

# Maine Mountain Children's House

Kingfield, Maine



## Classroom Notes

We have been off to a busy start! We gained nine new students this year, and the classroom is now bustling with purposeful activity as your children gain comfort and confidence in their new space. Although drop offs can still be tough as they leave familiar and secure places to join a new environment, these transitions are getting easier as your child(ren) become more comfortable with their friends, teachers, and space here at MMCH. They have all settled into the classroom routines quickly as they got to know their teachers, friends, classroom expectations, and began exploring the activities in the different areas of our classroom. Bethany and Emily have found plenty of time to work one on one and in small groups with all the children throughout September and October, where we began by going over basic behavioral and classroom expectations and have moved into more in-depth lessons in practical life, sensorial, science, culture, language, and math. We look forward for the opportunity to sit and chat with all of you at P/T conferences, and learn more about your hopes for your child(ren)'s year at MMCH! And as always, we are so grateful for the time we spend with your children and look forward to seeing how we will all learn and grow throughout this year. With Love, Bethany, Emily, Dani and Ingrid



### Upcoming Dates

**October 28th-** P/T Conferences- No School

**November 11th-** Veteran's Day- No School

**November 22nd-** Baby Mahar's due date! :)

**November 23-25th:** Thanksgiving Break- No School

**COLD WEATHER IS COMING** (or already here)! Be sure your child's cubby and bathroom bag is stocked with cold weather clothing such as pants, coats, mittens, and hats. It's best to label all outdoor gear as children leave mittens behind very often! Keep an eye in the red "Lost and Found" bin in the cubby room closet for lost gear :)

## Welcome Misse!

We are so very excited to welcome Misse Carolan, Bethany's friend, teacher, mentor, and now-Maternity Leave Sub! Misse may look familiar to some as she has joined us various times over the past year, as a sub and as Bethany's trainer. Misse will be joining us as an official member of the MMCH staff beginning November 20th as she fills in for Bethany's Maternity Leave through mid/end of February. Misse has quite the incredible track record in the Montessori world. Since she obtained her AMI primary certification in 1978, Misse has worked as a behavioral analytical technician with children with autism, as a clinical specialist with children with behavioral and emotional disorders, is a consultant with New England Childhood Associates and helped many Montessori schools open their doors, and has been an instructor with Northeast Montessori Institute since 1992. We are incredibly lucky and overjoyed to have Misse joining us! She will be with us a few more days leading up to Bethany's official leave, so if you see her- say hello!



## Cayford Apple Orchard

Our first field trip was a huge success as we picked apples, explored the orchard, took a tractor ride, and even found a rope swing! We have all reaped the benefits of the field trip with some fun cooking projects including apple sauce and an apple/butternut squash soup. We have also added apples to our classroom, such as an apple polishing lesson, apple poems, apple coloring, and learning the parts of the apple. We appreciate all the volunteers who came with us- we literally couldn't have done it without you!

## CLASSROOM THEMES

Here at MMCH, we work to change classroom lessons as needed to maintain a captivated audience, appeal to current interests, and explore different topics. As we start the school year, we focus our "theme" on simply getting to know the classroom. We work on general classroom guidelines, such as a "quiet hand" (resting a hand on a friend/teacher's shoulder to get attention), using work mats, pushing our chairs in, using manners, and more. As we moved into autumn, we transitioned our classroom theme to reflect the seasonal change with apples and pumpkins and others signs of Fall. As we move towards the chilly winter, the theme of our classroom will continue to embody the seasonal changes but also examine human growth and development, including the senses, parts of the body, physical activity and movement and healthy eating choices. Our cultural study is the state of Maine. If you have anything you'd like to share about these topics, please let us know!

