

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first year of the three year Montessori Early Elementary Program. You will see your child grow and mature a great deal during this busy and productive first year, and I consider it my privilege to help this process along.

First, a word about September in general. *September is a transition month for all children.* Understanding this, we teachers start out slowly, finding out how each child learns, and how many skills your child has retained over the summer. Patience is the key for parents and teachers.

For these first year students, there is much more writing and procedure than in their Kindergarten class. I add a few more steps each day to help them transition into the routine. I keep the work simple at first because the classroom procedures take some time to learn. By the end of September, we are up to speed. We begin homework in October.

I am the Head Teacher and I will be doing the report card evaluations and conferences for your child. In addition, **Toni Tomacci** will be teaching the cultural subjects of geography, zoology and botany in the afternoon.

Our reading teacher is **Florence Hunt**. She will be reading with your child every day. Reading groups will be quite fluid for a while until a comfortable group is found for your child. Again, patience is the key.

Our PE teacher, and Kid Fitness instructor, Stacie Mouri, has returned to school to pursue a career in physical therapy. I know the children will miss her, and we all wish her well in her new adventure. And finally, I will be leading Children's Chorus on Fridays.

Chorus is when the first, second and third year students get together to sing and learn some new music skills and songs. The finale to this class is the Spring Concert for you parents in June.

UPCOMING IN SEPTEMBER:

The first important date is **Picture Day** on Monday, Sept. 10.

You will find an information sheet and envelope in your red mail folder.

Back to School Night is Wednesday, September 5, from 7:00 to 9:00pm. This is a required PARENTS ONLY event; please do not bring your child to this meeting.

This is the only time of the year that we teachers get to: introduce ourselves, discuss what you need to do for homework, give you field trips dates, discuss birthday celebrations, talk about report cards, view the reading materials, look at the Math Homework book, get information about the upcoming Historical Parade, and answer all the questions that you have. *Your attendance at this meeting will be marked on your child's report card, as well as your attendance at both the parent conferences. This parent meeting makes the entire year run more smoothly for you and your child.*

Our first field trip to the George Weekes Branch Library, on Patrick Avenue, has been scheduled for **September 25, at 1:00**. The children will have an opportunity to get their own library card during this trip, and they will be able to check out five books, if there are no fines on file. We will need drivers for this trip. A flyer with more information will be coming to you soon. And so we are off. This will be an exciting year.

See you all at **Back to School Night**.

Jo