



**Academic Excellence
Natural Gifts**

**Modified Montessori
Individual Needs**

Inside Caedmon
for the week of
October 5 - 9, 2009

**Diversity
Empathy**

**Community
Community Service**

After Apple Picking

by Robert Frost

(Compliments of Dr. Blackburn)

My long two-pointed ladder's sticking through a tree
Toward heaven still,
And there's a barrel that I didn't fill
Beside it, and there may be two or three
Apples I didn't pick upon some bough.
But I am done with apple-picking now.
Essence of winter sleep is on the night,
The scent of apples: I am drowsing off.
I cannot rub the strangeness from my sight
I got from looking through a pane of glass
I skimmed this morning from the drinking trough
And held against the world of hoary grass.
It melted, and I let it fall and break.
But I was well
Upon my way to sleep before it fell,
And I could tell
What form my dreaming was about to take.
Magnified apples appear and disappear,
Stem end and blossom end,
And every fleck of russet showing clear.
My instep arch not only keeps the ache,
It keeps the pressure of a ladder-round.
I feel the ladder sway as the boughs bend.
And I keep hearing from the cellar bin
The rumbling sound
Of load on load of apples coming in.
For I have had too much
Of apple-picking: I am overtired
Of the great harvest I myself desired.
There were ten thousand thousand fruit to touch,
Cherish in hand, lift down, and not let fall.
For all
That struck the earth,
No matter if not bruised or spiked with stubble,
Went surely to the cider-apple heap
As of no worth.
One can see what will trouble
This sleep of mine, whatever sleep it is.
Were he not gone,
The woodchuck could say whether it's like his
Long sleep, as I describe its coming on,
Or just some human sleep.

Contents

Weekly Poem
Columbus Day
Events at Caedmon
Montessori Quote
Observations Begin
Photo Days
Potluck Supper
EP Corner
CFA/FACES party
Open Houses
Clothing Drive
Welcome Maria Howard
Montessori Mondays
CFA News
Homework Helper
Contact Info Updates
Thank You Notes

Calendar for the Week

Monday, October 5

CFA Class Rep Meeting

- 6:30-8:00p
- School

Tuesday, October 6

Classroom Observations Begin

UL Transfer Workshop

- 3:30p
- Classroom

Open House for Perspective Families

- 6:30-8:30p
- School

Wednesday, October 7

Reception at Dr. B's for Mrs. Nathanson and Ms. Milton's class

- 6:30-8:00p
- 1520 York Ave.
Apt 32J

Thursday, October 8

School Photo Day #1

- Schedule at right

CFA/FACES Welcome Party: "What Makes Your Family"

- 6:30-8:30p
- School

REMINDER...

**SCHOOL CLOSED
COLUMBUS DAY
MONDAY, OCTOBER, 12TH**

IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR...

Upper Level Families RE: Transcript Release Forms

It is **VERY** important that all upper level families submit their transcript release forms as soon as possible to Susan Bonet in the central office. These are needed immediately in order to expedite the Middle School placement process for your children. If you have questions, please call Ms. Bonet. Thank you...

Community...

Think of Caedmon for Your Next Special Event!

Are you looking for a beautiful place to have a family gathering?
...a friend's bridal or baby shower?
...a corporate meeting or cocktail reception?
...a religious celebration
...or even a small wedding?

Our beautiful, newly renovated first floor lobby, **Caedmon Hall**, is now available to families both inside and outside our community to fulfill their event needs at an affordable price.

Additional areas within the school are also available, including the courtyard, lunchroom, and gym.

Many of the caterers, florists, musicians, vendors, and photographers, that partner with The Caedmon School are available to help you transform **Caedmon Hall** into the perfect venue for your special event.



To discuss your upcoming event or receive more information, please contact Event Coordinator Lisa Donofrio at 212.792.7451, or events@caedmonschool.org.

Brochures are available in the school foyer.
(For your convenience, we have attached a copy in PDF format.)

MONTESSORI QUOTE OF THE WEEK...

