



## Upper Elementary

### Upper Elementary Photos



Upper Elementary has plunged feet-first into the school year! We have completed the first two great lessons: *The Creation of the Universe* and *The Coming of Life*. We have also finished our first round of MAP testing. This past week, we had our first community lunch: an English breakfast with tea, marmalade on toast, and strawberry scones with cream.

Our U.S. history curriculum picked up with World War II and the Holocaust. We are currently exploring the Civil Rights era, with a walking tour to see the subject from the Columbia perspective planned for next week. Our walking tour, led by Columbia SC 63, will take us down Main Street and we will end with a picnic lunch on the SC Statehouse grounds.

We also look forward to nurse practitioner Abigail Pothen hosting a series of conversations about body changes and other health topics this fall.

### Upper Elementary Events...

\*September 21<sup>st</sup>- A guided walking tour of the civil rights exhibit down Main Street, ending with a picnic lunch at the African American monument.

\*October 12- Chenille Williams, an Energy Specialist from the SC Energy office, will come give a solar energy presentation on building solar ovens. This is also a step for our Greensteps program. **Please send any extra clean pizza boxes and/or shoe boxes you may have to upper el.**

\*October 17- Jennifer Manke will be doing a recycling presentation on exactly what we can recycle, compost, and put in the trash. This is also for our Greensteps program.

## MSC Upcoming Events

- October 2nd – Upper Elementary Watch Me Work, 6-7PM
- October 2nd & 3rd – Lower Elementary Watch Me Work, 5:30-7PM
- October 5th – Lunch Break (Details TBA)
- October 6th – Conference Day; No School (child care provided for MSC students during conference only)
- October 17th – Primary Watch Me Work, 4:30-6:30PM
- October 17th – MSC sibling photos\*
- October 18th – Primary individual photos\*
- October 19th – Elementary individual photos\*

\*Volunteers needed to assist for picture days. Please contact Virginia if you're available to help.

### Upcoming Community Education

#### Preparing the Environment at Home: A Lunch and Learn event

October 11, 12:30-1:30pm, MSC Art Room

We'll discuss: What happens at home, and how is that different from school? How do you converse with your child? What about screen time? "Show me vs. tell me"



We are happy to accept donations for the Mile and T-shirt orders via Venmo. Enter what the funds are for in the Venmo note field.

### The Montessori Mile and Fall Festival

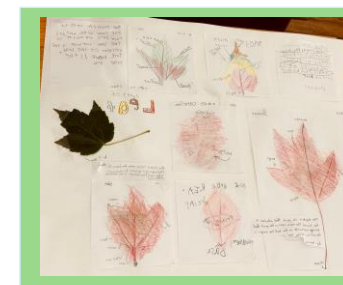
Friday, October 13th from 5:30pm to 8:30pm.

In preparation for this beloved event, your student will bring home an envelope with a letter describing the event, a pledge form, a t-shirt order form and a flyer for the Harvest Hope Food Drive. The whole school community is invited to this event.

Here's what you can do before the event:

1. [Sign up to volunteer for the event](#)
2. [Order t-shirts for the Montessori Mile online](#) or use the paper form sent through email. **Orders must be received by 9am on Monday, September 25th.**
3. Help your child collect pledges to support them in the mile walk. [Pledges can be entered online](#) or turned in on the paper form attached to this email. We prefer to have the pledge forms by Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. It is okay to bring them the day of the Mile.

For questions, please email [Michael Drennan](mailto:Michael.Drennan@montessoricolumbia.com), [development@montessoricolumbia.com](mailto:development@montessoricolumbia.com).



Left: Ms. Iryna led leaf rubbing lessons with Palmetto class, combining nature, art and science.

# Primary

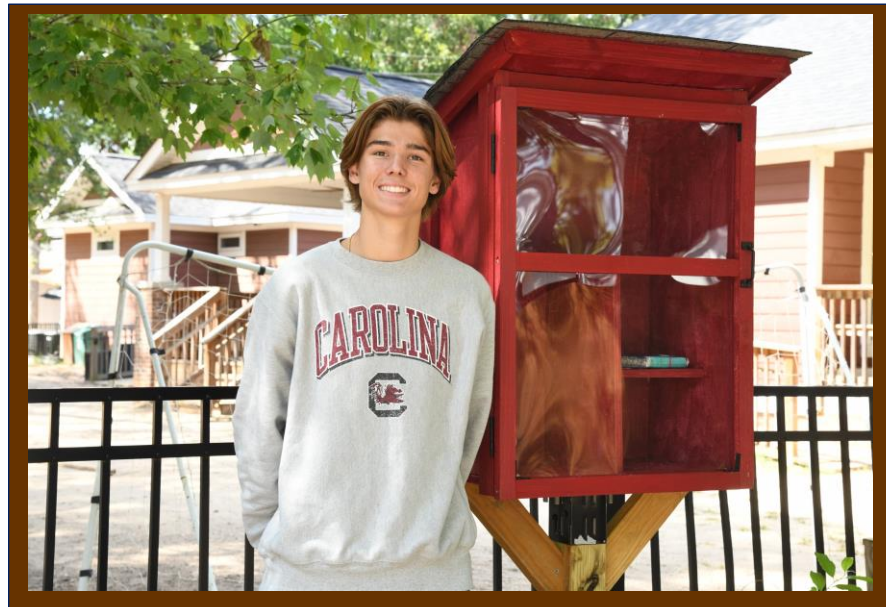
In the Children's House and on our Primary campus, we sense the subtle changes of what Dr. Montessori referred to as "the Normalization of the child". When a child pauses themselves without adult redirection and pushes in their chair, when they walk on their own to put their work neatly away, or even when the newest little ones stop asking if they can "play" with the materials, we see that the children have settled into their routines ("normalized").

