

# MCH News October 2017



October is an eventful month at school. It usually has rather wobbly beginnings and then ends with a real gelling of independence and capability (Visit School Night) and awareness and joy in the sense of community we have built (Halloween party).

We have been quite busy in the classrooms with cultural subjects and cooking projects. Our weekly cooking class involves the children in the art of careful measuring, following a recipe, the importance of personal hygiene, knowledge of assorted ingredients and tools, plus the joy of creating something delicious from scratch to share with others. Thursday cooking classes have been quite successful so far. This month we made soup together. We had a bountiful harvest from our school garden this year and almost all of the ingredients for our Fall Harvest Vegetable Soup came directly from the MCH garden. We hope you enjoyed it at the Visit School Night, as well as the excellent service.



Tree, leaf and seed work will be changing in November to rocks, fossils and dinosaurs in the Science area. The Cultural Geography area, which now holds our North America and Native American artifacts and activities, will be changing to Europe at the end of the month. The Art area continues to be a popular place to visit, as well as Workbench and Practical Life. The social grace and courtesy lessons learned with "apple cutting" have been charming to behold. The teachers work hard in the Practical Life area and have had great

success involving this group of children in preparing their own snack and thriving independently in this important and busy part of the environment.



All of the classroom areas have been active and engaging for the children--from Sensorial to Mathematics and Language. It has been quite amazing to watch the learning and concentration as these children work with the materials. At the Visit School Evening we hope you were able to have a glimpse of your child's activities in each of the areas of the Montessori environment.



Our **field trips** to Fireside Apple Orchard were fabulous and we greatly appreciate your help in chaperoning these first outings of the year. We would also like to send out thanks to the many parent volunteers who have so graciously committed to spending time with us in the classrooms and garden this month.



The **Visit School** evening was also great fun. Watching the children show you our classrooms with such enthusiasm and pride gives us a thrill. It is so interesting to see what they choose to share or demonstrate on that evening. We hope that you were pleased, as well, and we thank you for making the effort to come to school on that evening. The information you receive at conferences is more meaningful when you have been in your child's "shoes" at school for a bit. Feel free to schedule an appointment to observe in the classroom during any school day if you were unable to attend on the Visit Night or would just like to see **MORE**.



Our **Halloween party** and parade at school was so much fun! We hope you had a chance to hear about some of it at home in between all of your own celebrations. Please visit the MCH [website](#) to view the photos of our exciting events at school.

Although there has been no need to fully practice with winter gear, the snowy weather of the season will be upon us soon. We would like to thank you in advance for having your child well prepared for outdoor play. Winter dressing can be practiced at home in anticipation of that first big snowfall. We have a lot of fun on the playground at recess and warm outdoor clothes are a must. Reminder: please label your child's clothing.



There is a lot of news to share, we realize, and we are grateful for your attendance at conferences on Monday, Nov. 7th when we can share even more about your children and their successful beginnings here at Montessori Children's House. Please feel free to discuss your child's school life with us at any time.

## EXTENDED DAY



There is so much big work going on with these older students and great levels of concentration. These characteristics of the 5 year old in the Montessori community serve as a wonderful leadership model in their morning classes. They are definitely up to the task and are enjoying this role, as well as their extended time together each day. Our first field trip was also this month--to Aquatic Pets in downtown Northfield--where we purchased a strawberry hermit crab for the upstairs classroom.

There is a lot of news to share, we realize, and we are grateful for your attendance at conferences on Monday, Nov. 6th when we can share even more about your children and their successful beginnings here at Montessori Children's House. Please feel free to discuss your child's school life with us at any time.



**Birthdays** we celebrated in

October:

Emma Kleese – October 16



**Congratulations:** to the Gunderson family on the birth of baby sister, September, to Brooklyn in the upstairs class. Welcome!

**Meet Our New Hens!**



**Calendar:**

Nov 6—parent/teacher conferences-**no school**

Nov. 22 – Alumni Visit Day

Nov. 23 & 24 -- **no school**, Thanksgiving

