



## Toddler News

## Tuckahoe Montessori School

The year has had a fantastic start for the littlest learners at TMS. Our toddlers are so busy and cannot get enough of all the classroom work! We have moved through presentations in most areas of the classroom. As the days lengthen, we have time to sing, dance and play outside! The toddlers are already sitting behind line and walking independently and quietly on the line in the hallway. The students are tirelessly working on classroom management. They get to clean up, wipe down and push in chairs!

We welcomed our pet beta fish, "Bob", and the students will each be able to take part in feeding and caring for him. Apples, trucks, pumpkins, changing leaves and acorns adorn our shelves! The lesson concept being community, nutrition, and Fall. We will have the children taste different types of apples and decide which variety they like best.

We look forward to the pumpkin patch and our Halloween celebration! We will also start talking about the continent of Europe.

We will also be presenting the world and so your children may begin commenting on how we live in North America!

Please remember to keep us informed when potty training begins with your child!! Snack and laundry will also start in October. We thank you in advance for this help!!

~ Ms. Elizabeth

## Toddler's Halloween Parade & Pumpkin Patch

**HALLOWEEN PARADE/ PICNIC:** On Monday, October 31st the TMS primary students will have a parade on the front lawn in their costumes and we will picnic afterwards. Parents of Monday toddlers, please come to pick up your students at 10:50AM. At that time if you would like to change them into a costume you may do so. After the parade, we hope that you all will stay, bring a picnic, and have lunch as a school.

**PUMPKIN PATCH:** There will be no formal classes on Thursday the 20th of October.

Please plan to meet us at The Pumpkin Patch at 9:15am. Directions will follow. If you are unable to attend, please let us know so we can plan accordingly. At the event you will be responsible for supervising your child. The trip involves a hayride out to the field where we will then pick pumpkins. Each child gets one pumpkin to take home.

### New Staff Member:

As Ms. Katherine moved to the Elementary classroom full time, we welcome to the toddler classroom, Ms. Elizabeth Kimball. "Ms. Beth" a JMU graduate spent last year working for Americorp in a local elementary school. She has a passion for music, sports and the outdoors. We look forward to hearing her guitar playing in the toddler classroom!



### School Picture

We were able to get some cute photos of the toddler class. Look for your school pictures around Oct. 11th. Orders will be due one week after you receive of the photos



# Tuckahoe Montessori School

## Director's Note

*We have had a wonderful start to the new year. The classrooms are busy with activity. The students have been able to complete many works and are maturing into independent workers with so much curiosity.*

*Our first Parent-Teacher meeting is coming up next week. We will look in depth at the Practical Life area of the classroom. It is where the students begin their Montessori life. It is the area where they increase their attention, become centered, and begin to experience joy and success in the doing not just in the creation of a product. The education meetings were held last year in the morning. Based on your feedback, it is our intention to alternate evenings and daytime hours for the sessions from year to year in order to meet the scheduling demands of all of our families.*

*The parent portion of the webpage is open. To access it please use the user name: tmsparent and the password: proudparent 123. This page will have helpful information and calendar reminders, as well as a link to the photos we take at school via Shutterfly. Please let me know if there are other items that you would find helpful to post on this page.*

*As we move forward thru the school year, we ask for your continued partnership as we guide your child through their Montessori experience. Please help us help your child develop a joy in doing for themselves and a love of learning. Find a corner of your home and make your child responsible for it. Let them pick out their clothes in the morning and help with laundry or the dishes. All the classes have done work on setting the table, engage your child in helping get ready for family dinner. As they learn what they can do for themselves, they will grow in self-confidence. From that place of confidence, your child feels empowered to ask more questions about their environment and about the work on the shelves we have for them. This is where the love of learning begins. They are absorbing information at an accelerated rate and it is our job, as their educators, to provide a supportive, nurturing environment in which this learning can continue.*

*We encourage you to review your **Parent's Handbook** about repetition and paperwork. It is important to remember that your child is learning even if paperwork isn't coming home.*

*We are always available for your comments and questions and look forward to a wonderful year!*  
~ Mrs. Amanda

## TMS Volunteers

Thanks to all of you for volunteering to help throughout the school year. Please look out for emails regarding meetings for the different committees. If you didn't sign up but are interested in learning more about the committee please feel free to come to the meetings;

Outreach, October 6th at 8:45am

Hospitality, October 11th at 8:45am

### **TMS BUILDING AND GROUNDS!**

We will be starting a new committee, Building & Grounds! This will be a new committee for TMS and will help with the maintenance of the playground, design of the garden, and other building needs. If you like to work outdoors or are willing to help with a hammer and drill, please contact our Building and Grounds chair Angelo Phillos .phillos@comcast.net



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## Happy Birthday!

