



Nightingale Notes



April 2022

May

- 13** 2022-2023 Enrollment Forms Due
- 20** Graduation
- 25-29 Wing Explore Week
- 30** No School—Memorial Day

June

- 1** Last Day Hummingbirds, Eagles, Owls, Falcons
- 2** Last Day Wings
- 3** Last Day Chickadees
- 6-7** NM Staff Days
- 6-23 June Program (Eagles—Falcons; M-Th)
- 13-29 June Program (Chickadees; M-F)

July

- 5-22 June Program (Chickadees; M-F)



New Microbusiness Building Erected!

With great effort by many, our new Wing Microbusiness building will soon be ready for all of the student materials and projects. With tremendous efforts from our Wing staff they have worked to raise funds, overcome obstacles with building permits, construction delays, and the supply pipeline disruptions. All of their hard work has paid off and students will reap the many benefits our Microbusiness program provides.

Owls Work to Build Future Outdoor Classroom

A group of interested Owl students are set to travel weekly to help prepare their future classroom! The Owl Garden Club has been working hard to move mulch and build trails. Future plans include planting in gardens and building a rock garden in the future Owl outdoor classroom.





Nightingale Montessori

2022 - 2023 Academic Year

August '22						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

15-23 Staff Days
24 First Day K-12

6 Days
38 Hours

10 Midterm Q3
20 President's Day

19 Days
119.5 Hours

February '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

September '22						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

5 Labor Day
6 First Day PreK
23 Midterm Q1

21 Days
131.5 Hours

13-15 Explore Week—
Falcons and Wings
15 End of Quarter 3
16-20 No School—AMS
Conference Boston

20 Days
126 Hours

March '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

October '22						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

17-20 Explore Week—
Falcons and Wings
20 End of Quarter 1
21 Waiver Day

20 Days
127 Hours

3-7 Spring Break
8 Staff Day—No Classes
10-28 State Testing Gr 3-12
21 Midterm Q4

14 Days
88 Hours

April '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

November '22						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

18 Midterm Q2
21-25 Thanksgiving Break

17 Days
107.5 Hours

26 Last Day PreK-12
29 Memorial Day
30-31 Staff Days

20 Days
126 Hours

May '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

December '22						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

5-9 Holiday Gift Shop
19-30 Winter Break

12 Days
75 Hours

1-2 Staff Day
5-30 June Program

June '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

January '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2 Winter Break
3 Staff Day—No Classes
4-6 Explore Week—Falcons and Wings
6 End of Quarter 2
16 MKL Day

19 Days
119.5 Hours

- ◆ First / Last Day of School
- ◆ No School
- ◆ Staff In Service Days—13 Days

167 Days/1058 Instruction Hours in Session

57 Hour Allowance for Inclem-

Updated: 04/01/2022

Nightingale Montessori Summer Garden School



Program runs for six weeks beginning **June 13th and lasting until July 22nd**

This program is designed to provide support for COVID loss of learning time for early reading and math. Students will also have experiences with gardening and outdoor science learning.

Students enrolled at NM for the 22/23 school year will receive lessons between 10:00 am and 3pm

Extended day care is available to working families from 8-10 and 3-5 if needed.

Cost of the program is the same for both options: 900 dollars per student which can be paid to the school in weekly installments of 150 dollars a week. At this time we are not offering partial programming but looking for students interested in all six weeks.

Name of Student:

Please indicate your intent for your child to return to NM next school year.

YES NO

Please indicate interest in NM Garden School YES 8-5 YES 10-3 NO

Sensorial Exploration

“What the hand does, the mind remembers.” - **Dr. Maria Montessori**

Maria Montessori believed that sensorial experiences begin right after birth. Babies and children use their senses to explore, discover, and learn about their environment. The discoveries made using the hand are extremely meaningful to the child and his/her development. Through her scientific observations of children, **Dr. Montessori** determined that children not only craved hands-on learning activities, but they exhibited joy when doing these types of activities. By touching and manipulating objects, information is delivered to the brain through the hands. Because this method allows children to be an active participant in their learning, the concepts covered are more deeply established in the mind than any kind of rote memorization could be.

As the babies and toddlers gain experience and develop muscle control, their ability to do hands-on activities grows to incorporate multiple objectives. Recently, the **Hummingbirds** enjoyed a lesson focusing on birds. Their lesson began by listening to an audiobook as the group viewed the beautiful images in a copy of the board book being read. After the reading, the children participated in an interactive group discussion about the different types of birds. They specifically enjoyed talking about the different shapes of the beaks, and how they provide the bird with the ability to eat different types of food. Next, the **Hummingbirds** spread gooey peanut butter onto a pinecone until it was completely covered. Then, the children rolled their pinecone in bird seed as an aluminum pan crinkled below. After applying pressure to firmly adhere the bird seed to the peanut butter, the beautiful creations were hung up to be viewed as they dried. Each child was delighted to participate in this lesson and beamed with pride as they admired their hard work!



