

# LEAP International Montessori School

2019-2020 Community Newsletter II

September 2019

## Contents

School and Classroom Updates.....	1
School Reminders & Announcements .....	1
Music with Mr. Clement .....	2
Scholastic Books.....	2
Uniform Reminder .....	2
Enrollment .....	2
Upcoming Events: .....	2
Other Volunteer Opportunities .....	3
Wish List .....	3
Staff FOCUS Highlight.....	4
Pictures .....	4

## School and Classroom Updates

Bonjour! The new school year is well underway and all is well. The classrooms have normalized nicely and the children are all busy working. We have been on our first field trip to the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center to do research about Ohkay Ohwingeh Pueblo and then we visited the Pueblo! We have also had our first holiday celebration where we went on a tour of world's holidays happening around the Fall Equinox. Additionally, many of the Primary children have completed their first sewing project of small pillows (with help and love from Mrs. OH) are thrilled with the idea of "applied geometry!"

We are excited to announce that as there has been more space in the Toddler room, and in order to help with the interest, as well as needs of the current children, Ms. Eden is working steadily to

transform the room, to being able to keep her existing two and a half to three year old children, into being a "Preprimary" room. This means that we are bringing into the room many of the materials from the Primary classroom that the children are interested in and ready for, though the ratios in the room will still stay smaller and with less children, it will be a calmer environment than the Primary classroom for those students for whom less visual and hearing stimulation would benefit them. If there are any questions about this, please see Ms. Eden or Mrs. Griffin.

Truly, the new year has started out very sweetly and everyone is excited about the coming activities.

## School Reminders & Announcements

- Updated Parent Handbooks were completed and distributed earlier in September with the required revisions for New Mexico PreK. If your family has not received the updated handbook or you have any questions, please see Mrs. Griffin or Mrs. OH.
- Home visits are being conducted on evenings and weekends. Please see Mrs. Griffin and/ or your child's teacher to schedule a visit that works best for your family.
- Fall Health Screenings were conducted in September by Dr. Autumn Stevenson (Marley's mom) and we are very grateful! Please see Mrs. Griffin if you have any questions.
- Fall Portraits are in and they are absolutely darling! Please contact Stevie Romero (Jasper and Juniper's mom) for proofs and ordering information at

[bravhart83@gmail.com](mailto:bravhart83@gmail.com). There are student portraits and class portraits. Enjoy!

- LEAP is delighted to announce that we will be hosting Ms. Kylie Granger in the Primary

classroom with her CNM Practicum internship for the Fall 2019 semester. We welcome you into our school and wish you all the best with your career options!

## Music with Mr. Clement

Mr. Clement has added additional times on Tuesday for private keyboarding lessons. If interested please sign up in the office or call Mr. Clement at 228-2781.

## Scholastic Books

Scholastic book orders are in and new flyers have gone out. Please direct all orders to Rachel Noek (Koden's mom) at 505-400-5231 or [rachelnoek@gmail.com](mailto:rachelnoek@gmail.com).

## Uniform Reminder

We would like to respectfully remind parents that to help encourage concentration, we do have a uniform policy that is basically plain colors. Please, keep refrain from any characters on clothes especially, as these often turn out to be distracting for all of the children when in the work cycle. Please see the parent handbook with any questions.

Uniform shirts are have come in and have been distributed. If your child would like additional short or long sleeve shirts, please see Mrs. OH.

## Enrollment

Do you know a family who is looking for a great school for their children? Would you like some help with your tuition? We still have room in the Toddler/ PrePrimary classroom. To say thank you for the referral and help with growing our community, we are extending an offer to our families that for every new child that enrolls at LEAP and comes from a referral, we would be happy to credit \$100 to the referring family's next month's tuition payment.



## Upcoming Events:

**Mrs. Griffin's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday- Monday October 7<sup>th</sup>**

**School Balloon Fiesta Day- Tuesday October 8<sup>th</sup>**

- Balloon Fiesta Day! As per request, LEAP will be welcoming families wanting to take children to the Albuquerque International Balloon fiesta, as a school on Tuesday October 8<sup>th</sup>. If families would like to go the Balloon Fiesta on Tuesday, the children will not be counted absent, but rather, "on a field trip".
- The weather is likely to be cold, though it should warm up as the day does on. Dressing in layers is strongly recommended. We hear the hot chocolate and burritos this year are extra delicious and also serve as wonderful hand warmers. ;)

**Dinner & a Movie- Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup>**

- LEAP hosts Dinner and a Movie, the second Saturday of every month, from 6-10pm. The cost is \$25 per person and includes dinner and activities. All children ages 3 and older are invited. All proceeds from the event benefit Teacher's Continuing Education fund. Please see Mrs. Griffin if you are interested.