"The environment should reveal the child, not mold him"

Friday, October 9

Child Chat

- 8:30-10:00
- Library

School Photo Day #2

- Schedule at right

Field Trips in Store

**Middle Level Science
Wednesday, October 14**
The Beczak Center

Coming Events

**School Closed /
Columbus Day**
Monday, October 12

FACES Potluck Supper
Tuesday, October 13

**Upper Level Transfer
Workshop (5th Graders)**
Wednesday, October 14

**Reception at Dr. B's for
Ms. Schneider and Ms.
Simmon's class**
Wednesday, October 14

**Montessori Monday for
EP and Beg Families**
Wednesday, October 7

**Upper Level Transfer
Workshop (5th Graders)**
Tuesday, October 20

**Reception at Dr. B's for
Mrs. Trinkle and Ms.
Dudgeon's class**
Wednesday, October 21

**Reception at Dr. B's for
Ms. McGregor and Mr.
Murphy's class**
Thursday, October 22

**CFA Halloween Raffle
Drawing**
Friday, October 23

CFA Picnic in the Park
Saturday, October 24
(Rain date: 10/31)

Curriculum REMINDER...

**Classroom Observations Begin
This Tuesday!**

Tuesday is the first day for which you may sign up to observe the Caedmon program in action, either in your child's classroom, a specialist class, or any other classroom in the school.

Dr. Blackburn and the Program Heads strongly encourage all parents and guardians to take advantage of this opportunity to witness our fabulous faculty at work, and to see our school mission being enacted on a daily basis. **Those who remember the *Coffee & Curriculum* gatherings of previous years should be aware that your first-hand classroom observations are intended to replace those gatherings, and provide a more direct way for you to experience and understand how the various programs are implemented at Caedmon.**

Observations are **BY RESERVATION ONLY**. To make an appointment to observe, Elementary families should contact Honor Taft, Assistant head of School. Early Program and Beginner families should contact Kristina Wels, Head of the Early Program (or Maria Howard, once Ms. Wels goes on maternity leave).

Community/CFA...

!!! Photo Days—Photo Days—Photo Days !!!

On Thursday, October 8th and Friday, October 9th 2009, your children will be having their individual and class pictures taken. Below is the schedule of which classes will be photographed on each day.

Note regarding SIBLINGS: Students in K, LL, ML and UL classes who have siblings in Beginners, EP and K classes will be called down on Thursday to have sibling pictures taken. Please dress them accordingly on Thursday as well as Friday!

Also, please note that if your child misses his/her photo session at Caedmon, arrangements could be made with the photographer for alternative locations around the city.

Thursday October 8

Beginners, Early Program, & Kindergarten (Trinkle)

Mrs. Mehdi/Mrs. Gioiosa
Mrs. Lo/Ms. Rama
Ms. Mastrangelo/Ms. Jorgensen
Ms. Schneider/Ms. Simmons
Mrs. Nathanson/Ms. Milton
Mrs. Trinkle/Ms. Dudgeon

Friday October 9

Kindergarten (McGregor), Lower Level, Middle Level, & Upper Level

Ms. Woodruff/Ms. Watter
Ms. Rossano/Ms. McGregor
Ms. McGregor/Mr. Murphy
Mrs. Power/Ms. Franklin
Mr. Page/Mr. Jennings
Ms. Schneider/Ms. Katz
Ms. Lewis

Coommunity...

SAVE THE DATE!

**FACES POTLUCK SUPPER
Tuesday, October 13th at 6:00 pm**

CFA Fall Pajama Day
Monday, October 26

Upper Level Transfer Workshop (5th Graders)
Tuesday, October 27

Reception at Dr. B's for Ms. Woodruff and Ms. Watter's class
Tuesday, October 27

Reception at Dr. B's for Ms. Rossano and Ms. McGregor's class
Wednesday, October 28

