

# Schoolhouse Scribbles

Olive Room

October 13, 2017

## Highlights of the Week

This week in our classroom we expanded our geography area. We now have a lot of work to practice naming the planets, some constellations and other parts of the solar system.

In math the work to practice counting and recognizing numbers above ten was introduced. Some of the older children helped younger children understand how to use the materials.

In practical life the children began work with sock matching and napkin rolling and using nuts and bolts. These activities will help the children with their reading and writing skills in a fun way. These material help children develop their fine motor and visual discrimination skills. Your child could now be responsible for sorting and folding socks for themselves at home.

In language each child practiced reading the sounds and phonograms in their books, tracing their names, some were writing words and others were writing stories.

The children are using the "Peace Rose" in our classroom to help them take turns telling a friend about their feelings. For example, if a child were to bump into someone, the child who was bumped could choose to get the peace rose and tell the bumping person something like, "I don't like it when you bump in to me." The child who bumped may something like, "I didn't mean to bump you. Are you OK?" The child who brought the rose might say, "I'm OK but please be more careful." The child who bumped might then say, "OK. Are we friends?" The children would return the rose to the peace table together. Right now the children are asking for help with words and are being coached about what to say. As the year progresses they will get more proficient at it. This technique may also help you with sibling spats at home.

"Imitation is the first instinct of the  
awakening mind."

Maria Montessori

### Reminders:

**Please return any items from school that end up at your house. We have several materials missing parts and it renders them unusable.**

- Whole School Portraits October 19th
- Halloween (No PM Kids Club) October 31st
- First Marking Period November 10th
- Parent/Teacher Conferences \*(**No School**, child care provided for FD/EXD students only) November 17th

## Home/School connection

One of our themes this month is fire safety. We discussed what to do during a fire drill and recalled what we did when we met safely outside for the fire drill at school. The children mentioned that they have smoke detectors at home which led to a discussion about having a fire safety plan at home. If your child has not yet heard the smoke detector at your house, now might be a good time. It would also be a good time to practice how to get out of your house safely and where your family will meet in such an emergency.