



Nightingale Notes

February 2023

March

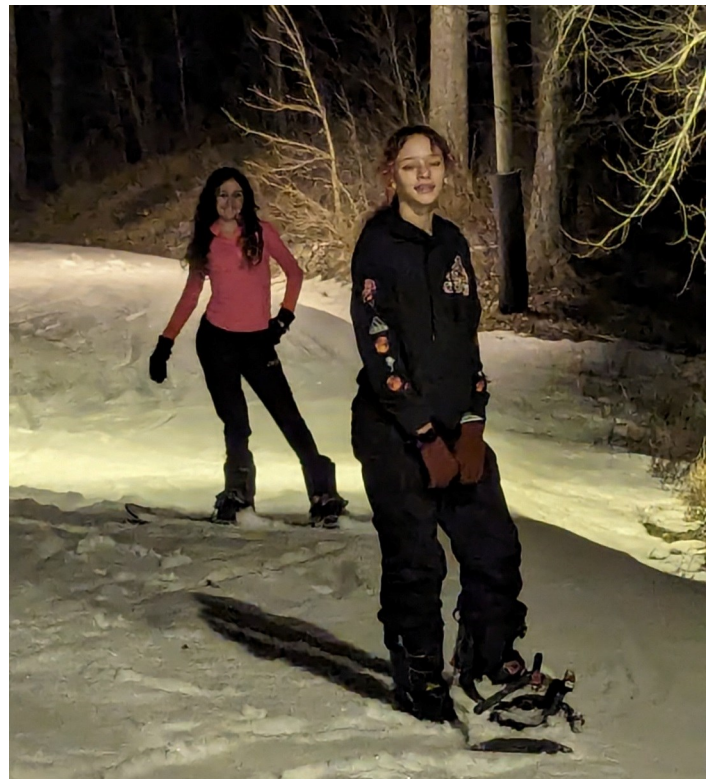
- 6 Eagle Wax Museum—Time Line of People
- 7-8 No School—Professional Development Days**
- 11 ALL CLASSES IN SESSION (Calendar Change)**
- 18 Wing College Visit—Central State University
- 25-29 No School—Spring Break**

April

- 1 No School—Staff Day**
- 8 No School—Professional Development Day**
- 8 Solar Eclipse**
- 9-12 PSAT/SAT—Wings—Sophomores and Juniors
- 9-26 Ohio State Testing Grades 3-12
- 19 No School—Balance Day**

Ski Club Was Still Skiing!

It's hard to believe with such a warm winter but we made it to Mad River Mountain for the NM Ski Club for 6 weeks! Snow making throughout the season has fought the warm and wet weather elements to provide just enough "snow" to keep most of the hills open. It has been a great experience for all students as they practice their independence and increase their skills!



 **NIGHTINGALE
MONTESSORI**

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Volume 29

The yearbook cost is \$10 each. The order form may be turned in to the office. First orders by February 29 will be distributed on Friday, March 1, 2024.

Solar Eclipse Glasses

The Solar Eclipse will be on April 8th. **NM is CLOSED on this date.**

NM received solar eclipse glasses from the Clark County Combined Health Department. We will issue **EVERY STUDENT** a pair of glasses and **EVERY NM FAMILY** a pair of glasses. These glasses will be sent home with your student in March. You will receive an email when the distribution occurs.

If you seek to purchase additional solar eclipse glasses please remember: Eclipse glasses are NOT regular sunglasses; regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, are not safe for viewing the Sun. Safe solar viewers are thousands of times darker and ought to comply with the **ISO 12312-2 international standard**.

Global Event Timeline:

Begins: 1:54 pm

Maximum: 3:11 pm 1.006 Magnitude

Ends: 4:26 pm



This composite image of eleven pictures shows the progression of a total solar eclipse over Madras, Oregon on August 21, 2017. (NASA/Aubrey Gemignani)

Eye Safety During a Total Solar Eclipse

<https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/safety/>

Except during the brief total phase of a total solar eclipse, when the Moon completely blocks the Sun's bright face, it is not safe to look directly at the Sun without specialized eye protection for solar viewing. Viewing any part of the bright Sun through a camera lens, binoculars, or a telescope without a special-purpose solar filter secured over the front of the optics will instantly cause severe eye injury.

