



Artwork by Allegra

Dear Parents,

Primary 1  
August 31, 2011

Welcome to our new friends and returning families!

The first week of school has gone very well. A few tears from our new students and parents but that is ok and a normal part of growth for all parties involved. I recently heard a wonderful quote, "We let them go, so they can grow." So, true.

'Grace and Courtesy' is the theme in our classrooms as we all learn to live together in this new community. Lessons on please and thank you, how to decline an invitation politely, waiting in line to take our turn, all provide valuable lessons that assist in the development of social skills that allow children to live harmoniously with others.

Next Thursday we will begin Share Day (aka show and tell) in our classroom. We will begin with your first homework assignment. Please find enclosed in your first Wednesday folder instructions and supplies for a fun family activity to be shared on our first "share day" on September 8th. Topics for Share for the month of September are listed below. We ask that you please place 1 small object or picture in a Ziploc bag for your child to carry in on Thursdays. Lessons during show and tell include that this is a time when one person speaks and they listen, raising a hand when they want to speak, the difference between a question and a comment. At line time we will invite a child to come up to the front, sit down in the share chair, and tell us something about what they brought. "Hello, my name is...this is what I brought for share..." Then we will invite them to take questions from their friends. You can call it Public Speaking 101. ☺

**Children's Line:** (please choose small items or a picture)

Thursday, Sept 8 - Family photo page (for our P1 scrapbook album)

Thursday, Sept. 15 - Picture of an animal of the world/continents, (panda/ China, koala/ Australia, etc.)

Thursday, Sept. 22- Something about Autumn

Thursday, Sept. 29 - One apple (we will be making applesauce) - parent volunteer needed.

Volunteering is a wonderful way to stay connected in your child's education. When you show up in our classroom as a volunteer it sends a message to your child: "my mom/dad is here to help, what we do here in school is important." Your presence helps bridge the gap between home and school. Enclosed is a copy of our September volunteer calendar. Please take note of days you have been assigned based on the volunteer sheets handed in at orientation. *Please let us know ASAP if there is a conflict in your schedule so we can find a replacement.* We are also looking for families that can fill in the blanks. We not only appreciate our volunteers, we count on them too! ☺

P1 is happy to announce the room parents for this school year, Avery's mom - Mrs. Jennifer Manfrey and Emmet's mom - Ms. Mary Torok, Thank you to both! We know it's going to be a fantastic year!

**Important Dates:**

Monday, September 5 - No School - Labor Day

Wednesday, September 14th - Individual Picture Day

Tuesday, Sept. 20th - Parent Orientation Night - P1 Classroom Visit (*adults only please*)

Friday, September 23rd -Teacher In-service - No School

**Reminders:**

- Check the school website, [www.countrydaylargo.com/parent](http://www.countrydaylargo.com/parent), regularly for important school news.
- Please be sure to place your lunch orders online. If you have any trouble, call the office and they will be happy to help you.
- Before care is in Primary 3. Aftercare (3:15pm) is on the P3 playground.

Thank you for your patience at arrival and dismissal times. We recognize the car lines can be frustrating. The more we practice the smoother it will go! Please drive very slowly and please no cell phones during arrival and dismissal! Safety is a priority.

**Sincerely,**

**The P1 Team,**

Lisa Elliott, Linda Gerwig, Kim Bergamo and Joanne Bossa

*"Education is not just the preparation for university, but the preparation for life"*

*- Maria Montessori*