



# Nightingale Notes

May 2024

May

24 Last Day of School / End of Quarter 4  
27 **Memorial Day**  
28-31 Staff Days

June

3-28 NM June Program 8:00 am—3:00 pm M-TH

Office Hours 9:00am—2:00pm

July

Office Hours by Appointment Only



Reece Rucker Began at NM Fall 2020

## Through the Years



Rae Temple started learning at NM Fall 2009



Roy Wood started learning at NM Fall 2015



Good afternoon Nightingale Montessori. My name is Reece Rucker. I came to this great school in 2019. The school year was not going to be a normal school year because of Covid; all schools were on Zoom.

I would like to thank my mom and dad for bringing me to school every day from Dayton and helping me with homework everyday. I would like to thank my teachers: Andrew my History teacher, Sarah my English teacher, Jayne my Science teacher, Jared my Ecology teacher and Todd my Microbusiness teacher. Thank you for teaching me all the different subjects. I want to give a special thanks to Miss Jewell, who helped me with all my subjects and kept me on track when I got distracted. I also want to thank her for writing a letter of recommendation for the Air Force Aim High program I applied to. I know some of the teachers were aware that I have a love of aviation when I started here, but they had no idea how much! They allowed aviation to become a part of history, government, English, science, and even ecology. I had the opportunity to fly my drone over the greenhouse and garden area for Ecology and I was also able to teach the Falcons about drone flying.

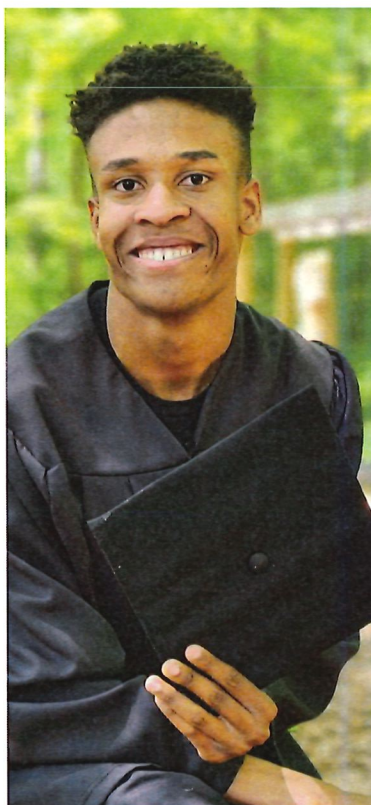
One of my favorite things to do was going on the bike rides to Urbana and also taking field trips to downtown Springfield. We also went over to Buck Creek to help the naturalist and I learned how to make an earth staircase by only using a shovel.

Even though I was in Microbusiness when I was a sophomore, I had challenges with designing something to build but the next year I took microbusiness again and I built a step stool. It made me feel really good when I finished the step stool and I learned that I could actually build something.

I'm grateful for my peers; we have laughed, played, explored the woods and we played Ramnussia, which was also one of my favorite things, and it taught us that we could work together. In my junior year, I met my best friend Brandon. We have lots of fun which will never end when we are together. Some of the things I will always remember are the times the power would go out or the basement would flood with water and we would get to go home early.

I am looking forward to going to Sinclair College and becoming a professional drone pilot and eventually going off to stunt pilot training

*In closing, I'll mention Henry Ford's quote, "When everything seems to be going against you, remember that aircraft take off against the wind, not with it."*



Hello. I'm Rae. I'm what they would've called an "Old Timer" back in the day, because I've attended Nightingale Montessori for a long, long time; about fourteen years, meaning this is the only school I've ever attended. In this testimonial, I'd like to highlight the many people who've helped me get where I am today, the experiences I had here, and what kept me going.

I'd like to acknowledge and thank a couple people first. One, namely, would have to be Verna. She has helped me get through these past couple weeks, which, if you know, have been tough on me. I would also like to point out my friends, who've supported me through everything, and offered their help in times of need. Growing up has been tough, and while I know I still have ways to go before I'm mature enough to be considered an equal amongst adults, I appreciate their kindness thus far. The support from teachers and peers alike has helped me get where I am today, which leads me to this; thank you all for everything you've done for me. I appreciate it.

