

### Highlights of the Week

Dear Families,

Welcome or welcome back to the Maple Room! All the teachers are ready for another exciting school year with your children.

And the children are getting ready, too...for the past two weeks the new Toddlers have been facing one of their biggest challenge: make themselves comfortable in a new environment filled with new materials and new faces. Not an easy task, but they are getting there with their own times.

In order to help the children in this process, the theme of the weeks has been "All about me". We are learning the names of ourselves and the names of our friends and teachers; we are talking about our bodies (the parts of the face with the use of a mirror, the food that helps our body to grow healthy and strong, other parts of our body); I took pictures of the children that are now available on the shelves for them to observe.

Some Montessori works have also been introduced these weeks: the knob cylinders, the object permanence (one of the favorite works so far), transferring objects with hands, counting 1 to 3.

In all this, the children are learning some ground rules like: walking feet, quiet voices, gentle hands, the work cycle routine and how to sit in the circle and how to stand in line.

Books of the weeks: "Lama, Lama misses Mama", "All about me", "Peek-a-boo", "Mirror me".

New this year: I would like to introduce the children to the Sign Language so, every couple of weeks we will learn a new sign. This week sign is the one for the word HI.

Have a restful weekend and be ready for a new week of challenges and a lot of learning!

#### Dr. Maria Montessori Words:



*"Free the child's potential and you will transform him into the world". M. Montessori*

#### Home/School Connection

The toddlers morning routine at a glance:

8:15-8:30 The children arrive  
 8:30-9:40 Montessori work cycle (self directed work with the classroom materials)  
 9:40-10:00 Morning circle (calendar, weather, shapes, colors, numbers, letters sounds, new works presentation)  
 10:00-10:20 Group snack  
 10:20-11:15 Recess  
 11:30 Lunch

Mondays at 9:30 Stretch and grow Wednesdays at 10:30 Music

#### Reminder:

- Family Social September 15th, 4:00PM-5:30PM
- Curriculum Night September 22nd
- Blake Apple orchard field trip October 6th
- Whole School Portraits October 19th