

# ALPINE MONTESSORI

*"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled"*  
— Plutarch

## DATES TO REMEMBER

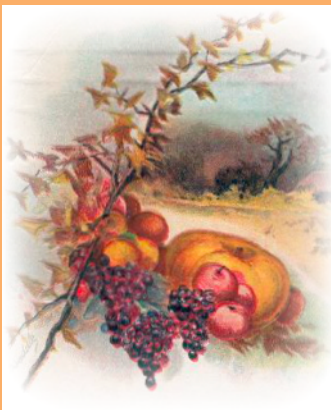
**11/1 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS**

**11/2 FOOD DRIVE BEGINS**

**11/2-6 PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

**11/23-27 THANKSGIVING BREAK, SCHOOL CLOSED**

**11/30 FOOD DRIVE ENDS**

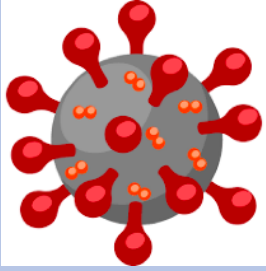


## Notes From 908

It's been a busy early autumn for our little school, and the model in place for in person instruction seems to be working quite well. Thank you to all of our dedicated families for staying vigilant and keeping safety in mind! As temperatures cool and the fall progresses, our minds of course turn to traditions long established at our school, where community means so very much. Sadly, we will not be able to host our Thanksgiving potluck luncheon this year, but we have been brainstorming to think of a fun way to mark the day. Each class will prepare "Stone Soup!" Many of you are doubtless familiar with this classic, well-loved tale. With an ingredient from each student, AMS staff will prepare a soup for the class to share! The teachers will



designate a prepped ingredient for each student to bring from home. More information coming soon! It's also time for our annual food drive! With so many lives affected by the pandemic, giving this year can be more meaningful than ever. Beginning on November 2nd, families may leave canned goods and any non-perishable grocery items in the marked boxes during drop-off and pick-up times. A box will be located near the front entrance, at the West gate, and another at the North gate. Our accumulated donation to the Alpine Food Pantry will be dropped off on December 1st. Thank you for participating! Parent/Teacher conferences are also fast approaching! Conferences will be held via Zoom this year during the first week of November, and a sign-up sheet is available now for you to choose a convenient time slot.



Please! If your child needs to stay home for **any reason**, remember to keep your school family at AMS informed. We are striving to stay very vigilant at this time when health concerns are at the forefront of everyone's mind. Even if you are planning a fun family day or trip, please let us know to prevent undue anxiety, since we are all in this together! Thank you so much!

*\*Also, please make sure that your child has a clean mask that fits him/her every day.*

## The Primary Side

Maria Montessori believed in an approach to education very much characterized by the prepared environment. This space is tidy, pleasing in appearance, simple and real, where each element exists for a reason in order to aid in the development of the child. Though not without its challenges, what a joy it is this year to have this environment out of doors! The primary group, in particular, really seems to thrive on the opportunity to be outside. In times of unsurety, we have all been soothed by a few moments in the fresh air. Ms. Irene reports that we have a happy and normalized primary class, busy in their work and space! Recently, the children enjoyed a lesson on the dissection of a pumpkin, and continue with their core studies. The teachers will soon be sending leveled readers home with the older students, so don't forget to give your child a chance to show off what they know! The positivity that children experience at the outset of their journey in education establishes a love of learning that serves them throughout life!



Alpine Montessori admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-school-administered programs.

# Lower Elementary Lines



Ms. Joyce says that the lower el class is approaching what is known as “normalization” in Montessori terms. This describes when students become familiar with the routines and culture of the classroom, and then launch right into a happy hum of meaningful work. We always take a gentle approach in getting there, but with the structure that daily practice in math facts, language, and spelling curriculum, paired with engaging science experiments, these students are learning a lot and enjoying the process! Recently, they received the second Montessori great lesson, “The Coming of Life,” followed by reports on their favorite planets, and of course, the reading of fun books related to the subject! Reading aloud is a staple of circle time activities, and the children love to discuss topics as a group as well as share their observations. Don’t forget to keep this wonderful momentum going at home by having your child read to you! Children love to share what they are learning, and encouragement from the person who matters most to them (you!) can go a long way!

*We get by with a **LOT** of help from our friends. We would like to thank the following people and businesses for their contributions to our school.*

## WE THANK YOU!

*Andrew Patterson and Kevin Urbanczyk for troubleshooting our furnace issues!*

*The Tokker Foundation, for discretionary grant funds put towards early reading curriculum!*

*Larry Bamburg, for donating personal dry erase boards to the school!*

*Kelly Jones, for donating face masks to the school!*

*Erin Williams, for donating Halloween craft supplies to the lower-el classroom!*

*Mary-Elizabeth Thompson, for donating Halloween craft supplies to the primary classroom!*

*Chris Ruggia, for donating lovely new books to the school library!*

*Sarah Atwood, for donating a special snack for the primary Halloween party!*

*The Bamburg, Price-Fowlkes, Melgaard, Atwood, and Byrne families, for donating a outdoor heater to the school!*

*We welcome input from our families! If you have something that you would like to see covered in our newsletter, or if you have something that you would like to contribute, please email us at [admin@alpinemontessori.org](mailto:admin@alpinemontessori.org). Articles, ideas for articles, events to put on our “dates to remember” calendar, and more are welcomed!*



# From the Upper El

A Montessori Elementary program is designed to meet the needs of your imaginative, social, and creative child. Students of this age need an expansive course of study to support their burgeoning independence and potential. In a way, the restrictions placed on us this year have offered opportunities for the students in computer literacy and self-awareness, skills we all need in this day and age. The children have been learning about the three branches of government, a pertinent subject especially in an election year. They also have plans to start their own newspaper! In this exercise the students gain media literacy and a sense of how a newspaper is compiled and produced. Ms. Amy will be designating an ingredient for each of the students to bring to school for the upper el pot of “stone soup.” More information on that soon!