Through the years, I've had many different experiences that have helped me to grow; friendships were made and left behind, trips were taken to expand my world, and I've failed and learned from my mistakes. Ultimately, though, as you can see today, I've managed to succeed. The growth I've managed to make has resulted in me being able to graduate, and I'm proud of that.

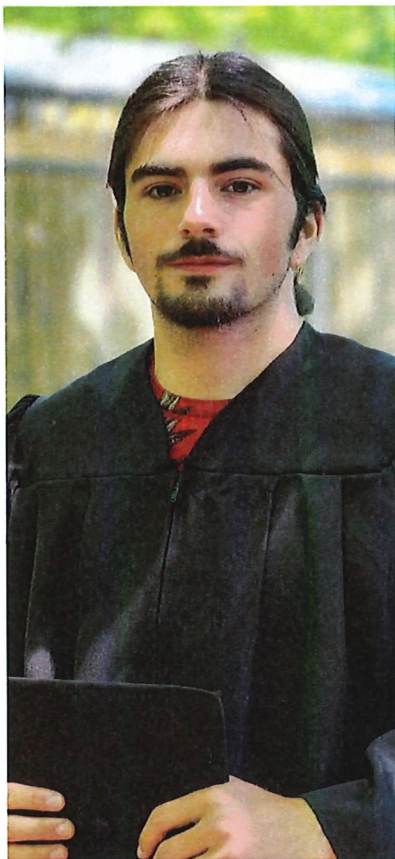
Whether you're a young person in high school, or an older person coming here for a relative or friend, I feel like we all should remember this as we continue forward into life: you can't control what life throws at you, but you can control how you react to it. Life will throw its worst at you—it's happened to everyone at some point—but taking control of yourself and knowing how to thrive even under the murkiest of situations shows your strength. This piece of advice has helped me move forward and stand here today. It's what helped me turn even the worst of situations into something just a little better, and I hope it'll help you, too.

In conclusion, all the effort I've put forward through the years has come to this, and I'm happy to be graduating today. I can't wait to go out into the world and explore more of what life has to offer. This school has been a staple part of my life for many years, and will always have a special place in my heart, and thus, leaving will be hard, as all goodbyes are. But I know that I can't stay here forever; everyone has to leave the nest at some point in their life, and now it is my time. Thank you, Nightingale Montessori, for giving me a place to safely learn and grow, and the support you've given me through the years. I will miss you.





*"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count; it's the life in your years" — Abraham Lincoln.* Going to Nightingale Montessori has allowed me to put so much life into only a few years. There are many opportunities here which would not be available anywhere else so I am grateful to my parents and teachers for making me able to go here. In the years I have gone here I have been able to connect with many students and make lots of new friends. These friends have made coming to school worthwhile and enjoyable. Working and running around out in the woods with them were some of the best times here. Looking forward, I plan to continue to educate myself and learn a lot of new practical skills. This summer I will be taking several courses, like the Basic Riders Skills course and I will continue my landscaping jobs. I know that both my fellow graduates and I will be able to achieve whatever we desire if we're willing to work for it.



  
**2024** class of  
CONGRATS!



*Thank  
you*

Nightingale Wing students coordinated a joint plant sale with the Pleasant Township Fire Department in Catawba, Ohio. We would like to thank Mrs. Cristina Hood Firefighter/Medic, and EMS Lieutenant Kristen Shultz for their coordination and support in this

fundraiser. Lt. Shultz and her husband, Clark County Sheriff Deputy/Firefighter, Kristopher Shultz, oversaw a secondary fundraiser at George Rogers Clark Park annual Native plant sale. We look forward to continued partnerships, learning opportunities, and service work with these organizations. Thank you to our first responders and students. We collectively earned more than \$500 to support Catawba Fire and our students' Erdkinder programs at Nightingale!

