

"Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed." -Maria Montessori



Artwork by Rhianna

Primary 2
September 28, 2011

Dear Parents,

We are counting the days and are on our 25th day of school! We will keep counting until we get to 100. The children are working hard and learning to choose appropriate work independently, and use the materials they choose with purpose and concentration. Our schedule has changed as their attention spans have grown and **we are coming in to work as early as 9:00 am**, so please try to arrive on time. Children who arrive late are at a disadvantage because they are out of sync with the rest of the class.

Autumn is here and we are anxiously awaiting the cooler weather. However, the weather is still so hot outside. Often when your children play hard outside, they perspire and then come inside to cool air and get chilly. We encourage you to send in a sweater or light jacket **with your child's name on it** so they can keep it in their cubby allowing them to regulate their comfort independently. Remind your child that it is their "cubby jacket" and they should leave it at school. Comfort helps concentration, and our main goal is concentration!

It is not just wonderful manipulatives and concrete academics that are teaching your children, they are teaching each other as we learn valuable lessons on the playground. The children are all blossoming in **social-emotional development**, and they show us they all truly care about one another. We have discussions about feelings and using our words to express them. We discuss alternatives for when words don't work so everyone knows the right thing to do. We practice telling our friends how we feel, and we also practice what those emotions look like on our friends faces. Your children have all grown so much, and the playground is playfully peaceful.

October 12th is the Friends of Country Day's **Family Fall Gathering**. One of the best ways to support your child's developmental growth at school is to become actively involved in our Country Day Community. The Fall Gathering Night is one of the nights that is the most fun, so you will hear about it from your kids if you miss it! FoCD have the first General Meeting that night with important information you will want to hear, so please join us for an informative night. If you have any questions about this night or any FoCD information, please contact our P2 FoCD Room Representative, **Frances Winstead** at winsteadfamily@tampabay.rr.com.

Our **P2 Parent Meet and Greet** is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 18th**, at the Hubbell home from **6:00 pm to 9:00 pm**. You should receive and Evite invitation soon. If you have any questions, email Diane at dianelsmith@yahoo.com. Please arrange your childcare, as it is a night for the adults to socialize and get to know one another. These connections to the parents of the children your child works and plays with are

important. Many of these families will stay a part of your life for years, even in elementary. A valuable resource, **don't miss it.**

Parent Visitation Day is October 13th. This is a time for each child to give their favorite lessons to their guest. Each child may invite **one** parent or grandparent to come to school for a 45 minute time slot. This is when the children will be the teachers and the teachers will be observers. There will be more information about Parent Visitation coming soon. Please remember, there is no regular school that day.

Our **P2 fall party** will be on **October 28th** at Millennium Park in Seminole. Your room moms will be contacting you soon with donation requests of food and drinks for the kids. We will be leaving from school at 9:15, or you can meet us at the park at 9:30. Permission slips and information will be coming soon.

Children's Line:

Thursday, October 6th - Something that is a cube, cylinder, or sphere

Thursday, October 20th - Something that will sink or float (make a guess!)

Thursday, October 27th - Something that has a seed inside (we will be cutting open to see!)

Important Dates:

October 12th (Wednesday) – FoCD Family Fall Gathering and General Meeting

October 13th (Thursday) - Parent visitation day / **No School for Students***

October 14th (Friday) - **No School** - Professional Development Day*

October 18th (Tuesday) - P2 Parent Meet and Greet at the Hubbell home (adults only please)

October 26th (Wednesday) - Parent Education Series - 'Learning to Read'

October 28th (Friday) - Fall Party at Millennium Park - (full day of school)

*Please visit website: www.countrydaylargo.com or contact office for camp availability

Thank You, thank you, thank you:

to Max for donating the Clorox Wipes

to Ayden for donating the book to our classroom library

to Mrs. Hubbell for hosting our Parent Social

to McKenna's mom, Anne McCord, and Nana for helping prepare our apples for applesauce

to Jeralyn's mom, Jamie Adams, for helping the students make the applesauce (it was yummy!)

to Lori Silvestro for prepping materials for our classroom

to all our wonderful lunch parents, we couldn't do it without you!

to all the families who contributed healthy and nutritious snack for the children

to our room parents, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Suters, for organizing our Fall Party!

Reminders:

Check the school website, www.countrydaylargo.com/parent, regularly for important school news, lunch orders, and club information.

Please write your child's name on all of their belongings

Read, read, read to your child every day!

Sincerely,

Linda Carter, Deborah Kirkpatrick, and Joan Poppleton

*It is exactly in the repetition of the exercises that the education of the senses exists;
not that the child shall know colors, forms or qualities
but that he refines his senses through an exercise of attention, comparison and judgment.
Maria Montessori*