

SOUTH SHORE MONTESSORI
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER, 2010
WWW.SOUTHSHOREMONTESSORI.ORG

October Calendar

Oct. 11-Columbus Day
Oct. 15- Elementary Field Trip
Oct. 19-Picture Re-takes
Oct. 20- Vision Screening
Oct. 24- UN Day
Oct. 28- Fall Festival/Preschool
Oct. 29- Fall Festival/Elementary
Nov. 7- Daylight Savings Ends

HOLIDAYS

In observance of Thanksgiving, we will be closed November 24th, 25th, and 26th.
We will be closed Christmas eve at 2:00 p.m.
We will be closed the week of December 27th through the 31st for the Winter Holidays.

OPEN HOUSE

Preschool Open House was wonderful. Thank you to all of the parents who joined us. We sincerely hope that you were able to take something home with you and leave knowing that your children are in a loving, learning environment. If you have any more questions regarding something you learned at Open House or questions about your child's classroom, please feel free to contact us with those questions at any time. Also, thank you to all of our *wonderful* teachers who put their hearts into making Open House enjoyable for everyone who attended!

CONFERENCE'S

If you haven't already done so, please sign up for a conference with your child's teacher. Check your class clip board for times and date's. This is your chance to have a one on one discussion about your child with their teacher.

VISION SCREENING

Vision screenings, which are offered annually at our school, will be held this year on Wednesday, October 20th at 9:00am. Doctors from the Hopping Eye Associates here in the Clear Lake area will be conducting the screenings. The screening is offered to all children, however, for those children 4 years and up it is mandatory that we have a vision screening on file with the school. There is a \$20.00 fee for this screening.

PICTURE RE-TAKE DAY

We will be holding a picture re-take day on Tuesday October 19th. If you missed out on our picture day held in September, this is your one last chance to have individual pictures of your child taken.

PIZZA DAY

We wanted to remind you again that pizza day is EVERY Friday. Please be aware that your child will only eat pizza on Friday if you have paid for it in advance. As a reminder, the prices for pizza tickets are listed below:

Classrooms 101-104: Ticket = \$15.00

Classroom 105: Ticket = \$20.00

SCHOLASTIC ORDERS

We did great on the Book Fair but did you know that we also get books every time you order from the monthly Catalog. We have already sent out the October Catalog. Take just a moment to look it over. You will find great books at a great price. You can even order on line as a parent by going to www.scholastic.com/bookclubs. Sign in as a parent, give our code H69p6 and our school will get credit for your order.

INFORMATION UPDATES

At this time, we should have received each family's updated records for this school year, including your child's current immunization records, emergency medical information, and contact information. If we have not received these records, please be sure to get those turned in to the office as soon as possible. It is very important that we have ALL of this information on file. Thank you!

FALL FESTIVAL

The infant, Toddler and Preschool will celebrate Fall Festival on Thursday, October 28th. We will celebrate with a party in each classroom; see the clipboards in the front office to sign up for refreshments. 105 will be celebrating on Friday, October 29th. We do not wear costumes. **This is a no candy event!**

TIME CHANGE

Don't forget Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 7th. I am sure no one will forget to set the clock BACK one hour!

BOX TOPS

November 1st is the first submission date for box tops. This is a fun & easy way for your child to be involved with raising money for our school. Every box top you collect is worth \$.10 so thank you to everyone for helping! We have already collected over \$30 in box tops so please keep bringing them in! To see more ways to earn cash for our school, go to www.btfe.com/earn

FIRE SAFETY MONTH

October is Fire Safety Month. As part of our theme this month we will learn about policemen, firemen, and safety. We will be having a special

visit from the League City Fire Department. Both of our preschool classrooms and our first year elementary students will get to take part in this exciting event. No worries! The firemen do a wonderful presentation for our children. They make sure that this is an enjoyable experience for each child and are careful not to present any information that may scare or worry the children.

Recycle parent

A big thanks goes to Mrs. Atkinson for taking care of our recycling, it has been a big help.

Hand Sanitizer

We would like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Doan for helping to keep our school germ free. They have been providing us with the large containers of hand sanitizer.

NATIONAL HAND WASHING DAY

October 15th. This is a day when everyone, everywhere, will be perfecting their hand washing skills. Please model for your child at home.

CELL PHONE DONATIONS

We are still collecting old cell phones to donate to our soldiers overseas. If you have any you can donate, please leave them at the front office.

PENNIES FOR PEACE

Our Pennies for Peace drive will end Oct. 24th. United Nations Day. Everyone has been so generous with their pennies. These pennies will be used to help build schools in Afghanistan. For more information please check out www.penniesforpeace.org

SHOW-N-TELL

This month, we will be working on the following sounds:

- ★ Oct. 1st – “i” like insect
- ★ Oct. 8th – “g” like golf
- ★ Oct. 15th – “c” cat
- ★ Oct. 22nd – “n” like nose
- ★ Oct. 29th – “b” like ball

From the classroom of:

101:

During October we will be working on Safety and Community Helpers. We are excited about our Art show and are working hard on master pieces which include Pointillism, Collage and Printing. Our Sign Language lessons will be the sign of food and eating. We will also talk about Fall and the changing seasons.