### September

- ☺ Dylan Shelley
- ☺ Sophie Sutton
- ☺ Kaylin Paris
- ☺ Riley Haefner

### October

- ☺ Sophie Shaw
- ☺ Mrs. Holly
- ☺ Taylor Hamilton
- ☺ Will Henry Clark
- ☺ Brayden VandeSand
- ☺ Bailey Lambert
- ☺ Tenzin Sutton
- ☺ C.J. Burger
- ☺ Henderson Fisher

### Handbook Corrections/Additions

The Flores family joined the TMS community after the directory was printed. Please add Roman to April's class list.

Flores, Rene & Jill  
2013 Stonehollow Rd  
jrfloros02@comcast.net  
Richmond, VA 23238  
765-532-3042  
Roman 7- 11- 06

Also, please note that Gardner Kaufman's name was spelled incorrectly. Gardner is the correct spelling.



## Continent Days

Our first Continent Day celebration will be held October 28th. We will be celebrating Europe! The Cimino, Browne, Spivack, Shelley, Lilly, Hayes, and Weinstein families will be showcasing the art, food, artifacts, geography, and games of Europe.

Continent Day is truly a highlight of the month for the students. We look forward each year to the creative ideas our families display.

Looking beyond Europe; the remaining Continent Day breakdowns are listed below. If you have not signed up for a day, or have but don't see your name listed please confirm with Mrs. Amanda.

**North America:** Daughtrey, Julien, Gareau, Starke, Shaw, Bearden

**Asia:** Cimino, Agarwal, Crane, Paris, Valentine

**Africa:** Phillos, Conn, VandeSand, Shannon, Whitlow, Coffey, White

**South America:** Hamilton, Gans, Murthy, Burger, Finch, Read

**Australia:** Clark, Zeidan, Hawkins, Gallagher, Fisher

*Please note the date of the continent day planning meeting listed in the Red Handbook.*

"We especially need imagination in science. It is not all mathematics, nor all logic but it is somewhat beauty and poetry" ~ M. Montessori

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**MUSIC AND SPANISH:** Our enrichment activities begin this month. Music, with Mrs. Kathleen Gambil-Hennessey, is on Monday. Spanish is held on Wednesdays, with Senora Corinna Sherlip. The primary students will attend music and Spanish in small groups made up of students from both classes. It is a great way for the students to interact with friends in the other class.

**AFTERNOON ENRICHMENT:** The Afternoon Students will begin their science, history, and art curricula this month. The science curricula designed by Ms. Chris is always a hit. This year the students will focus on earth science. In October we will discuss the Earth's origin, Pangea, rocks, fossils, and the earth's crust. Art will be lead for a second year by Ms. Pam with Art Adventures. She will work with the students on techniques to create art, while Ms. Jonelle will tie in elements of classroom learning, especially in the areas of culture to the art program. Art will be held Friday afternoons, so please dress your child accordingly.

**GYMNASTICS/SOCCER:** Our sport programs are in full swing. The students are enjoying getting their blood moving and learning new skills. After the Fall session, our intention is to continue gymnastics during the winter months and then resume soccer in the spring.

## October Festivities & Reminders

We will head to The Pumpkin Patch, off Lauderdale Road, on October 20th. The students enjoy a hayride and each receives a pumpkin to take home. We will not have any formal classes nor afternoon classes after the field trip.

The Halloween Parade takes place on Monday, October 31st at 11:00AM. **Please do not send your child in costume.** Send his/her costume in a bag labeled with his/her name. Teacher and parent volunteers will assist your child into his/her costume before the parents arrive.

Parents are invited to meet your student on the front lawn on Monument Ave. at 10:50AM. Please bring a blanket and picnic lunch for your family and set yourself for the parade which will begin at 11:00AM. After the parade, we will enjoy lunch as a school.

**Tote Bags:** On Fridays, bags with your student's work, library books, & handouts are sent home. We ask that the bags are returned on Monday. If you have not already, please label the blank side of the

bag with your child's name in large letters. This helps your student identify their bag when hanging on the playground fence.

