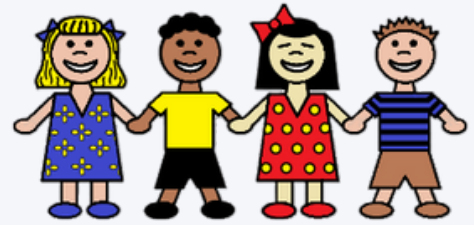


SEPTEMBER 2024

# MONTESSORI SCHOOLS of Central Texas



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## IMPORTANT DATES

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 9/2     | Labor Day<br>No School                      |
| 9/12    | Fire Department Visit<br>Primary-Elementary |
| 9/17    | Picture Day<br>Toddler & Elementary         |
| 9/18    | Picture Day<br>Primary                      |
| 9/20    | Lower Elem Field Trip                       |
| 9/24-26 | Hearing & Vision<br>Screening               |
| 9/27    | Upper Elem Field Trip                       |

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Thank you for a successful start to the 2024-2025 school year! We've appreciated your support and communication as students have been working through the transition period that comes with the beginning of each new year. The children are starting to settle in and fall into their classroom routines.

September is a busy month with several important events on the calendar. Please see page 5 for the details of all that's happening.

-- Mrs. Jennifer Watson



"He does it with his hands, by experience,  
first in play and then through work.  
The hands are the instruments of man's intelligence."  
- Maria Montessori, The Absorbent Mind



**GOLDEN IN THE GARDEN,  
GOLDEN IN THE GLEN,  
GOLDEN, GOLDEN, GOLDEN  
SEPTEMBER'S HERE AGAIN!  
GOLDEN IN THE TREE TOPS,  
GOLDEN IN THE SKY--  
GOLDEN, GOLDEN, GOLDEN  
SEPTEMBER'S GOING BY!**  
BY ANNETTE WYNNE

## INFANT 1

We are excited to continue our new school year with your amazing children. Your little ones have done a great job separating from you and are beginning to attach to their teachers. Although there is still some initial crying at arrival, all the children have begun settling in and are exploring their classroom, internalizing their new environment and routine.

During the month of September, we will continue to bond, and build trust and acceptance. Our language discussions will center around the Fall season. We will continue to focus on our signs for "more", "eat", and "milk", and for Bible lessons we will continue practicing our mealtime prayer.

We are hoping cooler temperatures are headed in our direction soon so we can spend more time on our porch in the fresh air!

-- Mrs. Terri Wallace



## INFANT 2

This month we will talk a lot about apples as we prepare to welcome Fall. We'll read stories about apples, incorporate apples into our work and art, and even make apple pie and apple cinnamon chips! We'll also continue working on our routine and stand-up toileting using cloth diapers, and practice self-care by washing hands and learning how to wipe our noses.

Take a look at our September lesson plan:

- GROUP LESSONS** Songs; All About Me (body parts, five senses); classroom introduction (rules/routine)
- PRACTICAL LIFE** Care of Self: Hand washing, nose wiping; Care of environment: restoring work; plant watering; setting table; Food preparation: peel bananas and serve snacks
- COGNITIVE MANIPULATIVE** Music and movement; shapes puzzles and sorter; primary color matching; open and close activities; tree and apple picture matching, pom transferring
- LANGUAGE** Stories: "A" Was Once an Apple Pie, Bad Apple, and The Apple Pie Tree; Spanish: apple (manzana), banana (platano), strawberries (fresas)
- BIBLE** Verse: Genesis 1:1; Story: Creation
- SENSORY** Mystery bag- identifying items by name; smelling jars; kinetic sand; apple painting; leaf stamping

-- Mrs. LaDonna Ronelus

## TODDLER

Our students are ready for cooler temperatures and so are we! This month we'll prepare for the changing season and talk a lot about Fall. We will also introduce food preparation and focus on care of self. More September's activities include:

- GROUP LESSONS** Songs; weather; apples; tools; books: *Hands are Not for Hitting* and *Voices Are Not for Yelling*
- PRACTICAL LIFE** Self-care: wiping our nose and washing our hands; slicing a banana; window washing
- MOTOR SKILLS** Outdoor play; walking in a straight line and in a circle; transferring (tongs, spoons, pouring)
- LANGUAGE** Singing; Spanish: fruits (*frutas*), apple (*manzana*), trees (*arboles*), and care of self (*cuidado personal*)
- BIBLE** Psalm 56:3-4, "When I am afraid, I will trust in You;" Story: *Daniel and the Lions*; Songs: *God is Good* and *Jesus Loves Me*
- ART** Sticker activities; painting

Children at this age love practical life lessons; they want to imitate the things you do! By giving your toddler the appropriate-sized tools to help with activities such as sweeping, dusting, raking, and watering, you're helping them strengthen hand-eye coordination, build fine and gross motor skills, develop concentration, and a feel a strong sense of accomplishment. Don't be afraid to let them "do it myself!"