102:

What an exciting month for 102! The children will be very busy this fall, enjoying lots

of art. We will be talking about local police and firemen along with fire safety. Books written by Stephen Kellogg will be read and music by Leonard Bernstein will be played during work periods. Sign language will consist of mealtime sign such as eat, drink, thirsty etc. We will explore South America by looking at pictures and reading materials about this continent.

103

Wow! We have so much coming up for the month of October. We will be decorating t-shirts for our annual Fall Festival. We will visit the pumpkin patch, where each student will buy their own small pumpkin to take home. We will be utilizing our senses when we play, “which is my pumpkin”. A real fire truck will be visiting our school. We will also be preparing for our annual art show.

Our continent of study this month is South America. We have many fun and interesting things planned to help us learn all we can about this continent. Along with this, we are in need of items to fill our South America continent box. If you have items that represent South America, please bring them to be added to our continent box. Lastly, we have Fall Conferences coming up. Please check our clipboard to see available times and dates. If these dates or times have a conflict with your schedule, give us a call and we will help to schedule a conference.

We are asking that each student bring in a plain white t-shirt within the next couple of weeks to paint and decorate. We are very excited about this fun, busy month ahead of us!

104:

The month of September was a wonderful month for us, as well! We enjoyed making our timelines of our lives and looking at each others pictures. We also had a blast tasting different kinds of fruits and determining what our favorite type of apple is. This month we also worked really hard on learning the names of the continents and sorting air, land, and water pictures. We had a great learning experience as we discussed who Johnny Appleseed was and created interesting apple prints

During this month, we will be learning all about South America. We will be listening to music from South America and learning about parts of the rainforest. We are in need of real objects to put into our continent object box. If you have anything that you would like to share with our classroom, please send it in! In science, we will be discussing the difference between the three states of matter: solids, liquids, and gases. We plan on having a fun “Fall Festival” and will be visiting a neighboring pumpkin patch. We will be talking about community helpers such as policemen and firemen, and we will enjoy a

wonderful visit from the fire department. Thank you to our parents for returning readers sent home each day. Please remember to pack utensils in lunch kits. And as we have limited space, do not send backpacks. A canvas tote bag on Friday would work well. If you need a bag, one can be purchased in the office for \$12.00.

105:

October brings so many new and wonderful cultural lessons to our class. First year students will be continuing their study of the globe and the transition from the globe to a flat map. They will begin the Study of Fractions. The Second year students will study Life Cycles of Plants, The Fundamental Needs of Man and will research the countries of South America. Third year students have received lessons on the Characteristics of Fish and will be dissecting Yellow Perch. They will begin work on a vertical study of the Needs of Man. The Fourth year students will begin the study of the Gifts of the Phyla and will receive lessons on Australopithecus. The Fifth years will receive lessons on creating an outline and Bibliography as part of their Ancient Civilization Projects. We will be preparing dry slides for observation under the microscope. Thank you to the Chaudhari family for the use of this wonderful scientific instrument.

Please send a white T-shirt by Oct. 15th to decorate for our Fall Celebration on Friday Oct. 29th.

Birthdays

103:

10/18 – Gryffin Burchfield

10/20 – Seth Mattamana

104:

10/3 –Roshni Chaudhari

10/25 – Kameron Work

105:

10/17 – Olivia DeLucia

Staff:

10/7 – Ms. Tracia

10/7 - Ms. Harris

10/8 - Ms. Stelling

10/9 – Ms. Peggy

10/18 – Ms. Gail

Kids need rules to feel more secure, responsible.

By Evelyn Petersen

Knight Rider Tribune News

Q: For the life of me, I don't understand why our kids are afraid to say no to our grand children, or set rules and limits or make kids experience consequences. They were raised this way but have somehow forgotten it.

Please give me something I can blow up and frame for the wall of their kitchen.

-Grandma Jean, Michigan

A: Here's something for the parents to frame and read:

Children feel more secure and more responsible when they know what is expected of them and when they know and understand the rules. Let your children help make family rules, even if you lead the discussion. Let them help set the rules, too. Kids of any age keep rules better when they help make them. When they have input, kids feel invested in the rule making process.

You can and should have fun with your kids, but remember that you're much more than a pal: You are the parent. Children need limits. They do not run the house or make family decisions. You do.

Saying no and explaining why, is one way to take responsibility (and Model it) as a parent. Saying nothing confuses children or - even worse - they take your silence as a yes.

Kids do lot better at self-discipline if you explain the reasons for your no's. Keep explanations simple to prevent their tuning you out.

One more thing about limits: If you expect the worst from your children, whether out in public or at home, they will give it to you. If you expect their best, you are much more likely to get it. Always expect their best and praise them for giving it.

For more information, you can check out the chapter on teaching discipline and responsibility in the book my daughter Karin and I wrote, *Sam's Teach Yourself e-Parenting Today* (Macmillan USA/SQMS). Or, see the excerpts page and my Web site, www.askevelyn.com.

Evelyn Petersen is an early childhood and parenting educator, consultant and author.

October

Theme: Our City, Policeman, Fireman, Safety

Author: Stephen Kellogg Science Fiction

Artist: George Seurat & John Biggers

Composer: Leonard Bernstein

Peacemaker: Dr. Martin Luther King

Continent: South America

Virtue: Self-esteem

Misc.: UN Day/ World Map/ Globes/ Fall/ Harvest