you can clearly see a difference in color in the stone about 1/3 of the way up. Why does the stone change color? (this is a 2 part answer!)

On the very top of the monument are inscribed two words just over 5 inches high which cannot be seen from the ground. The words are "Laus Deo", meaning "Praise be to God". In which direction does this inscription point?

There are 897 stone steps inside the monument donated from every state in the Union, Native American nations and numerous foreign countries. What kind of stone was donated by the State of Alaska?

The first family to correctly answer these questions in each classroom will receive a free LFMA shirt! Write down your answers and give them to your classroom teacher or Mrs. Richards. Make this a fun family project!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- LABOR DAY HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
- MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
- PARENT MEETING – PLAYGROUND PLANNING
- SEPTEMBER 23RD AT 7:00 PM

Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal...we here highly resolve that the dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln, address at the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, 19 November 1863.