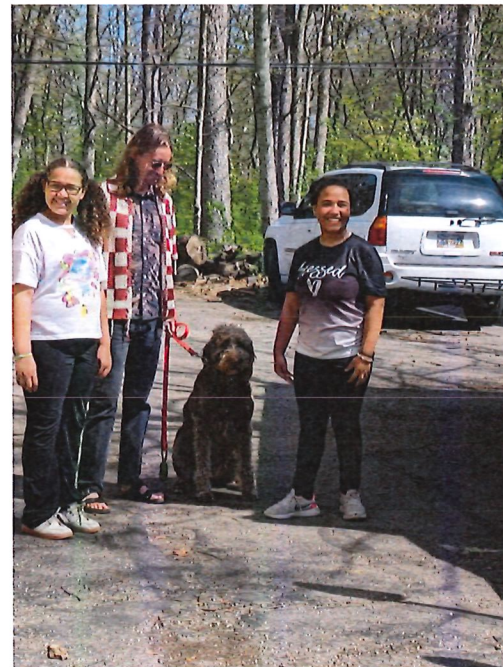


### Happy Staff Appreciation Week!

Thank you to our NM families, students and administration for all your thoughtfulness! Teachers really liked their new NM bags! Thank you Flashions for the printing. The Cloud family shared delicious cookies, The Taylor family shared delicious cheese-cake bites, and many reached out with words of gratitude! We appreciate you all!



Guest Speaker, Bill Felker, Author of Poor Will's Almanac and host of a program on NPR, shared knowledge on the importance of practicing observation skills in nature with students.



Owl Interventionist Mr. Josh, brought Len-ny to meet Owl students.

All School News



As we wrap up another successful year, Gourmet Grub would like to celebrate and acknowledge our students' successes in our nutrition and culinary programs. Students of all ages have integrated into all aspects of our cooking program. From cleaning, introductory knife skills and food preparation classes, to celebrating ethnic diversity through the language of food from around the world and different cultures, they truly do it all, as a team! The collaborative efforts, teamwork, and camaraderie are truly a joy to foster in our students. We love to spread joy through the art of food, togetherness and cooperation.

Wings, Falcons, and Owls have taken ownership of modeling culinary skills, teaching new jobs, kitchen operations, and sharing nutritional information for our younger students and school community. Wings Sasha, Sincere, and Keith have provided extraordinary operational support this semester. Mayeli, Aurelia and Lilliana took the opportunities to share the Cinco de Mayo celebration and provide compassionate, caring-focused lessons with our little ones. Jeremy and Yahir have found a real knack for baking and tested new homemade bread recipes to support our meals and snacks.

The Owl Team, with Miss Guiya at the lead, had spectacular success at their Medieval festival. The students worked together preparing so many amazing dishes for each family!. We made 30# of beef jerky, 40 Cornish hens butterflied and spiced by kids, "bird on a stick," mincemeat pies, fruit tarts, pickled veggies, apple cider and so much more!

Good job everyone! Together we are strong. Keep up the good work and never stop learning and growing.



Sincere & Damirah



Spatchcock chicken



Eagles





Sincere makes homemade eggrolls.



Ja'Myiah models correct serving amounts.



Owl's prepare snacks.



A little messy.

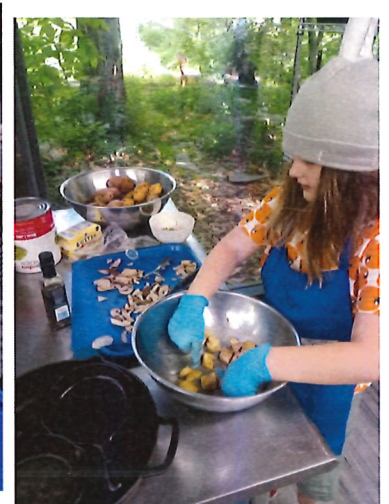
Calionna & Tate spread peanut butter.



Eagle, Elijah, perfects his vegetable cutting skills.



Eagles bake.



Astro spicing the spuds.



Addy and Corbin



Tripp, Amyah and Jovie



**Garden Update:** The Hummingbirds aren't the only thing growing this year! Our Hummingbirds have planted, nurtured, and watered a vast amount of plants. We've added Zinnias, Comfrey, Cosmos, Snap-dragons, sunflowers, marigolds, green and yellow peppers, tomatoes, squash, and cucumbers (pickling and burpless of course). Our garlic and onions continue to grow. We've been very busy this past month making sure all of our seeds are watered and growing.