Luna, Adelaide, and Zamirah spread peanut butter



Ellen checks for spots that need seed.



Bennett adds bird seed.



Mekhi admires his work.

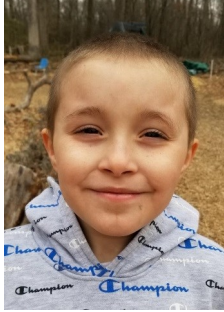
Hummingbird

Thank
you

Chickadees receive gifts galore- from three new friends to much-needed mud mats and large boxes of supplies to hours of urgent help to put right our rain tent!



Kylin



Jackson



Finley



We are exceptionally grateful for the donation of compost sent over break by **Marvin Durand, our honorary board member**. He has helped us over many years to get our gardens off to a great start each Spring.

The transportation of the compost from Marvin's Organic Gardens in Lebanon was borne by our USDA grant ending its second year this June. The grant has subsidized healthy food programs in the kitchen and helped in the NM gardens. The final expenses of the grant will include the exhaust fan and hood, the range and sinks and extensive plumbing in the new NM kitchen currently under construction.

The grant also provided 500 bales of straw for which the transportation charge was provided by Katrina Hostetler.



So many Thanks to Katrina and her generous husband Steve, for taking on the repairs on the wind-tossed tent. It took all Easter Sunday, but they managed to tie it down into submission stronger and more serviceable than before. The children enjoy fluffing up the soaked straw as they toss it high into the air to dry.

A huge thank you to [Shonda Lindeman](#), the Vice President of BEC for their generous donation of school supplies and floor mats. The mats have made an improvement to our coatroom given the relentless rains of late. The Chickadees have had the opportunity to use many of the donated supplies. Our favorite so far is all the dry erase markers! They make drawing fun and writing easier.



School supply donation and Shonda unwrapping the mat with Willow and Morrison

Chickadee News

Reminders to Eagle students (and parents):

Please remember to bring your **bag** to school each day for important items to travel home. Also, with the change in weather, it is more important than ever to bring a **water bottle**. In keeping with our value of Earth stewardship, do **NOT** bring disposable plastic water bottles. Layered clothing for warmer afternoons and a “string around your finger” to remember to take clothing home that was shed as the temperature increases throughout the day.

Parents: It is more important that your children see you reading daily than for you to read to them or listen to them read. Make it a family 20-30 minutes, at least two or three nights a week.



Annie, DaShayla and Addy move giant log to carline waiting...

Eagle News



Ali carefully mixes colors for her masterpiece.



Judah admires a V ERY large toad found while waiting in car-line.

Montessori: The Uninterrupted Three-Hour Work Period

The Owl classroom implements the three-hour work period every morning. This year, students have experienced tremendous success and growth. Students have expressed how much they value this work time and our teachers have gone to great lengths to alter instruction schedules and methods to preserve the precious work time.

We have seen growth at all levels of development in self-motivation, concentration, self-challenge and productive socialization within a work group.

An uninterrupted three-hour work period is a fundamental component of the Montessori pedagogy and to the success of each individual child. Through many years of observation, Dr. Maria Montessori discovered that children, when left in a careful balance of freedom and responsibility, displayed a distinct three-hour cycle of work. The children would spend these long uninterrupted periods of time by freely choosing materials, becoming deeply engaged in productive, challenging work, and repeating lessons at their own pace and to their own satisfaction. Montessori determined that three hours is the required amount of time for a child to reach the most in-depth level

of concentration and intellectual exploration, which results in the most significant progression and growth as well as a sense of inner peace.

The Montessori teacher, or “guide” is there to inspire and invite the children to explore and independently choose what to do and when to do it. In order to allow for this profound exploration and discovery, the uninterrupted three-hour work period is indispensable. During this time, students work in small groups as well as independently or with hands-on, didactic materials.

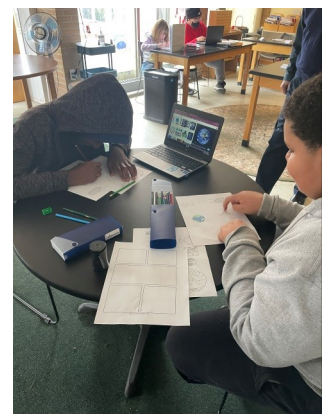
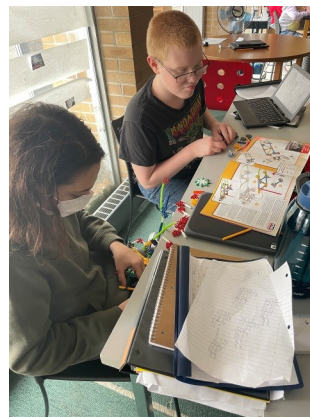
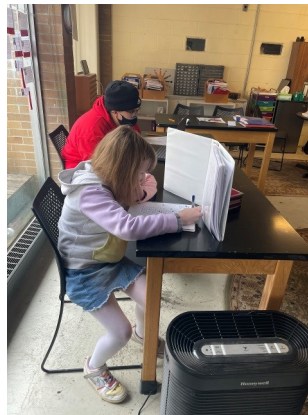
The students become absorbed in their work because they have the freedom to choose to learn about something that interests them in their specific stage of develop-