When watching the partial phases of the solar eclipse directly with your eyes, which happens before and after totality, you must look through safe solar viewing glasses ("eclipse glasses") or a safe handheld solar viewer at all times. Eclipse glasses are NOT regular sunglasses; regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, are not safe for viewing the Sun. Safe solar viewers are thousands of times darker and ought to comply with the ISO 12312-2 international standard. NASA does not approve any particular brand of solar viewers. Always inspect your eclipse glasses or handheld viewer before use; if torn, scratched, or otherwise damaged, discard the device. Always supervise children using solar viewers.

Do NOT look at the Sun through a camera lens, telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while wearing eclipse glasses or using a handheld solar viewer — the concentrated solar rays will burn through the filter and cause serious eye injury.

If you don't have eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer, you can use an indirect viewing method, which does not involve looking directly at the Sun. One way is to use a pinhole projector, which has a small opening (for example, a hole punched in an index card) and projects an image of the Sun onto a nearby surface. With the Sun at your back, you can then safely view the projected image. Do NOT look at the Sun through the pinhole!

Do NOT use eclipse glasses or handheld viewers with cameras, binoculars, or telescopes. Those require different types of solar filters. When viewing the partial phases of the eclipse through cameras, binoculars, or telescopes equipped with proper solar filters, you do not need to wear eclipse glasses. (The solar filters do the same job as the eclipse glasses to protect your eyes.)

Seek expert advice from an astronomer before using a solar filter with a camera, telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device. Note that solar filters must be attached to the front of any telescope, binoculars, camera lens, or other optics.

View the Sun through eclipse glasses or a handheld solar viewer during the partial eclipse phases before and after totality.

You can view the eclipse directly without proper eye protection only when the Moon completely obscures the Sun's bright face — during the brief and spectacular period known as totality. (You'll know it's safe when you can no longer see any part of the Sun through eclipse glasses or a solar viewer.) As soon as you see even a little bit of the bright Sun reappear after totality, immediately put your eclipse glasses back on or use a handheld solar viewer to look at the Sun.



All School News



February is Black History Month. The origins of this celebration of African American achievements and struggles go all the way back to the thirteenth amendment which abolished slavery in the United States. Today, Black History Month is a time to honor the contributions and legacy of African Americans across U.S. history and society—from activists and civil rights pioneers such as Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Marcus Garvey, Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and Rosa Parks to leaders in industry, politics, science, culture and more.

The Springfield Junior Civic Theatre came to NM on February 2nd to hold auditions for Annie Jr., The children’s version of the musical about the comics’ pages most famous orphan. The sun will come out “Tomorrow.” 39 NM students were interested and participated in the audition. Several NM students went to the additional open auditions for Springfield community members.

Annie, Jr. Show Dates are May 16, 17 and 18 at the John Legend Theater.

Director: Monica Stephens-Logan

NM students that will be part of this performance are: Aubrey Cunningham, Emarosa Dukes, Elliott Earlywine, Corbin Hyatt, Amyah Johnson, DaeSha Johnson, ZaRyah and KaMyiah Jordan, Amontay and Austin King, Willow Reynolds, Alivia Taylor,

Nightingale has the privilege this month of hosting an art exhibit focused around African and American art produced by black people. This collection is owned by local Pastor, Cynthia Atwater. Her brother collected the art she is sharing with us. Cynthia Atwater is Senior Pastor at High Street United Methodist Church, located in downtown Springfield. She will be present during the show to share her knowledge of the art and stories shared with her by her brother. Cynthia is donating her time and knowledge to us and demonstrates how we can be patrons of the arts.

The show was on February 23, 2024. Families were invited to visit during after school hours. All the students visited the exhibit during the school day and helped guide families during the open hours after school.



Eagles visit the Black History Weekly Exhibit to learn about Frederick Douglass.

The Microbusiness— Culinary Class is pleased to announce another successful bake sale. We would like to thank all of our supporters in our fundraising efforts for an outdoor kitchen. We are pleased to say we earned another \$500 all to the credit of our students' successful collaboration, dedication, and drive to meet our shared goals. The students worked very efficiently, and we are so proud of their continued growth and experience as young adults. Good job everyone!

Our totals were as follows: 27 dozen sugar cookies, 28 chocolate bark, 38 chocolate covered pretzels and 21 dozen red velvet cookies!



Gourmet Grub



Each day in the Hummingbird class opportunities are created for students to work and learn independently, which, in turn, creates opportunities for them to develop personal responsibility. This month the Hummingbirds honed in on that skill and worked to strengthen their abilities in multiple areas. Even the smallest thing can have a great impact on our daily lives.