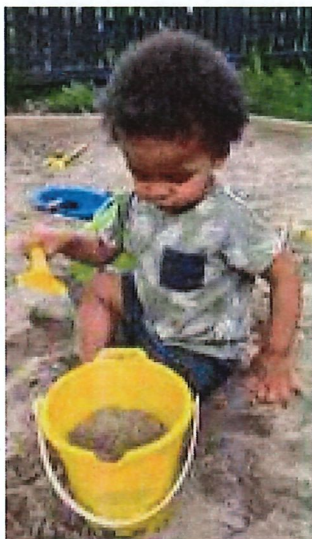
**Animal watching News:** The birds have discovered where we keep the birdseed, and our Hummingbirds have learned the importance of fully closing a lid after filling the birdfeeder. This month, a group of chipmunks knocked over the birdseed container and seeds spilled out over the ground. We watched from our classroom window as both squirrels and chipmunks had a feast. Daily we are finding our birds are enjoying their food source and we are happy to provide!



out

**Summer Work:** "If you don't use it, you lose it!" I encourage everyone to continue their great work during the summer!

Our cognitive development work allows students to gradually acquire knowledge and understand world around them. These skills have



the

been developed through works such as: distinguishing same from different, matching numbers, and sorting objects by concept. Your child's End of Year Progress Reports can help guide you during your summer opportunities.

*Adult correction and praise disrupts the child's concentration, which is necessary for cognitive development. The goal is that the child will develop a sense of satisfaction from the work itself, not be dependent on the approval of the teacher or others.*

Maria Montessori





We have been celebrating spring by learning about the life cycle of ladybugs and butterflies. Our study concluded with the class sharing in the joy of releasing the butterflies that they watched develop from caterpillars.



We have enjoyed discussions on how our Mothers take care of and help us and ways that we can show our love and appreciation to our moms. The children took pride in the pots they decorated and lovingly planted a succulent to take home to their moms for Mother's Day.



The Chickadees along with the Eagles attended a presentation of how braille is used. Chickadee teacher Takiisha arranged for our guest, Debbie Baker, who read the children a book using

braille. She demonstrated how she writes in braille and introduced us to her service dog, Opera.



Earth Day was enjoyed by all as Falcon and Wing students set up projects in the Chick yard to share the importance of taking care of our earth with the Chickadee students.



Chickadee News



We have had an incredibly rewarding and productive year! Clearing out the Native Prairie garden beds not only beautifies our environment but also teaches valuable lessons about ecology and the importance of native plants. The students have been actively involved in this process and they've developed a deeper understanding of the ecosystem around them.

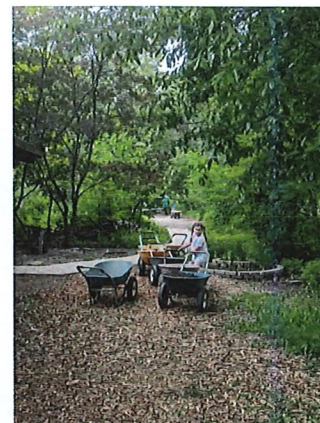
The Wax Museum project was a masterful feat and a fantastic learning opportunity. Immersing ourselves in the lives of historical figures not only educates us about their accomplishments but also fosters our empathy and understanding for humankind. The students took great ownership of their projects and delved into learning about each other's chosen figures, creating a rich learning environment for everyone involved.

Renovating the playground area was a hands-on way to teach environmental stewardship and teamwork. The students were actively involved in clearing out dead trees, removing invasive species, and even building structures like Monkey Bars. These projects speak volumes about their engagement and dedication. Not to mention, the lessons in problem-solving and safety they've gained from this experience are invaluable. The students put in a lot of hard work and dedication into these projects, and it's inspiring to see the impact they've had both on the environment and on their learning and personal growth.

*Thank  
you*



We walk the path with a purpose!



Woodchip delivery is serious business at NM. Falcons have been hard at work and have lined up full wheelbarrows. Willow Joy is dropping off an empty and empty one and picking up the next load to deliver. Taylor is helping Levi return empty wheelbarrows and they are getting ready to pick up their next loads. We are challenging the Falcons to keep up with all our hard work!