ment. The work cycle also provides an opportunity for classroom teachers to give lessons, observe, and provide guidance individually.

Children are sometimes hesitant to choose challenging work if they are not anticipating they will have ample time to complete it. For many students when they expect to be interrupted they choose unchallenging and unproductive “busy work”. Any disruption to the child’s work deters critical thinking, problem-solving, and exploration which is being developed.

“The mind takes some time to develop interest, to be set in motion, to get warmed up into a subject, to attain a state of profitable work. If at this time there is interruption, not only is a period of profitable work lost, but the interruption, produces an unpleasant sensation which is identical to fatigue.”

~Dr. Maria Montessori



Visiting the Oasis

We are grateful to the **Jefferson Street Oasis, a Children's Rescue Center Community Garden** for welcoming **NM** community members for a tour. Co-founder of the **Oasis, Terry Fredrick**, has been a contributor to our environmental program for years. **Falcon, Sophia Sprinkle**, and **Senior Wing, Liam Evely**, gathered advice for how to maximize our greenhouse space. The Oasis also partners with other organizations around Springfield. Part of their 1.5 acre garden is now being utilized to free range chickens. The chickens provide compost, pest protection and eggs. They are an amazing addition to the garden systems. The **Wing Program** is attempting this on a much smaller scale by integrating ducks into the environmental systems.



Falcon News

Biome Work in the STEM Lab

Working in the new **STEM Lab** has helped **Falcons** rediscover their internal motivations. Learning about these modern and new technologies peaked their interest and provided them hands-on projects to facilitate their learning. To celebrate this Earth Day we will use our modern technologies and put them to good use. Stu-



dents brainstormed ways that these technologies could be used to solve major challenges that face humanity in the 21st century. They identified an extensive list including widespread extinction, government corruption, food shortages, climate change and forest fires just to name a few. Their plan is to research various biomes and the unique species within. We are going to research how these major challenges are affecting the biomes around the world. Students will then use the STEM Lab technologies to teach the younger students about all they have learned. **Braum Perkins**, is using the Stop Motion technology to teach about the desert. **Shay Conner** is 3D printing Sharks for the Marine biome diorama. Two students, **Brandon Terrel and Aydon Potts** are working together completing an essay map that will be paired with the students' projects. Falcons are looking forward to sharing the final biome projects with the rest of the NM students on May 6. Look for pictures in our next newsletter!

Stewardship Time

As our permaculture and food forest plantings are beginning to sprout for the season all around the property, the wings are instituting a new class-wide effort called Stewardship on Friday afternoons. One of our long term goals for the Nightingale campus at 2525 is for it to be a self-sustaining acreage with a mix of native food forest, ornamental native plantings and productive



vegetable beds and orchards for our kitchen program. Since the wings have been at the 2525 campus longer than anyone else, we have had time to get our foundation plantings in and take harvests. Our stewardship time divides up the class into five groups that each care for a certain area of our gardens and outdoor space. The goal for each group is to think short term (time to pull the thistles!) and long term (what kinds of foods and sights and sounds do we want children

to experience in this space ten years from now). This intentional time encourages students to make these choices and to actively work towards realizing their goals for the space. As our garage workshop has now been erected, and our gardens begin to produce abundantly, we are getting closer to the goal of a true *Erdkinder education for our adolescents at Nightingale as envisioned by Maria Montessori.*



Wing Poet is Published!



Chloe Raines recently received exciting news that she has been selected to have a poem published in the *Young Writers Anthology*. She received a mysterious letter addressed to her at Nightingale all the way from England and was surprised to find out about the award. Congratulations Chloe! Below is Chloe's poem entitled, "Long Hallway 2."

One day, sometime in the afternoon,
I got thirsty and went for some juice.
I went out of my room and walked down the hallway,
Only to find that it was extremely long.

I walked and walked,
For several hours I walked,
Before I got to the end.

At the end was a man who seemed quite mad,
And pushed me back to the start.

I tried and tried,
For several hours I tried,
Before I'd had enough.

I pushed him aside, opened the door,
And then I became the man.

Wing News

