

### Highlights of the Week

It has been another exciting week here in Maple room. All the children are well settled into the school routine: they easily adjust during transitions, they know the phases of the work cycle and they are making friends!

Since we are talking about apples and since I really love to bake, this week we made an apple cake following a traditional recipe of my hometown. We made the cake from scratch: we started with one egg and some sugar, then we added butter, flour, milk and finally apples. The children were very excited and they helped me a lot stirring the mix. While we were adding the ingredients the toddlers noticed the change in the color and in the texture: the mix was becoming harder and harder to stir! And the most hilarious comment of one of the children was: "I am hungry already!".

Two new works have been introduced this week. The first one is a Language work and it is the sound of the letter S. With the use of sandpaper letters cards the children can practice not only the letter sound but they can also "feel" the letter by tracing the shape with their fingers. This is one of the children first step into literacy!

The second work is about shapes: using magnetic geometric figures the toddlers are learning to recognize squares, circles and triangles.

While we continue to practice the sign language for the word HI, we have introduced the sign for the word THANK YOU. You can practice this at home, too: touch your chin with the tips of your fingers and slowly move the arm down in front of you.

#### Dr. Maria Montessori Words:

*"Now, what really makes a teacher is love for the human child; for it is love that transforms the social duty of the educator into the higher consciousness of a mission."* M. Montessori

#### Reminder:

- Blake's Apple orchard field trip forms due date September 29th
- Blake's Apple orchard field trip October 6th
- Whole School Portraits October 19th

#### Home/School Connection

It's not too early to ask your child to clean up the toys after he/she is done playing. Here are some hints to ease the process:

- Have different containers for different toys (one basket for cars, one for the blocks, one for the dolls, etc.).
- Fill in one basket at the time (ask you child to pick up all the cars, then all the blocks, etc.)
- Help your child.
- Sing a song. This is the one that we sing at school:

*Twinkle, twinkle little star, it's time to clean up where you are. Put the toys back to their place, keep a smile upon your face. Twinkle, twinkle little star, it's time to clean up where you are. (On the tune of Twinkle, twinkle little star)*