Each child works daily on self-care. Self-care in the Hummingbirds includes cleaning one's face and hands after each meal, and placing their coats, shoes, lunchboxes, and bags all in the appropriate places each morning. Students are learning how to put on their own coats and shoes when it's time to go outside. We appreciate when students have the appropriate shoes each day that are easy to put on independently! When shoes are easy to put on, the child gains the confidence to continue doing so. One of our daily student jobs is laundry. Students help place dirty items in the correct laundry basket after each use and then help fold the clean laundry. These are just a few examples of our daily living work each day.

Allowing students to be independent both at home and school, instills that value into their natural way of living. *"It is tremendously important that we should understand the spontaneous way in which the child develops him or herself. We are so anxious to help, to us it seems the burden of growth and development is so great that we must do all we can to make the pathway easy. And so, our love may easily overreach itself, and by providing too many urges, too many cautions and corrections, turn the child from the natural path of his or her development and cause his or her energy to be diverted."* – From the article collection Maria Montessori Speaks to Parents."

I, too, have struggled with this, but I've also witnessed the beauty of the Montessori way. That's why now, each day, I find new ways to open the classroom to allow the children the ability to grow and learn in their own way. Not forcing an outcome, or helping too much, but allowing them to work at their own pace. In the Hummingbirds we are nurturing our independence each day. As we, the adults, prepare for work, we gather our items in our bag or purse. Our hummingbirds also bring a bag to class each day. This item may seem not of importance when it is empty most of the time, but it's truly a very important part of the routine each morning. When students arrive, they place their coat, lunchbox, and bag on a hook. This is part of their work each day. I encourage you to help your child locate this bag and use it daily.

Updates:

Gardening: This month, the Hummingbirds observed the process of the soil settling in our garlic garden. During this observation, we discussed the need for the garlic bulbs to be preserved better and given more nutrients. Our Outdoor Education Leader, Jared, provided us with the Black Diamond leafy compost from Mad River Topsoil, which works best to provide the nutrients the bulbs require. We then enveloped the already-settled soil and used our new watering cans to

provide the soil with the much-needed water. This is the work our little garden needed.

Birdwatching: While working outdoors this month, the birds have been singing their beautiful songs to the Hummingbirds! Due to the birds returning from their winter break, we witnessed quite a few visiting our bird feeder and noticed a couple of cardinals that love to perch on trees nearby. Fortunately, we can zoom in on our animal friends who are at great distances by using Ms. Kelly's camera, and we're able to have a close-up view of nature. And oh what a beauty she is.



Brayzen and Maggie concentrate on their work



Completed Work! Full Birdfeeder!



Aviel independently transferred the Diamond soil to the garden.



Essa works independently on his fine motor skills to squeeze the dropper full of water and allow the colors to blend.



Cameron independently mimicked drawing techniques on his building block while also focusing on blending colors.



Calvin sorts objects by color and pattern independently.



Lily is doing large motor work stacking empty boxes. She is doing size comparison and trying to build the highest tower.



GeVaya works slowly and independently to water the garlic.

The end of January and the beginning of February have been a busy time for the Chicks. We were able to take advantage of the snow with a trip to the Springfield Country Club for sledding.



Arabella, Germaine, Kenna



Mekhi

Many Chicks took part in making a new walkway they developed from the shed. Others helped daily with building a new heart-shaped patio for our picnic area.



Simone, Jax, Tate, Gintey, Maverick with Jared

Chickadee News

The middle of February included our Valentine's celebration in which Takiisha demonstrated with a giant bejeweled heart how mean words can sadden our hearts, but kind words and actions are like Band-Aids that helps heal the hurt.

The children then passed out homemade Valentines and ate a breakfast of muffins and fruit (thank you to all the parents who contributed!) They listened to a story about the origins of Valentine's Day, how it has been celebrated over the years, and what some of the more famous symbols of Valentine's Day are today.

Montessori noted that early childhood rituals centering around the values of holidays become part of the fabric of the children's " Absorbent Mind." The Chickadees loved celebrating and wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day!



Takisha with Chick Valentine celebration circle.



Cambria digs!