-- Mrs. Tammy Clausen



## PRIMARY

Our students have begun settling into their new routine and have begun diving into lessons.

Cooking is always a favorite activity for the students; we plan to end the month by making delicious apple bread!

Take a look at what else we have planned:

### GROUP LESSONS

Large Group: calendar; days of the week; food groups; senses.

Small Group: smelling bottles; observation table; introduction to the bells

### SPANISH

Numbers (los numeros) 1-10

### GRACE AND COURTESY

Inside voice; minimizing food waste; observing classroom pets

### PRACTICAL LIFE

Cooking: apple bread  
Art: seasons

### CULTURE

Seasons; astronomy; North America; Milky Way; continents song

### BIBLE

Creation; Noah (Genesis 6-9)

September will be full of many new learning experiences for our Primary students!

Please note that starting this month your child should be dropped off directly at their designated classroom if they arrive after 7:30 a.m.

Mrs. Carmen Alvarado  
and  
Ms. Gwen Copeland

## ELEMENTARY

The school year is off to a great start! The students are settling in and getting right to work.

Below are some of the things our students are working on this month:

### MATH

Polygons; quadrilaterals; study of lines; parts of a triangle.

### SCIENCE

Formation of a star; laws of the universe

### CULTURAL STUDIES

Globes to flat maps; North America; classification games- living/non-living; landforms

### LANGUAGE

Article lessons 1-4  
Spanish: conversational phrases; family

### BIBLE

God's creation; navigating the Bible; talking to God

### PROJECTS

Leaf sewing; introduction to art

Elementary students will be taking a field trip to Topsey's Exotic Animal Ranch this month! Please remember to send students in their school t-shirt for field trip days.

Mrs. Dolline Abraham  
and  
Mrs. Monica Walker



# BIRTHDAYS



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

|                |                  |                |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| George Knaus   | Primary 1        | September 5th  |
| Jadd Rawdah    | Upper Elementary | September 5th  |
| Titus Jiang    | Primary 1        | September 6th  |
| Killian Evans  | Lower Elementary | September 9th  |
| Triniti Harper | Primary 1        | September 11th |
| Braden Easley  | Lower Elementary | September 11th |
| Brody Blount   | Primary 2        | September 14th |
| Levi Newberry  | Primary 2        | September 16th |
| Madelyn Jiang  | Lower Elementary | September 19th |
| Ayana Malik    | Primary 2        | September 21st |
| Amelia Ashby   | Infant 2         | September 22nd |
| Thomas Brooks  | Toddler          | September 23rd |
| Caleb Arnoudse | Primary 1        | September 24th |

# EVENT DETAILS

## Picture Days:

Lifetouch Portraits will be campus to take pictures of the toddler, primary, and elementary students on September 17th (Elementary & Toddler) & 18th (Primary). **Please send your child to school in the outfit that you would like them to wear for their picture!** (You may send a change of clothes if you would like them to change afterward.)

We will offer sibling pictures. If the siblings are scheduled on different days, just email the office to let us know which day is preferred to be photographed.

\*\*If Wednesday, September 18th is chosen for an elementary sibling, please remember this is also a PE day. Elementary students should come to school in their picture day outfits but bring their school shirt, shorts, and tennis shoes to change into afterward.

In my many years of experience with school pictures, the infant classes do not photograph well because the change in routine and the overwhelming photography set can scare young children. In fact, only about half of the toddler pictures will turn out well due to this. If you would like your infant child photographed, they will most likely do well if a parent is with them. Parents of infant students may take their child to the photography location in the Upper Elementary library on the second floor of the main building on either morning to be photographed.

Once the pictures are complete, Lifetouch will send proofs home with the ordering details. There is no obligation to purchase any pictures.

## Hearing and Vision Screening:

September 24th-26th, children aged 4 by September 1, 2024, will undergo required hearing and vision screens. As a parent, you do not need to do anything other than have your child present for those three days. These tests are important to help determine if your child's vision and hearing falls within the normal range for their age or if further diagnostic testing is needed by a health care professional. You will receive the results once these tests have been completed.

There is a common misconception that young children see at the desired 20/20 range; however, eyes are not fully developed until the age of 8, typically. At age 4, children pass with 20/40 vision, unless there is a two-line difference between each eye. At age 5 and above, the state considers passing to be at the 20/30 line.

Also, in the past I have found that the few children who have failed the initial hearing test, will pass with a re-screen a couple weeks later because congestion affected the ability to hear.

These tests have proven beneficial because children will often over-compensate to see, which can mask vision problems. Catching hearing and vision problems early can have a positive impact on your child's health and general ability to thrive.

\*\*If your child wears glasses, please ensure that they bring them!

## Friday Spirit Days:

Students show your school spirit by wearing your Montessori t-shirt on Fridays! If you do not have one, please come by the office. The first shirt upon enrollment is complimentary and additional shirts are \$20.

Long sleeve shirts will be available to order later this month.