**Clothing:** Be sure to send in an extra set of clothing for your child's cubby in case of accidents or spills. Also, with the change in the season, make sure that we have appropriate clothing for the weather

**T-Shirts:** If you have an outstanding t-shirt order with us we have not forgotten. We are having the shirts reprinted, for the second time, due to errors in color and size of the logo. We will have them by the pumpkin patch trip.



## Classroom News!

October is an exciting month as the classroom continues to unfold for the students. We have begun food prep. During food prep, the students are able to prepare an additional snack to eat themselves, or to offer to a friend. We begin with banana cutting, and apple slicing, and will progress to making sailboats with oranges and apples as well as the flag of Denmark at the end of the month. The students always enjoy the independence of making their own food. Open snack, which means that snack is at the snack table for consumption rather than served as a group, will begin. Students may need an extra reminder that they can eat snack whenever they choose.

We highlight the treasures of Fall this month including leaves, apples, and pumpkins. We will talk about the parts of a pumpkin, visit a pumpkin farm, and carve a pumpkin. Fall is a time that awakens the senses with the all wonderful smells. We will be tasting apples to determine our favorite variety. In science, we will talk about the bones in our own skeleton as well as looking at other vertebrates. We will be doing some art work with pinecones so please send in beautiful open pine cones that you may find.

Our continent studies will be focused on Europe. Europe is full of wonderful cultural diversity and we encourage you to share the wealth of children's literature that is set in Europe with your children including Madeline, Ferdinand, and Heidi. We will be making some Scottie dog's as well as a TMS family crest in art. If you have your families crest at home we would love to borrow it for the month and hang it in the classroom to complement our studies.

The Library begins Friday, October 7th with our parent volunteers. Library books will come home in your child's tote bag in a new library book bag. We are hoping the library bags will help keep the TMS library books separate from all of the books in your home. We ask that they are returned when the student's tote bag returns. Please make sure books are returned, your child will not be able to check out another book until the first has been returned.



**Show and Tell** begins Friday, October 7th. If your student has an item to share that is in concert with our classroom study, please send them in. As always, label your items and please, no toys or jewelry. It is also helpful if you send a small note with the object that will help the teacher's prompt

### *A Note from our Room Parents*



Nothing immediate. Just a heads up. As many of you are aware at TMS we choose to show special teacher and staff appreciation a few times of the year: the Holiday season (Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa time frame), Teacher Appreciation week (which occurs in the spring) and at each Teacher/Staff's Birthday. Parent participation is optional. For the holiday season, just before holiday break, we will ask you to contribute to a cash fund that will be divided among all teachers and staff. Details are forthcoming in December. Again, participation is optional. During teacher appreciation week, which is in the spring, the Hospitality Committee in conjunction with the Room Parents will ask volunteers to make dinners for the teachers/staff. You will also be asked to bring something small each day of the week to celebrate your child's teacher. For example, a card, flowers from your garden, an extra big hug, etc.

Regarding your child's teacher's birthday, you will receive an email from one of the Room Parents (Jennifer, Aimee or Tiffany) alerting you of the birthday and asking you to bring something small like flowers from your garden, a home made card, a small gift card for the teacher, or whatever you and your child are inspired to do. In conjunction, the Room Parents will provide lunch for the teacher/staff.

In addition, the hospitality committee will provide lunch for the teachers during parent/teacher conference days and when a family welcomes a new baby the committee also coordinates some meals for that family. Anyone interested in helping Beth Burger with hospitality please contact her at [elizabethhanne4@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethhanne4@gmail.com)

We just wanted to give you a heads up so that you won't be surprised when you receive an email regarding any of the above.

Any questions, ask Jennifer Kaufman. Ms. April's Room Parent

Thanks all.

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## Parent Coffees!

By popular demand our parent coffees are making a comeback! Our parent coffees are just a chance for our parents to meet and greet one another, sit back, relax and chat while enjoying a light breakfast and coffee. Yep that's it...just a chance to mingle with other TMS parents while our little ones are leaning the morning away!! Feel free to drop in anytime between 8:30am and 10:00am for our first coffee this year. Looking forward to meeting new families as well as catching

up with some of our TMS veterans!

Please mark your calendars!!