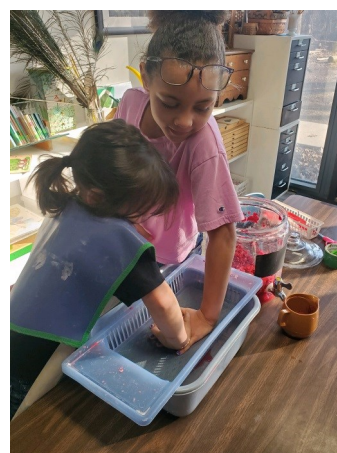
Wax Museum Preparation

Eagles are working on costumes, scenery and every possible detail they can think of to add to their character's presentation. Falcon, Blake Steinberger, is helping a group of Eagles make jewelry to complete their costume.

The Wax Museum is on March 6th. We will have a dress rehearsal at 1:30 PM on March 6th. If grandparents or some members of your family cannot attend in the evening, please know they may "take a peek" at this time.



Eagles help Chickadees with Valentine making from recycled paper.



Wax Museum Protocol:

On Wednesday, March 6 at **6:15**, Eagles may enter the South door to The Great Room. Students will go directly to their positions for the arrival of the guests.

Parents and friends may enter the South door of the Eagle classroom (opposite the Main Office Entrance door. Parents will remain in the Eagle classroom for some fellowship with other families while waiting for the Eagles to prepare their "Museum."

We have successfully been able to have Eagle presenters ready in about 15 minutes - enjoy your brief wait!

After you have toured the **Museum** you will be exiting the Great Hall via a short sidewalk that leads back to the Eagle classroom. After all guests have toured the **Museum**, each child will be released to his/her parent.

The Eagle Staff thanks you for your support!

Outdoor Education

The children and the Eagle staff have been working diligently to upgrade our outdoor environment and playground. The children have been learning and working on everything from clearing the invasive species of buckthorn, pulling stumps, raking, planting new beds, bringing mulch in, clearing brush and pouring cement in all types of temperatures. With Jared's help we have put together a plan to update the outdoor space so far incorporating used ladders as a set of monkey bars. This will offer the children an opportunity to promote upper body strength. We have designed and created an outdoor classroom for the children to enjoy during warmer weather. The children have recently taken an interest in performing and theater so we have incorporated a stage on the playground made from recycled pallets and the children love having shows. A big thank you to the Eagle parents that have volunteered their time and energy to help in the classroom and with this project.

Monkey Bars!

Eagles are working on Big Projects this month. We are building a monkey bar structure in our outdoor work area. Eagle groups have worked on the design, the build and will soon do the testing and trying out part. Holes were dug, lumber was carried, and cement was mixed. Our practical use of physics, mathematics and engineering will soon be realized when many Eagles are swinging across the bars!



Our Uninterrupted Work Week Gift!

The uninterrupted work period is fundamental to the Montessori approach, which recognizes and respects individual variations in the learning process. Within the Montessori environment, the children need to have time to work through various tasks and responsibilities at their own pace. This uninterrupted work period is vitally important, as that is when the building of coordination, concentration, independence and order, and the assimilation of information are able to occur. Sometimes what is best for the student is a variation in a work time block, offering more one-on-one teacher time and direction or other accommodations or services that support student learning.

The Owls received an opportunity for DAYS of uninterrupted work time as a “blessing in disguise” when 85% of their teachers were out for a week! Our culinary and ecology teachers jumped in and joined our 15% able and healthy staff and we offered school days that were designed for student led work choices. The students were given an open ended daily work plan that was designed for them to set their goals and determine their work choices for the day. The Owls really responded and took this responsibility seriously. A lot of HARD WORK was accomplished.

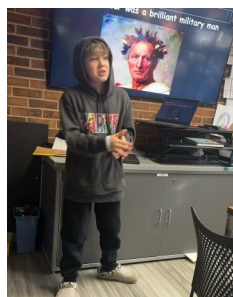
Upon the return of full staff there are still ample opportunities for student led choice work within their scheduled classes. History students completed individual research presentations and shared them with classmates. (pics - Lee presents The Roman Empire Military and Judah presents Julius Caesar) Instead of a group novel study this session students are making individual book choices and sharing their literary responses with classmates. Soon we will start working on preparations for a Medieval Fair



Building Shelter! Student groups work on building shelters for survival as extension work from their novel study of *Hatchet*.