Currently, the Kindergarteners are discussing who Dr. Montessori was. This has sparked a conversation about how she coined the term "the Children's House", which in Italian is "Casa dei Bambini", and how our classroom is our house--our home--for our Montessori family. Dr. Montessori saw the children in Italy, who were left on their own while their parents went to work, without anything with which to play or work. She knew that these children needed a place to be. They needed a beautiful home with meaningful works, and that is what each classroom on our Primary campus aspires to be for our children. We are their "home away from home" and, while you are doing your adult work, they, too, are doing their purposeful work at MSC.

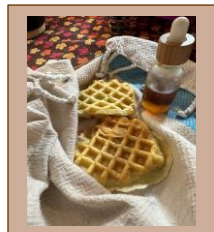
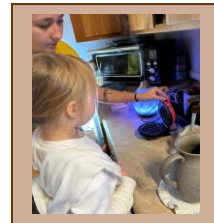
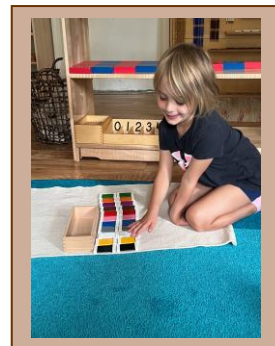
Children may not come home and tell you how they worked so hard or what they learned each day, but when they begin to come in from the car line in the mornings with confidence and put away their shoes and lunch independently, there is invaluable growth and learning happening. Executing, with exactness, how to carefully carry a tray with two hands, how to listen at group time when others are speaking, or how to help a friend who has fallen on a playground builds confidence and focus while also fostering social/emotional growth throughout our community. As a Primary team, it is our hope that, while your children are settling into their home away from home, you feel peace and confidence knowing that their time in the Montessori Children's House is a beautiful time of growth. Thank you for your partnership and support.



# Campus News



A huge thanks to MSC alumni, Quinn Carter, for building a community outdoor pantry on campus for his Eagle Scout project. It is open to anyone in need and stocked with items such as sunscreen, tissues, toilet paper, and individually wrapped food items. We hope that the MSC community will help keep our pantry stocked with items, and please feel free to take as needed.



# Palmetto Room

The Palmetto class is in full bloom, learning about and practicing more Grace and Courtesy, while hosting and serving snacks for the community as well as taking care of the environment and our pets.

"The First Great Story" was presented to the Palmetto community. The children had an opportunity to learn about the formation of the universe: how the Sun and all the planets created a family called the Solar System. The children also were able to see the relative size of the Sun and the Earth. They learned more about gravity and the layers of the Earth. As one of the follow ups, Palmetto students were presented with a "My Cosmic Address" lesson.

We started strong with many geometry lessons-- learning more about polygons, their parts, solids, congruency, similarity, and equivalency. Many children have been working on long chains and presenting their finished work to the community.

As a part of the cultural work, the children learned about the Japanese art of weaving, Kumihimo. It is becoming very popular in the classroom and the children are enjoying the company of each other while creating their own Japanese art.



# Magnolia

Dear Magnolia Room Friends,

We are very excited to share with you some of the many lessons and activities we have experienced thus far. First, Second, and Third Graders have launched into what Dr. Montessori coined our "Cosmic Education". This is an exciting time as students begin to explore and discover all the mysteries of our Universe. As a result of our First Great Lesson: The Creation of the Universe, students are completing a model of our solar system (pictures soon to come!), writing their own versions of the lesson with illustrations, and embarking on self-directed collaborative research of planets. Consequently, this has led us down a path of becoming geologists and diving into the study of the Composition of the Earth.

Along with these lessons, our Magnolia Room has been building our community as we journey through the start of our school year together. Second and Third Graders warmly welcomed our newest community members, the First Graders, and have helped them build confidence in the Lower Elementary environment.

Also in this time, our Magnolia Class has drafted and finalized our Magnolia Room Bill of Agreements. We use the Bill of Agreements, which is a student-led initiative, to solidify community expectations and to set a standard for our day-to-day interactions with one another. As a community, we have agreed to:

- Respect the community: use our work time wisely and work courteously
- Respect the materials
- Set good examples by using our Grace and Courtesy
- Persevere through works with a positive attitude

Be Well, Magnolia Room

