

### Highlights of the Week

This short week has been very, very busy. We manage to pack lots in and are really expanding on many areas of our classroom. We are at the point where we are basically talking about two major areas of our classroom simultaneously, specifically geography and science. We start with an idea in one area which prompts more discussion in the other area. For geography, we reviewed our theme of land, air and water: those properties that allow us to live on our planet earth. So for science this week, we are looking at not only the living things on earth but those things that are not living, or “living and non-living things”. So the question is asked, how do we identify living things? What do they do? We discussed how living things eat and drink, breathe air and grow. This is a fun way for children to imagine inanimate objects (like a hat, for instance) and realize the silly notion that it could actually live. The obvious humor also helps children understand and warm up to a somewhat lofty idea. Our discussion of living and non-living things leads into another discussion of the two major living groups, plants and animals. How each gets its food and water or gets air and grows is quite distinct but the children realize that the idea is fundamentally the same.

We do take little side stops to talk about other things about our earth and its relationship within the solar system. Gravity is an example. A simple activity of letting objects drop allows the children to “prove” gravity. With both heavy and light objects, some items seem to float, yet the children find, no matter if an object floats, it still falls eventually.

In geography we have taken a little side stop to talk about transportation, and how we use land air and water vehicles to get to where we need to go.

#### Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:

“It is exactly in the repetition of  
the exercises that the education of  
the senses exist; not that the child shall know colors, forms or  
qualities, but that he refines his senses through an exercise of  
attention, comparison

#### Reminders:

**\* Please remember to send in your child's folder daily.**

- Blake's Apple orchard field trip October 6th
- 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

Please contact me if you would like to share your family's cultural background by giving a small presentation to the class. It will be greatly appreciated! This will be a wonderful contribution to our classroom's cultural studies of countries around the world.

We are currently looking for parents who can help us present and celebrate Diwali !

Thank you for all your support!

Ms. Katherine