September 27, 2018

News from the Grove
OUR NEWSLETTER

New School Year Off and Running...

It's hard to believe that we are coming to the end of September already! It has been a great start to the new school year - a busy start!

Even with the extreme heat, the paving of the school road, and the rains and the floods, we have managed to keep humming along! I guess nothing should surprise us anymore!

The start of the year Open Houses were well attended and so informative. Thank you to the families that showed up to support Oak Grove and marched with us in the Celebrate Mansfield Day! Muffin Morning, Let’s Get Together, 3-6 Classroom pot luck dinner, the Board sponsored BBQ, and the start of some amazing afterschool enrichment classes...now that’s a month to remember!

The 9-12 Classroom also had their annual team building experiential day. This year they attended a full day at Holiday Hill’s Challenge Course. The day promotes positive personal and community development focusing on teambuilding, leadership skill development, communication skills, problem solving and conflict resolution. It was a very positive and fun day!

Upcoming Events...
• Sat Sept 29th - Willimantic Downtown Country Fair - 10am-4 pm
• Monday Oct 1 - Muffin Monday - right after drop off
• Monday Oct 8 - Columbus Day - No School
• Sunday Oct 14 - Oak Grove Annual Hibernation Festival 12:00-4:00pm
• Wed Oct 17 - Oak Grove Annual Fall Parent Social - 6:30pm - child care will be available
• Wed Oct 24 - Family Morning in the Classrooms 8:30-9:30am - spend an hour in the classroom with your child
• Fri Oct 26 - Teacher Work Day - No School
• Mon Nov 5 - Muffin Monday - right after drop off
• Wed Nov 7 - Parent Education Night Guest Speaker - Positive Discipline - 6:30 pm - Child care available
• Mon Nov 12 - Parent Teacher Conferences - No School
The Hibernation Festival is coming soon!

Mark your calendars for Sunday October 14th from noon-4:00pm. The annual Oak Grove Hibernation Festival is quickly approaching. This is a community fun event for our current families and friends, alumni families and it is also open to the general public. It is a fun day for all! Lots of great activities for the kids (of all ages), entertainment and amazing food!

- Johnny Walker and his corn grinding station
- The Uconn Street Performers
- Marvelous Marv the Magician
- The Oak Grove Harvest Table
- Vendors
- Wooden Top Making with David
- Bean Bag making with Cindy
- Face Painting
- Artist Bill Dougal creating caricatures
- Amazing Food Room

It is a wonderful day filled with endless family fun!
Tell your friends and family and come and celebrate the wonders of the autumn season!

The food signup sheets will be in the lobby next week. We need everyone’s help to make the food room a huge success. Please sign up and volunteer to bring food to for us to sell in the food room.
The Montessori Mafia

In 2011 The Wall Street Journal coined the term Montessori Mafia in reference to a very successful group of creative innovators who are highly influencing our world today. (Larry Page and Sergei Brin - Google, Jeff Bezos - Amazon, Will Wright - video pioneer, Jimmy Wales - Wikipedia, to name a few) The common link that bonds this group is that they were all Montessori educated. The Wall Street Journal asks the question...

Is there something going on here? Is there something about the Montessori approach that nurtures creativity and inventiveness that we can all learn from?

The Montessori Mafia strikes again with a very clear message on the importance of Montessori education for all. Founder and CEO of Amazon.com Inc., Jeff Bezos, announced late last week that that he and his wife MacKenzie will be giving away $2 billion of their fortune toward providing food and shelter for homeless families and for creating Montessori style pre-schools in low income and underserved communities.

“I want much of my philanthropic activity to be helping people in the here and now—short term—at the intersection of urgent need and lasting impact.”


This recent Montessori Mafia event and huge donation is a very important message to the world on the power and the impact that Montessori education has on children. The media has been swarming around Jeff Bezos and his announcement last week. Montessori schools will all benefit from this extraordinary endorsement of the Montessori pedagogy from one of the wealthiest and most innovative and successful people in the world.