



Little Star Montessori

Newsletter

October 2009

General Updates

From Our Director

Last night, as the sun set behind our house and the dark crept into our windows, I had an urge to put aside my lengthy list of to-dos and cuddle with my daughter (Cymone) to read. We curled up beneath a blanket to read a book about Harriet Tubman. We took time between chapters to process Tubman's heroic life as she traveled repeatedly by foot along the Underground Railroad, from Maryland to Canada, leading her family and community to freedom. Cymone was captivated by the struggles depicted throughout the book, from the crowded slave ships and treatment of slaves to the split between the North and South that led to the Civil War. At the end, she asked frankly, "Why couldn't the white people have used the peace table to work out all of their differences?"



I am repeatedly silenced by the simple wisdom of our children. I am also reminded how important it is to continually empower them to be effective communicators, nurturing friends, brave leaders and supportive followers.

It seems timely that I opened my email this morning to a newsletter from Teaching Tolerance, which I would like to share with you: <http://www.tolerance.org/magazine/number-36-fall-2009>.

Little Star does try to incorporate many rituals and ceremonies from around the world into our classroom curriculum. If you have ideas on how to help Little Star celebrate increased diversity, please don't hesitate to let us know. As parents, you are always welcome to join our classrooms to share your experiences and skills with our children, your knowledge of different languages, cultures and traditions.

*Thank you,
Nicole*

Office News

Pictures

Please remember to return your LifeTouch Portraits to the office by Wednesday, October 12th. Keep the photos that you want, and return those that you don't with a check for the ones that

you do keep. Those of you who do not return your photos, please note that you will be billed in full by LifeTouch. Thank you!

Immunizations

To meet state requirements, your immunization sheets must be returned to the office by October 20th. Please update, sign and date your immunization form and return to the office as soon as possible. All children need to be immunized in accordance with Washington State Health Department regulations, or claim personal exemption. Personal exemption forms are available in the office. For new parents, please note that these forms must be completed and returned to our office – copies of your immunization records are not sufficient.

Toddler Absences

We understand that it is very difficult for Toddler Parents to secure make up days for your children. Therefore, we ask that - if your Toddler is planning to be absent or unfortunately falls ill – please contact the office ASAP so that we know space is available.

Little Star's Fall Festival

Our Fall Festival is quickly approaching, October 24th, 3-7pm at the Twisp Community Center. Come in costumes and bring your best Jack-o-Lantern to enter in the pumpkin walk! There will be a haunted house, cake walk, hay ride, and lots of other games and fun activities!

Food & beverages will be available for purchase.

Please help spread the word!

Pizza Sales

East 20 Pizza voucher sales begin tomorrow, October 14th! Look for the form in your parent cubbies. We will also send this to you electronically. Deadline for securing orders will be October 27th. The appropriate vouchers will then be placed in your cubbies on October 29th.

Other Ways You Can Help

Jennifer Hover is working hard to coordinate this year's Fall Festival. She still needs to fill the following shifts:

Task	Date/Time	# People Needed
Kitchen Help	Sat, 2-5pm	4
Kitchen Help	Sat, 5-8pm	4
Kitchen Clean Up	Sat, 7-9pm	3
Decorations	Fri, 10am-1pm	2
Decorations	Fri, 1-4pm	2
Decorations	Fri, 4-7pm	2
Decorations	Sat, 10am-1pm	2

If you can help during any one of these shifts, please contact the office or Jennifer at 996-4588.

Thank you!

