

# CMS FAMILY



A NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF CANTON MONTESSORI SCHOOL



The **education** of even a small child, therefore, does not aim at preparing him for school, but **for life.**

— *Maria Montessori*



# *Garden Room Gab*

Wow this school year is flying by! We hope you have a blessed Holiday season.

I want to thank everyone that attended our Grandparents and Special Friends Day. It was such a delight to have it in person again. You could feel the toddlers' excitement as they showed their visitors around the classroom. We also worked very hard to prepare for our songs during Circle Time.

With the holidays upon us we will be learning about Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and of course Christmas. Just a few examples of the work available will be a menorah, dreidel, Kinara (Kee-nar-rah), Kikoombe cha Umoja (Kee-com-bay-chah-oo-moe-jah) we will also have a tree for decorating and many books on the holidays.

It is the most wonderful time of the year!

We want to thank each and every one of you for the opportunity to have you as part of the Garden room family.

Happy Holidays!  
Carla and Tanya



Wish List:  
CD player





# Sun Room News

We have really been enjoying Autumn in the Sun Room. Friends have explored the life cycle of pumpkins and apples through books, matching work, songs and lots of observation. In October, we used pumpkin to make ice cream which was delicious. After examining different varieties of apples and noting the sizes and colors, we made a big batch of homemade applesauce. Friends helped with all the mixing and measuring and did a lot of taste testing along the way. We even made apple play dough!

Friends have also been learning about the body and how to stay healthy. We have learned lots of handwashing songs as well as one about covering when you cough or sneeze. Everyone has had a chance to practice tooth brushing, nose wiping and bathing with our models.

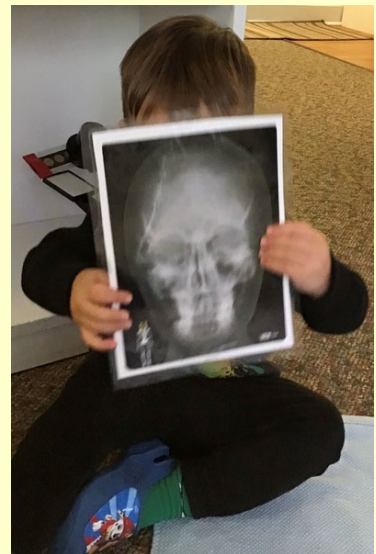
In December, we will be learning about the different holidays and creating a special ornament.

Jennifer and Krista

## Wish List

Amazon cards for new books & art supplies

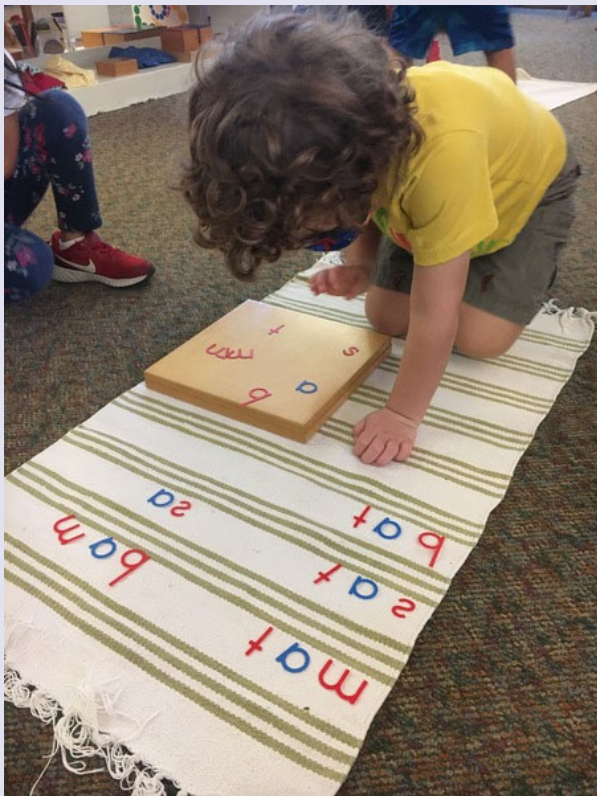
Grocery store cards for cooking projects



## *The Ballroom*

Ballroom students welcomed fall with apple tasting, pumpkin carving and leaf graphing. We explored planet earth while singing songs about our continents and oceans. Passports in hand, we look forward to traveling through North America and learning about the people, animals and landmarks throughout our continent.

Bridget and Alexis





# Kindergarten Enrichment

Our full day kindergarteners traveled back in time to the Middle Ages and Ancient Egypt. We explored and built castles and pyramids, dressed as knights in shining armor and wrote our names in hieroglyphs.

Kindergartners also enjoy weekly visits to our school library as well as French, Music, Art and Physical Education experiences.

Bridget



# The Loft

Children have been very busy studying North America, mammals and the human body up in the Loft. They have especially loved exploring the United States and learning fun facts about our country. They have worked daily on learning the Pledge of Allegiance, and most have mastered it. Be sure to ask them to recite it for you. They are so proud! We have also been discussing the four seasons, as they are all very excited for the arrival of snow. Please remember that we will be spending time outside each and every day as long as it is not raining and the temperature is above 20 degrees. Children need warmer coats, hats, mittens, boots, and occasionally snow pants with them every day. We are happy to store them in their cubbies in order to cut down on transporting them back and forth. We do appreciate you keeping your children home if they are not feeling well. We want to limit the spread of germs as much as possible!

Thank you all for participating in conferences this month. It was so nice to be able to touch base with you and share all of the wonderful things your children are doing at school. I'd also like to welcome 3 new students to our environment. Paxton, Evelyn and Dawoud we are so happy to have you with us!