Tuesday October 11<sup>th</sup> – Blue Room on 1<sup>st</sup> floor near fellowship hall @ TMS (8:30 to 10:00am)

Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup>  
Home of Tiffany and Joe  
Conner ( 9:00 - 10:30am )

Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup> – Home of Jennifer and Wes Coffman ( 9:00 – 10:30am )

Tuesday May 15<sup>th</sup>  
Home of Aimee and Cameron Shaw ( 9:00-10:30am )



**Come and Join us!**

## Dates to Remember

October 5th	8:30am	Europe Planning Meeting
October 5th	6:00pm	Parent Education Meeting: Practical Life
October 6th	8:40am	Outreach Committee meeting
October 11th	8:30 am	Parent Coffee: Come and Socialize!
October 12th	8:30am	Lower Elementary Parent Education Meeting
October 13th	9:00am	Valentine Museum at TMS
October 18th	8:45 am	Afternoon Students: Ashland Paper Mill
October 20th	9:15am	Pumpkin Patch Field Trip: See newsletter for full details
October 26th	8:30am	North America Planning Meeting
October 28th	All day	Europe Day
October 31st	11:00am	Picnic lunch and Halloween parade

## More News and Opportunities

### Read Aloud Anyone??

A fun way to volunteer and spend time with your child's class is by joining us at 11:00 group to read a story to your child's class. Please call the office to schedule your reading time with Ms. Dawn.

### New Additions!!

Welcome to:

Georgina Louise Phillos  
born August 25th at 2:59 AM weighing in at 6 lbs. 6 ozs.

Congratulations to Mariel on her new sister!



### Wish List Items:

We will need in the coming months beautiful open pinecones. Also in conjunction with our study of Europe, if you have a family crest

that we can display in the classroom for the month. We would love to borrow it. Lastly, our library is being formalized into a catalog complements of Shelby Driskill, This will enable us to search for books as well as develop a comprehensive collection. We will post the wish list for books up on the website in the coming weeks.



## Lower Elementary News!

We have had a wonderful start to the new school year. In the beginning weeks of the Elementary classroom, the students start with their Great Lessons. The Great Lessons are the stories that provide the framework from which the student delve into the subjects in the classroom. The first lesson starts with the Universe; after the story is told the students delve into study on the planets, the layers of the earth, etc. In Math we are focusing on polygons and building these many-sided shapes with both sticks and beads. Our scientific focus has been on the parts of the plant and with that in mind, we will ask each student to bring in a particular type of plant for the classroom differentiated by leaf shape! Please check your student's bag for the list. For Language the emphasis has been on spelling, learning cursive, and, as always, reading, reading, reading! Please encourage your child to read at home, as well as when you are out and about.

We are looking forward to setting up our fish tank this month. Thanks to Jennifer Chang for assisting us! We will have several salt water fish as well as oysters in our tank. We are exciting about the numerous ecology and science lessons that will come out of this addition to our classroom!

## Extra Curricular Activities

The elementary students have been busy with the extra curricular offerings of their classroom. Chinese is a hit with Ms. Hui Penki. Ms. Penik comes to us from Michigan with a background in teaching Chinese to Elementary students. The students are enjoying their new vocabulary words as well as learning about how the words connect to the Chinese culture. Spanish has continued with Ms. Corinne. Ms. Katherine, who is also fluent in Spanish, is reinforcing the words they are learning in Spanish throughout the week. Music and Music lessons will begin next week. Group music class will be held on Mondays and individual music lessons will be held on Fri-

day mornings while Ms. Ramya is meeting individually with the students. Running club is off to a speedy start! We are working toward our goal of running the Monument Ave. Kids Mile! We are working on keeping our heart rates up and remembering to breathe while we run; rather than sprinting. Running club is Thursday afternoons during their outside time as soccer has moved to Fridays. Gymnastics is on Tuesdays and the students are enjoying tumbling and balancing while they learn all about their bodies.

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## Field Trips

The Lower Elementary program has a great list of field trips. As a school, we find the trips a great inspiration point for our students learning. Before we leave for our trips the students will review the maps to determine where we are going and the route we will take. At Henricus Park, the students brought journals to sketch what they saw and we took pictures. Those pictures and sketches will be utilized to create a book for the classroom to reference in the future. We had a blast Henricus Historical Park! We thoroughly enjoyed our time at the Lakeside Farmer's Market. We had the idea of making soup and salad however the students voted and determined that the baked goods and fruits were a much better option. The Farmer's Market will be carried out further in

the classroom with a game in Math of Farmer's Market math. With our field trips, we prepare by looking at a map to see where we are going, determining what we need to bring, and preparing some questions we might want to ask about what we think we will see. Now we are looking forward to the excitement of The Ashland Paper Mill on October 18th! This will be a great lesson on where things come from as we will witness the creation of paper starting from a tree!

