# CMS FAMILY \$ \$ \$

#### A NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF CANTON MONTESSORI SCHOOL

#### September 2020





Children are human beings to whom respect is due, superior to us by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future.

-Maria Montessori

















# Garden Room Gab

Welcome back to school, we are so happy that you are part of the Garden Room family. We are off to a wonderful start ! The students are very excited to learn and explore their new environment. We have been working on self care and caring for the environment which includes dressing ourselves, with assistance if needed, helping with the diaper changing process, cleaning up after meals, washing dishes, returning work to the shelves after use, watering plants and many other things. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me! Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's educational journey.

Carla, Tanya, and Krista Wish List: Fall Stickers 2 Lg Pumpkins Mini pumpkins Gourds **Indian** Corn 2 Flannel Backed rectangle tablecloths **Golf Tees Feathers** Acorns 2 Hay Bales











We are so happy to be back for the 2020-2021 school year with so many familiar faces. Sun Room friends started off working on shapes, colors and some color mixing. Who would have guessed the rhombus would be their favorite! With the arrival of autumn, we have begun using our fall themed work which includes leaves, pumpkins, acorns and some pumpkin flavored treats. Our upcoming science unit will focus on "germs" and how to fight them. This work has always been an important part of cold & flu season and popular with the students.

Jennifer & Rachell















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## The Ballroom

The Solar System unit is a classroom favorite in the Ballroom. Students recall the planets of the Milky Way as they sing along to our favorite planet songs. We have enjoyed sorting stars and comets, painting the sun and traveling to the moon!

Next in our travels...Mother Earth! A special thank you the Higgins family for the towels and the Parker family for the animals of Europe.

Mrs. Bridget and Ms. Daniela













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#### **Kindergarten Enrichment**

Kindergarten students kicked off the school year traveling back in time to the Cretaceous period, over 65 million years ago. We explored the giant carnivores, herbivores and omnivores as we read the Magic Tree House book, Dinosaurs Before Dark.

In Book 2 of the Magic Tree House chapter books series, Knight at Dawn, kindergarteners will visit the Middle Ages. Students will compare past and present times, prepare a feast in the "Great Hall" and create Medieval castles, complete with drawbridges and moats.

Mrs. Bridget







### Lessons from the Loft

Greetings from the Loft! We are off to a great start this year welcoming both familiar faces and new. The children are beyond happy to be back in our environment, and so are Miss Samantha and I! Teaching them our new procedures as far as sanitizing and "spacing" has gone remarkably well for them. They are very aware that any work that has been removed from the shelf and used needs to be cleaned before the next child can use it. The children are responsible for placing a red popsicle stick on a finished work in order to show that it is unavailable. This process has worked so well, and allows them to remain independent during our work cycle. They each have their own rug labeled with their names, so that we are continually trying to keep our germs to ourselves. They have adjusted so well!

The beginning of the year brings songs and games that allow the children to get to know one another. They love the routine of singing several of the same songs every morning. We have pictures of the children available for matching names with faces as well. This has been a big hit for sure! It is so nice to see them already so comfortable speaking in front of the group and participating so comfortably.

In the science area, we started out with classifying magnetic and non magnetic objects as well as objects that sink and float. Next, we moved on to living verses non living things, and then plant verses animal. The last classification was the three types of matter which make up everything on the earth...solids, liquids, and gases. Currently we are studying seeds, and the children have "planted" their own in baggies which hang on our windows soaking in the sunlight. We are also talking about germination, plants and leaves. They were so excited to celebrate the first day of Fall.

In geography, we started with the solar system, which always brings many great discussions. I'm amazed with their ability to remember facts about the planets. Next, we began our discussions about Earth. We have been singing the continents song and next month we will begin our individual continent studies. For now we are studying the maps and globes, and noticing the difference between land and water. I just LOVE the focus on geography in our environment.

We have been very busy each day in the classroom, and we have also been loving all of the beautiful mornings on the playground. It is so wonderful to be back at CMS! As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. Don't forget to check Montessori Compass for new photos of your kids as well. They have been working so hard! Enjoy this glorious weather and thank you so much for entrusting your children with us.

Happy Fall! Miss Molly and Miss Samantha







# <u>The Parlor</u>

The Parlor students are adjusting well to the classroom routine. Students were excited to see familiar faces as well as welcome new friends to the environment. We began the school year studying the Solar System, Living and Non-Living, apples and States of Matter (solids/ liquids/gas). We have now switched our studies to The World, Autumn, seeds and lake/island.

Just a reminder to our families that our snack calendar is posted online. Your child's sharing day is also their snack day.

- Ms. Olivia & Miss Alexis

















The Lower Elementary students are beginning to study time. Montessori Elementary students are presented lessons in chronological order, exploring when things happened on a timeline. We began with the beginning of the universe and zoomed in to planet Earth. The first graders taught us about volcanoes, second graders taught us about planets and the third graders chose something in space to research. First graders also began to study the land and water forms that cover our planet, and second graders dug deep into the layers of the earth. The third grade students are finding out about the layers of the atmosphere and why planes fly so high!

As our horizontal timeline moves on, we are looking at how the sun and earth create seasons, finding out the names of time periods (decades, century, etc.), learning abbreviations for days and months, and figuring out how many months are in fractions of a year.

To wrap up our lessons on seasons and time, we will take a nice fall walk soon to Arboretum Park!

Mrs. Liotti















# Elementary Outdoor Yoga & Kona Cool Off









#### **Upper Elementary**

We are all so happy to be back together for in-person learning! Upper Elementary students have been serious about their responsibility to keep our environment cleaned and sanitized. Students are conscientious about wearing their masks and cleaning materials for the next person to use. I am so proud of them! We are fortunate to have many opportunities throughout our day to be outside. At recess, students have been jump roping and are excited to learn how to Double Dutch jump rope! We are able to hike down to the Arboretum Park, where kids explore the stream and built a lean-to out of fallen tree branches. We have also continued our first Friday of the month Yoga with Shannon Ortiz. After our outdoor Yoga session, we had a visit from the Kona Ice truck! What a great way to celebrate being back in school!

Montessori Elementary classes everywhere begin their year with the Great Lessons. The Great Lessons highlight the importance of storytelling in Montessori pedagogy. The Story of the Universe is a perfect introduction to the study of our Milky Way Galaxy and our Solar System. Students love to name the constellations in the Northern and Southern hemisphere using the Constellation Board. After the Coming of Life, students love to examine our classroom collection of fossils. Many of the fossils I found while fossil hunting in southern Ohio. Did you know that Ohio is rich with fossils that date back to the early Paleozoic Era? In addition to our rich Cultural curriculum, students continue to use Montessori materials for learning in all subject areas. Pictured are two students using the Pythagoras board to learn their multiplication facts. And two more students use the Geometric Stick Material and the Large Working Board to identify types of angles.



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