The Eagles would like to thank all of the parents, teachers, students and NM family members for everything they contributed to our Eagle community this year!

Parents, thank you for sending your Eagle on time and ready to learn every day! Thank you for your efforts made in volunteer time, classroom visits for birthdays and assisting with our playground maintenance.

Thank you to all parents, NM friends and family for your visit to our Wax Museum. Our Eagles were very proud to share all of their hard work.

Parents, thank you learning and supporting our important outdoor work. There were some bumps, bruises and scrapes as your Eagle did great large muscle work and tested limits!

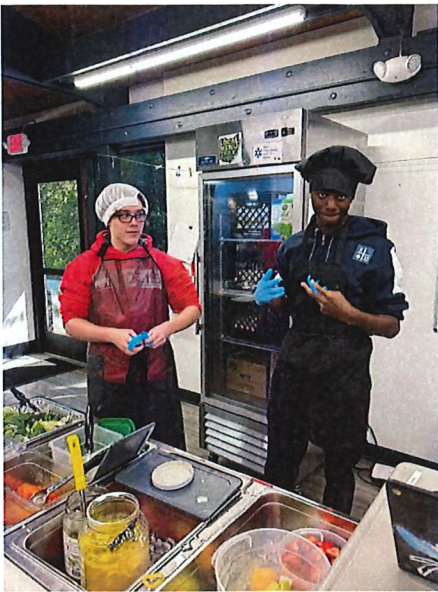


**Eagle News**

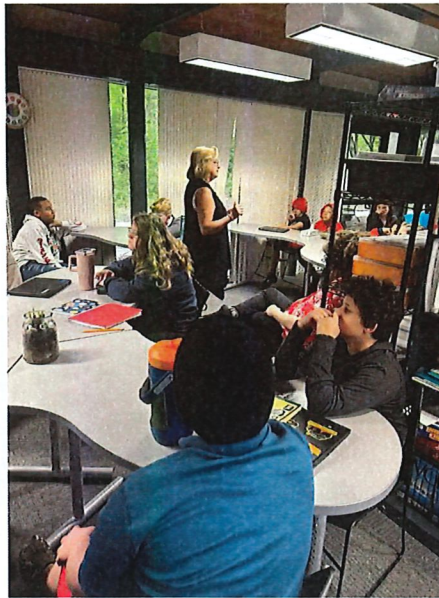




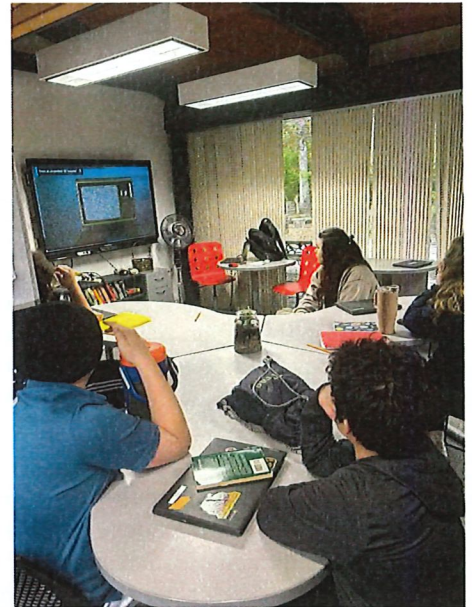




Noah L and Ladainian serve lunch.

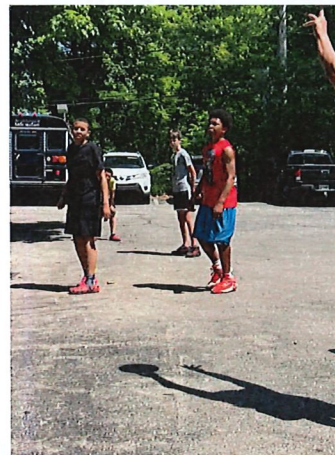


On May 6th, Guest speaker, Carrie McKee, came to speak to Falcons about the dangers of vaping and Smoking. Discussions included topics about peer pressure, predatory advertising and lung disease. Role playing scenarios engaged students and provided tools for success.