- Children are invited to come in their pajamas, bring sleeping bags or blankets, and must wear closed toed shoes. 😊

#### **Popejoy Trip: Sugar Skull (Montessori Map)- Monday October 28<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Popejoy Trip: Rainbow Fish (All Primary)- Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup>**

- Drivers are still wanted for this. Please see Mrs. Griffin if you are interested in driving.

#### **Toddler and PreK Parent Teacher Conferences- Monday –Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>- November 1<sup>st</sup>**

- The sign-up sheet for these conferences will be put out the week before. Please feel free to sign up at a time that works for your family or please reschedule for another time that works. We look forward to talking with you!

#### **FOCUS Verification- Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup>**

- All children are encouraged to wear their (embroidered) uniform shirts. ;)
- This will otherwise be a normal school day for the children.

#### **Halloween/ Harvest Festival- Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup>**

- Halloween/ Harvest Festival is coming and our school's tradition is that children are welcome to come to school wearing their (non-scary) costumes. All children will go "trick or treating" around the plaza. The playground will also have "Harvest Festival" activities for the children and families to enjoy. If any families are interested in volunteering for this event (either in the creation of activities or running booths, please contact Nicole Markley (Brielle and Teegan's mom).

## **Other Volunteer Opportunities**

Projects are getting started and we would certainly appreciate any crafty hands. Please let us know if you're interested in helping with any of the projects. ☺ Right now we're working on:

- 🧵 Sewing Projects
- 🧵 Natural Labyrinth for the Playground
- 🧵 Harvest Festival

## **Wish List**

Do you happen to have lots of extra items around the house and would rather reduce the clutter? We are looking for the following items for projects:

Toddler/ PrePrimary	Primary	Playground	General School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Edible plants</li> <li>✓ Vegetable tops/ guinea pig food</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Large size crickets and meal worms</li> <li>✓ Bird Toys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Large, smooth Stones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Plants! (Both indoor and outdoor)</li> <li>✓ Solar Lamps</li> </ul>

## Staff FOCUS Highlight

Out of the last CQI Quarterly Meeting, we had the idea to highlight a different staff member by publishing a different “Staff Interest Questionnaire” each month so families can get to know us a little better. In the spirit of leadership, I’ll go first. ☺

<b>Name:</b>	<u>Mrs. Sheila Griffin, M.Ed.</u>
<b>Favorite Color:</b>	<u>Blue/ Green/ Yellow/ Red</u>
<b>Favorite Candy:</b>	<u>Dark Chocolate/ Carmel (No nuts)/ Milk Chocolate/ Ginger Gummy Bears</u>
<b>I am interested in:</b>	<u>Math, dogs, education, spiritual awareness, children, nature, kindness.</u>
<b>Favorite Animal:</b>	<u>Dogs/ Elephants/ Chickens.</u>
<b>Favorite Author:</b>	<u>Paulo Coelho, Brene Brown, Carol Ryrie Brink, Dan Brown.</u>
<b>Favorite Type of Hot Drink:</b>	<u>Coffee/ Green Tea/ Tea in General, Coconut Water, Kombucha.</u>
<b>Favorite Character:</b>	<u>Henri.</u>
<b>I collect:</b>	<u>Things related to labyrinths, things related to Montessori, books, cultural artwork, earrings, Alaskan/ Pueblo/ Navajo artwork.</u>
<b>Favorite “Girly” Activity (Nails/Hair):</b>	<u>Pedicure, massage,</u>
<b>Favorite Outdoor Activity:</b>	<u>hiking, camping, sea kayaking, swimming, gardening</u>
<b>Favorite Pastime:</b>	<u>Recording for MontessoriMap, watching “Sunday Morning” and “God Friended Me”, Working in my classroom, Reading, Spending time with my husband and Henri, listening to my chickens, practicing Aikido.</u>
<b>I enjoy:</b>	<u>Smiles, Cards, General love, coffee/ tea, great books, time with Henri, movies.</u>
<b>I appreciate handmade gifts or store bought:</b>	<u>Both- preference to handmade ☺</u>
<b>Things I always need:</b>	<u>Interesting trays or containers, paper, art supplies, new journals.</u>
<b>Favorite Holiday:</b>	<u>Thanksgiving, Winter Holidays</u>

## Pictures



Transferring Bells



The Subtraction Snake Game!

Your Partners in Education,

Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. OH, Ms. Eden & Ms. Krouse,