

Mostly Montessori

Volume 34, Issue 2

Nov-Dec 2009

Classroom Notes

This month we are studying the first Americans – the Native Americans. We are reading books and looking at artifacts, and will have a small Tipi in which we can do a layout of Black Elk's vision.

If you have any items made by or representing American Indians and are willing to let us look at them, it will be greatly appreciated. If they are valuable we'll show them and then put them up, out of hand's reach, until you retrieve them.

We will also study the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving.

We are learning some simple Indian dances and plan to do them as a group at our Thanksgiving Soup Feast. All parents are invited to this event at the base of Cheyenne Canyon. We will build a fire and dance and eat our vegetable soup which the children will make.

In December we'll be occupied with music and drama and making gifts for parents. We will display our fledgling talents at our holiday program on Dec. 17 at 10 a.m. All parents are invited. Dec. 18 will be the last day of school in 2009. After the winter break, school begins again on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010.

Soup Making Day

(See Calendar)

"Vegetables, vegetables, you just can't go wrong..." Please send a few vegetables to school with your child. Some suggestions are: carrots, potatoes, bell peppers, broccoli, cauliflower, onions, beans, and garlic. The children will clean and chop the veggies and we will produce a great vegetarian soup.

We would like to have some parent helpers – at least one in the

morning and one in the afternoon – for this soup making day.

Soup Feast

The big event in November is our Thanksgiving Soup Feast which takes place on Tuesday Nov. 24 this year, the day before Thanksgiving vacation.

We will drive to the base of Cheyenne Canyon to the picnic grounds near the Starsmore Discovery Center. There we'll build a fire, do some native American singing and dancing, and eat our soup (made by the children the previous day) and corn bread (provided by the parents).

After returning to school, the all day children will have lunch, so please do send a lunch with them, as the soup is more of a snack than a lunch.

The weather for this event has varied greatly in past years. If it's extremely cold we'll spend only a short time at the site; if it's warm we'll have a more leisurely event. If the weather is cold, please dress your child in all of his or her winter regalia – snow pants, warm boots, waterproof mittens, etc. We will need drivers and corn bread bakers. Most parents enjoy attending this school community event.

Snow Days

On Nov. 9, Mar. 19, and Apr. 16, the Cheyenne Mountain schools (District 12) will be closed, but we will not; if you suspect a delay or closure on one of these days due to weather, please check on our web site, as there won't be any notices on the TV stations for District 12 on those days. The web site address is www.goldenmtmontessori.com

Calendar

November - December 2009

Nov 23 (Mon) Soup Making Day
Send vegetables for chopping. We would like to have a parent helper for the morning and one for the afternoon

Nov 24 (Tues) Soup Feast at Cheyenne Canyon. Dress warmly as needed. Drivers are needed. Corn bread needed.

Nov 25-27 Thanksgiving vacation – School Closed. Happy Holiday!

Dec 17 (Thurs) Holiday Program at 10 a.m. for parents. Girls wear dresses. Everyone needs shoes, no slippers.

Dec 18 (Fri) Last day of school before winter break vacation.

Dec 21 – Jan 4 Winter Break – School Closed

Jan 5, 2010 (Tues) First day of school in 2010

Kudos

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Halloween party. The children had a great time. The treats were all delicious and the children reveled in the games, receiving a multitude of prizes.

The children who visited the assisted living home at Loyalton of Broadmoor were well-received and they had fun parading in costume and singing their songs.

We also greatly appreciate all of the assistance we have received in driving and chaperoning the children to the pumpkin farm and to Bear Creek Nature Center.