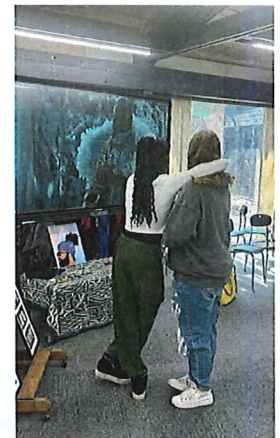


*Thank you*

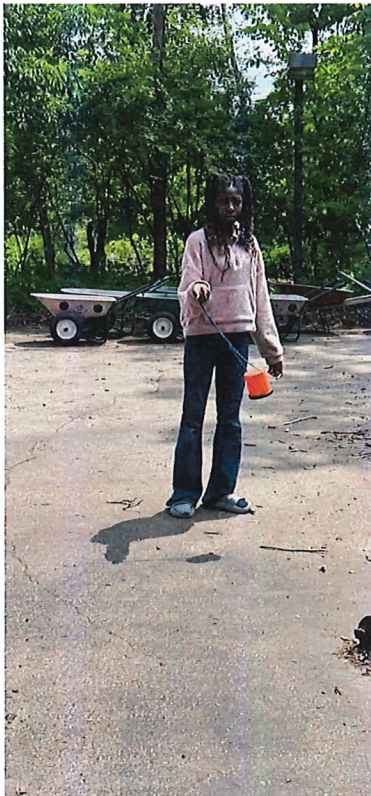
Terry Fredrich and Shelly Clemmons brought fruit popsicles for all students as a Smart Snack thank you for all of the student work at the community gardens. Students shoveled, hauled and spread compost over all of the Jefferson Street Oasis.



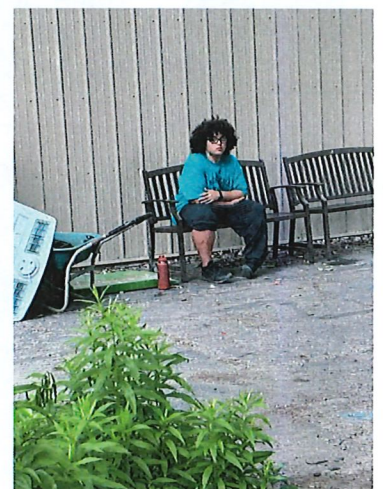
Basketball—a Falcon favorite pastime!



Serenity and Morgan are moved by the story.



Ben, Jared and Braylon are taking a break. They have been filling multiple wheel barrows for the Eagles to make paths in their outdoor area.



Falcon News



## Preparing for the Great Smoky Mountains

In the Wing community, we have spent a couple of weeks preparing for our end-of-year trip to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We will be spending three nights and four days in the region experiencing the mountain wilderness as well as some sights and sounds in the Gatlinburg/Pigeon Forge area. We will experience the *Dolly Parton's Stampede* dinner theatre and the chance to ride a mountain coaster. Our two full days in the region will focus on the two main people groups who have settled the region, the Cherokee people (Cherokee, NC) and the white American settlers of Cade's Cove (TN).

Our government class has focused over the past two weeks on learning about these two groups of people, how they lived, their culture and traditions, and what led to the Eastern Band Cherokee Nation having a sovereign nation within the United States. We have also looked at the process that led to our government setting aside lands as National Parks.

In anticipation of our trip and with the arrival of warmer weather we have been taking more hikes to get our mountain legs prepared. Mad River Gorge is beautiful this time of year and our students loved doing a bit of rock climbing and exploring in the area. Recent hikes have also included Clifton Gorge and the northwest area of Buck Creek State Park. We were able to end our series of Spring Friday activities with our traditional bike ride to Urbana and back to school. We stopped at the Depot Coffeehouse for lunch and a raucous Connect Four tournament where Jeremy Begel was crowned champion.



Connect 4 tournament at Depot coffeehouse during bike ride to Urbana.



Wings climbing at Mad River Gorge.

## Wing News



Chloe's cutting board from microbusiness.



Roy, Bo, Dominic: dressy hike NW of reservoir.