



CMS CONNECTION

**Canton Montessori
School**

EXCEL IN LEARNING

EXCEL IN LIFE

OCTOBER, 2011

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

October has been a busy month! We will be taking class and individual pictures of the children. We will do vision and hearing screening for the preprimary and elementary students. As the children settle into a routine we begin to feel ready to invite others to see what we are doing. The office will be accepting calls from the community to observe the classes. We get many calls from college students to help them with their requirements to observe early childhood and elementary settings. We will also have some Akron University students helping out in the preprimary and elementary classes the end of the month and into November.

During the month all the classes will be decorating their own pumpkin that will then be offered as a silent auction item for parents to bid on in the school foyer starting Oct. 11. Parents will also have the opportunity to decorate pumpkins which they will then return to the school to be sold as a small fundraiser for our school. The Pumpkin Patch get together.....

Preprimary and Elementary parents, please take advantage of the opportunity to work with your child on the evenings planned as a family night. This is a good opportunity to let your child demonstrate what he or she can do and the children are always so proud to take the lead and show off their class.

The elementary students will finish the month with Famous People Day. They choose a famous person to research, dress up as that person, and present a short report to the class and their parents.

For in service in August the CMS staff viewed the video [The Science Behind the Genius](#) by Dr. Angeline Lillard. Dr. Lillard discusses eight research based principles about how children learn best. Now modern research provides a new validity to what we experience every day with the children. We were so impressed with these findings that we are going to feature an article about them each month in the newsletter so that we can share this important information with you.

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Dates to Remember

- Oct. 18 Elementary Family Night 6-7pm
- Oct. 19 Preprimary Family Night 6-7pm
- Oct.28 Famous Person Day at 1:30
- Oct. 31-
- Nov. 4 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Nov. 24-
- Nov 25 School Closed
- Dates for Grandparents Day to be announced



Thank you

The Ballroom

Carol Kopan for donating art supplies for our medieval castles

The Wehlands for yarn

The Boske's for yarn, books and CD's

The Loft

The Brandon Family for paper

The Sunroom

The Dejacimo Family for books and diapers

The Parlor

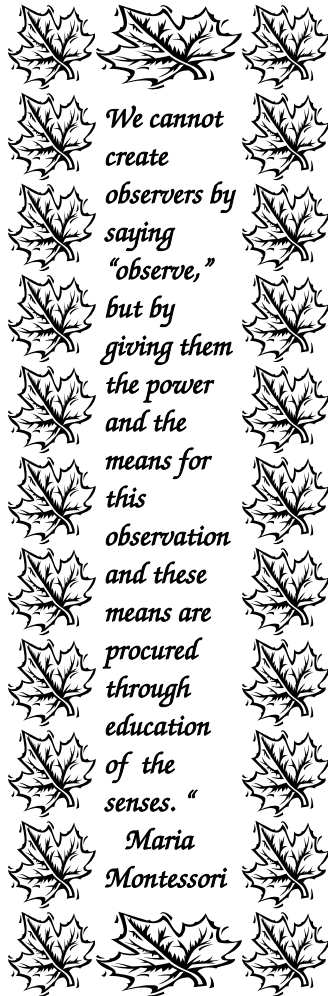
Mrs. Brosch for helping us bake apple pies

The Sikorsky Family for apples, biscuits, and a huge circle time set

The Kirkpatrick Family for extra snacks and juice and 2 books for our library

The DelaCroix Family for the blanket donation

The Jordanides Family for the school supply donation



We cannot create observers by saying "observe," but by giving them the power and the means for this observation and these means are procured through education of the senses. " Maria Montessori

Wish Lists

The Toddler Environments

Playdough
Fall and Thanksgiving stickers
Guinea Pig bedding and food

The Parlor

Watercolor paints
Fall greeting cards for sewing
Gift cards for Pet Smart or Pet Supplies
Carrots, alfalfa, or hay for Bobby

The Ballroom

Dried sunflowers for extracting the seeds with tweezers



Movement and Cognition (cont'd from p. 4)

“Dr. Montessori’s respect for movement was profound, as she saw society as founded upon movement and civilization as founded on the particular movements of human hands: ‘The skill of the hand is bound up with the development of (the) mind, and in the light of history we see it connected with the development of civilization. All the changes in (our) environment are brought about by hands.’ ”

Source: Dr. Angeline Lillard: *The Science Behind the Genius*



Special Events: Kindergarten Enrichment

The kindergarten students attended the Canton Ballet performance of Peter and the Wolf on Oct. 6 for their first field trip.

We had a great time learning about music and movement, ballet positions, and really enjoyed the performance. A special thanks to all of our chaperones. We appreciate your help!

We are inviting kindergarten parents to join us on Oct. 25 at 2:00 for a program from the Red Cross. The focus will be on "Stranger Danger."

Special Events: The Parlor

We are working with leaves from our backyards or nearby parks. We are using them to identify trees, make crayon rubbings, create leaf art, make a class book, and to make a mobile. We will also be decorating yummy leaf cookies in fall colors.

For Sale

The following items are for sale. Check in the office or with Tim.

1. Regulation Volleyball Set
2. 3 Audio Visual Carts
3. 3 Gym Mats
4. A Drying Rack
5. 1 Aquarium Stand



PUMPKIN PATCH

For many years parents have complained that there was no sense of Montessori community for the pumpkin patch event. At last we have found the place for us! 100 tickets were sold for the gathering of Montessori families at Nick A Jack Farms on Saturday, Oct. 10, and 80 people took advantage of the lunch paid for by our board members. There were many educational things for the children to do and a special time was set aside for our own hayride. Thank you to everyone who helped make this a memorable day.





Canton Montessori School

Excel in learning. Excel in Life.

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We're on the Web!

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Movement and Cognition By Melissa Hissong

“One of the greatest mistakes of our day is to think of movement by itself, as something apart from the higher functions... Mental development must be connected with movement and be dependent on it. It is vital that educational theory and practice should become informed by this idea.”

~ Maria Montessori

Dr. Montessori saw the stationary child as problematic because she believed movement and thought were closely tied. “Mind and movement are parts of the same entity.” Maria Montessori Today's research supports the interconnection of bodily movement with thinking, developing and learning. Angeline Lillard starts by explaining that babies become more interested in objects once they are able to reach for and grasp them. She talks about movement with goals. Purposeful movement appears to be associated with neurological change. Children should be encouraged to move their hands and their bodies from an early age. Infants should have objects such as mobiles, rattles and bells to inspire their movement. Dr. Montessori advised giving young children only a limited choice of

carefully selected materials. She also recommended that as soon as children are able to walk they should do so and

parents should no longer use strollers and carriers. Children need to learn to move on their own. She recommended that young children have a small table and a chair at which to eat from and which they can move themselves.

In Montessori Toddler and Preprimary programs there are exercises that inspire movements directed towards constructive ends. Some examples are: watering plants, preparing and serving snack and lunch, sweeping, dusting and pouring. These practical life exercises lead to developing concentration, educating children's movements towards a purpose, helping children to carry out a sequence and helping children to care for an environment., all of which are fundamental to Montessori education:”Thought guides action.”

“Many studies have shown that memory improves when one's movements align with what is being remembered. For example, when students enact the content of action-describing sentences at encoding they remember those sentences better than when they learn the sentences without enacting them.” Even facial movements are associated with improving memory!

In Montessori's learning exercises materials are touched and moved, thus bringing concrete embodiment to abstract concepts. (cont'd p. 2)