We will finish up 2021 by studying holidays and celebrations around the world before we move on to our next continent, which is Europe. Samantha and I hope you all enjoy the holidays with your families and wish you all good health and happiness!

Miss Molly





# *The Parlor*

We can't believe how fast October and November flew by! We love the fall months especially watching the colors of the trees turn yellow, red and orange.

During the months of October and November we focused on pumpkins and apples. A big thank you to those who brought in apples, gourds and pumpkins!

The students learned about the life cycle of both pumpkins and apples.

They explored pumpkins and gourds of all colors, shapes, sizes and textures. They tasted red, yellow and green apples.

They even removed the top of pumpkins to feel and scoop out the pulp and seeds from the meat of the pumpkin. They then counted the seeds from a small, medium and large pumpkin to determine which pumpkin was the oldest. The students learned that the number of seeds, number of ridges and coloring can also tell us which pumpkin has been on the vine the longest.

The students also enjoyed fun activities during our work cycle time like pumpkin hammering, apple stamping and pumpkin washing.

- Courtney and Jacquie



## LOWER ELEMENTARY

In the Lower Elementary class, students have been busy researching countries in North America. Starting in first grade, students gain confidence in public speaking by researching a topic of interest and presenting it to their classmates. First graders learn to find basic facts in books and practice reading them aloud. Second and third graders expand their research and learn to organize their facts into topical paragraphs, as well as making a bibliography of resources. Students have been drawing flags, tracing puzzle maps, designing informative posters, and making topographical maps to include in their presentations. Our weekly cooking groups have been trying out recipes from different countries in North America.

Learning about living things is a favorite topic of the 6-9 age group, and this is kicked off each year by the presentation of the second great lesson: The Timeline of Life. Beginning with the Age of Invertebrates, the timeline follows the history of living things on earth. Students feel a great sense of accomplishment and order by laying out the many pieces and labels highlighting the living things of each era and period. We followed this work with the study of vertebrates and invertebrates and animal classification. Students are currently researching and learning about dinosaurs.

Students have recently completed their soccer session for physical education at the Hall of Fame Fitness Center. We just began taking classes in the subjects of tennis and cooperative games. In musical theater class, students have begun their work on the musical The Lion King Jr. You have likely heard them singing the songs already! In art class, students have temporarily shifted focus from art to some crafting in anticipation for our upcoming Holiday Shoppe! Students will be setting up shop to sell their holiday crafts to raise money for the organization Team Seas. This is a great opportunity for students to practice their money math skills. The dates and times for the Holiday Shoppe will be announced later.

We are so fortunate to have such supportive families. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our baking pantry and who donated apples! Special thanks to Manny's family for donating mixing bowls, utensils, measuring items, and an iron. Thank you to Paxton's family for the donation of a crock pot and rakes for the playground. Thank you to Alexis and family for the donation of books.

Thank you to all of the families for taking the time to meet with us for conferences.

Happy Thanksgiving!  
The Lower Elementary Team  
Mrs. Chandler and Mrs. Liotti

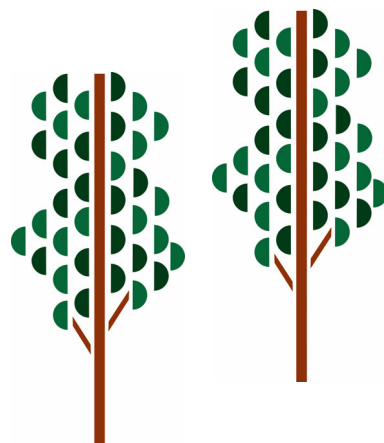




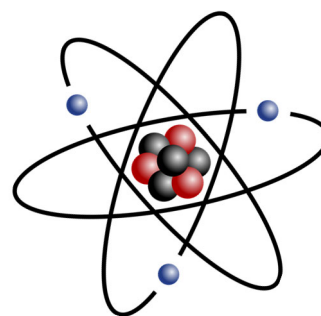
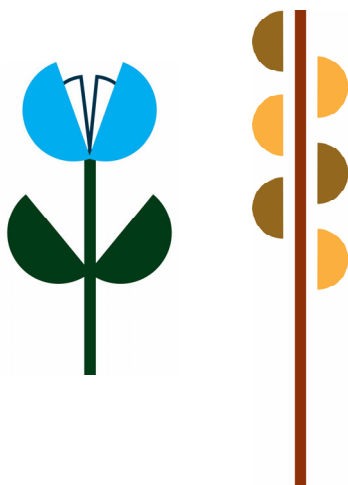


# Upper Elementary

Upper Elementary is participating in National Novel Writing Month! National Novel Writing Month (also known by the acronym NaNoWriMo) is a national, creative writing challenge that takes place every year throughout the month of November. Adults are encouraged to write 50,000 words! Our class participates in the Young Writer's Program where students set their own word goals. Students learn about how to create a protagonist (main character) and an antagonist (villain) along with supporting characters and a plot roller coaster. Students have also had mini-lessons on adding sensory details, using vibrant verbs and words instead of "said", and how to create a vivid setting. The students pictured have created illustrations of the protagonist and antagonist from their stories. Our students have created stories about basketball players, horseback riders, and school bullies as well as dragons and dancing elephants! With the end of November, the task of editing begins!



Ella and Sophia are working with atom board and drawing Bohr diagrams of the elements of the Periodic Table in Science.





Kyran and Addy spent their recess raking leaves into a big pile (but can you see the mischievous gleam in Kyran's eyes?). He and Addy decide to throw the leaves into the air right when it's time to come inside!



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**Parents Association**

**If you are interested in helping with the PA, please email  
[parents@cantonmontessori.org](mailto:parents@cantonmontessori.org) for more information**

