

Welcome Back!

Welcome back friends and families! To those who are new to MMCH—we are so glad that you have become part of our community! We have spent the last couple of weeks getting to know each other and settling into our new classroom routine. It's amazing how fast the children have taken ownership of their school after such a short amount of time.

With all of this new-ness, you may have noticed that your child is pretty tuckered out by the end of the day. Some friends already have the sniffles and stuffed up noses and from time to time you might even hear, "I don't want to go to school!" This is quite common after the first week or so. Your children's bodies are tired, and though everyone is enjoying themselves, they are still getting used to a new place and aren't as comfortable as they will be with more time under their belts. Plenty of rest and good nourishment will keep them going, as well as solid support and reassurance from home. If you have any specific questions or concerns, please let us know. You can always email us but feel free to take one of us aside during pick up times as we have extra staffing during these first few weeks. If we are not outside, come on in and say hello!

Our first fundraiser of the year (and biggest!), Harvest Festival, is coming up in just a couple of weeks and we will need some help. Please keep an eye out for a volunteer sign-up sheet in the cubby room next week. Volunteer opportunities will be anywhere from making a harvest sangria to taking down decorations and tables the day after the event. Thank you in advance!

The driveway and fencing is almost complete and our classroom is looking fabulous! Thank you for your patience as we complete these big projects—we are so thrilled to have made these changes and are incredibly grateful to the folks who put in the time to get it done! A big shout out to Mike Dentico who headed up the driveway endeavors with support from Gabe Clark for the new fencing and Jeremy Norton for the walkway (aka highway!). Thank you to Mark Prentiss for the climbing ramps on the hill and the hardwood shelf in the classroom—they have been quite the hit! Chris Putnam was our carpenter for the indoor changes with volunteered support from Mike Reardon and my hubs, Shawn Mahar in addition to all of the electrical work done by Andy Hodgins. Finally, all of this wouldn't have gotten done if it wasn't for the volunteered support from those of you who put in time right before school started—Kristin Wallaker, Brian Demshar, Melissa Kachan, Isaac Raymond and Emily's husband Zack Davis. Thank you, thank you, for all you do to create a beautiful environment for our children to learn and grow.

Tips from the Classroom

- If we are still inside when you arrive for pick-up please wait in the yard and your child(ren) will be out soon to greet you!
- Ask teachers about specific lessons your child has been working on so you can discuss them at home—this will help with the connection between home and school and may also ease transitions.
- It's helpful for all children to have things to rest with at this point in the year so please be sure your child has a blanket and something to cuddle with as all children will be resting for a period of time each day—if not sleeping!
- Make sure your child's footwear can be put on and taken off by your child. Being able to dress oneself is a big part of independence.