Owl News



The Civil War and Hardtack

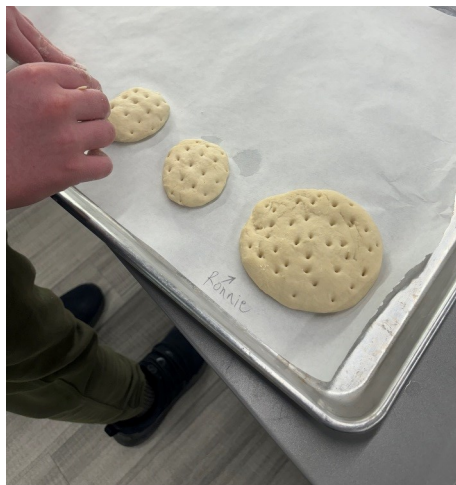
The Falcon history class is working its way through the 1860's. This means we are learning about and discussing Abraham Lincoln's presidency, the Civil War and its many battles, and the Emancipation Proclamation and its implications for enslaved persons. While we learned about the soldier's role and life during the war we took time out to bake the main ration of soldiers and sailors during that period and for hundreds of years before: hardtack. Hardtack is a cracker made of just two ingredients: flour and water. It is baked until it is dry and very hard so that it can last many years without going bad if stored properly. Soldiers would have been given ten hardtack crackers daily along with other rations when available. Sometimes, hardtack was referred to as molar breakers since it can be very hard to chew if it is not rehydrated with some sort of liquid like coffee, water, or soup. Falcon students spent a class period baking and preparing hardtack, and the following day we ate the hardtack around a campfire while hearing letters from soldiers who fought at the battle of Antietam. Some students gave the hardtack rave reviews while others vowed to never partake again.



Ronnie, Morgan and Brayden mix flour and water.



Noah makes holes to let the moisture escape.



Daesha and Ella form hardtack crackers.



Amontay prepares Hardtack dough.



Blake, Ladainian, and Will form hardtack crackers.



Noah, Lola and Wyatt prepare hardtack.

Personal Finance Class

During the third quarter, wings are participating in one of three intensive electives, health, physical education, or personal finance.

The personal finance is a state-required elective, which many students agree is a great thing! Students want to learn how to handle decisions related to saving, giving, and spending money. The class is using a highschool specific curriculum that includes all sorts of topics including investing for retirement, staying out of debt, dangers of inappropriate credit card use, and pursuing goals like college degrees with little or no debt. Students have enjoyed having hypothetical discussions as well as going over money issues that they are currently experiencing. At Nightingale, we also want to be careful to highlight that money doesn't create happiness and there are many ways to invest our time and treasure that will produce great returns besides just traditional monetary investments. For instance, a \$30 apple tree will produce thousands and perhaps tens of thousands of dollars of apples over the life of the tree. This fruit could be used for your own personal nutrition or to provide a small yearly income for yourself.



Wings' dreams of the future like Martin Luther King.

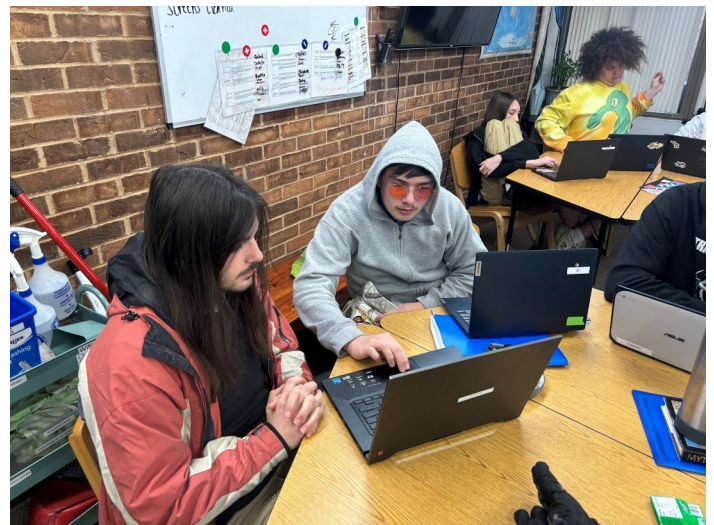


Art Recreation Project

The Wing class has undertaken a new year-long project to recreate famous works of art. Our first model is sophomore Shay Conner. When Shay heard of this project idea, she immediately had a plan and came in today with her look in place. She achieved Frida Kahlo's signature style perfectly, and offered up the Vogue portrait as her inspiration. Shay chose Frida because "she empowers women."



Frida Kahlo vogue portrait featuring Shay Conner as Frida.



Roy and Bo work together.



Reece and Brandon discuss.