Open House for Perspective Families
Thursday, October 29

Family Conferences (afternoon)
Monday, November 2

Reception at Dr. B's for Ms. Power and Ms. Franklin's class
Monday, November 2

School Closed/ Family Conferences & CFA Book Fair
Tuesday, November 3

Upper Level Transfer Workshop (5th Graders)
Wednesday, November 4

Reception at Dr. B's for Mr. Page and Mr. Jennings' class
Thursday, November 5

Upper Level Transfer Workshop (5th Graders)
Tuesday, November 10

Montessori Morning for EP and Beg Families
Wednesday, November 11

Yorkville Pantry Drive
Monday, November 16 thru Friday November 20

Reception at Dr. B's for Ms. Schneider and Mr. Kats's class
Monday, November 16

FACES Workshop - TBA
Tuesday, November 17

Reception at Dr. B's for Ms. Lewis's class
Thursday, November 19

School Closed / Thanksgiving Break
Tuesday, Nov. 24 at noon
– Friday, Nov. 28

Curriculum...

Early Program Corner

What a wonderful start to the year we are having in Beginners, Discovery, and Early Program! The children are settling into their school routine, they are forming trusting relationships with their teachers, and they are creating bonds with their new friends. Their independence is beginning to blossom as they discover the joy of finding their own work, and the natural hum of busy activity can be heard in each classroom.

Though a few of you have told me how lucky you are that your child tells you all of the details of what they do during the day, most of you can't get any information from your child at all! Rest assured, this lack of a response is age appropriate. Most children will not be able to remember the events throughout the day, and it is only the last happening of their day that may or may not get shared with you. Oftentimes it is helpful if you ask your child very specific questions, like "Did you work in the block corner today?" or "Did you create something in the art area?"

Periodically, Maria Howard and myself will offer you a little window into your child's classroom via Inside Caedmon, to help you understand the Montessori environment they explore. The best way to truly understand and experience your child's school day, however, is by contacting either of us to schedule a time to observe in the classroom. Watching children in a Montessori environment is truly a fascinating and rewarding experience, and I hope you all take advantage of the opportunity. In addition, this year we will be offering a series of new parent partnership events called "Montessori Mondays" that are scheduled on your calendar throughout the year. These are evening gatherings for all Beginner/Discovery and Early Program parents to learn about the Montessori philosophy and how we put it into practice here at The Caedmon School. We encourage all of you to attend, and the school will even be offering free Childminding for Caedmon (and other school-age) children during these evening events. We truly want parents to be part of their child's education here at Caedmon. Learning about Montessori, and even using the materials yourself, is essential in understanding the learning process your child is going through at school.

When you come for your classroom observation, one of the first things that you may notice is the child community that has been formed in what Maria Montessori called the "**Prepared Environment**". Everything in the classroom is scaled down in size to make the room comfortable and accessible to the children, and the materials that line the shelves are carefully prepared to allow the children to work and discover without the assistance of the teachers. Maria Montessori believed that the prepared environment was integral to a child's development. The classroom should strive to become a child-centered community, designed to facilitate maximum independent learning and exploration. In such a space, the child experiences a blend of freedom and discipline to act and develop along the lines of his/her own inner direction, allowing the character and personality of the child to emerge. As Dr. Montessori said, "The environment should reveal the child, not mold him". The classroom becomes a "living" room for the children. It is functionally arranged and divided into sections, including Practical Life, Sensorial, Cultural Arts, Math, Science, Language, and Art. Each classroom also contains a block corner and book corner. When the children have their daily work time in the classroom, the hum of activity begins, and they move about the classroom freely.

Another aspect of the Prepared Environment that may catch your attention (and likely already has) is the aesthetic beauty of the classroom. Maria Montessori considered the appearance of the classroom to be of the utmost importance. The aesthetic sense develops in the early years, and children respond well to order, quality, and beauty in their environment. Everything in the Montessori classroom can be seen and touched, having a specific use. The materials are created to meet the child's need to learn through the senses and through movement of their bodies. They are attractive and alluring to children of this age, and are designed to allow the child to correct his/her own mistakes without the assistance of an adult. In doing so, the child develops confidence and independence, and experiences a powerful joy in learning.

Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday

Beef-a-roni

Tuesday

Turkey Tacos
Yellow Rice

Wednesday

Sloppy Joe
On a Roll

Thursday

Turkey Patties
With Gravy
Mashed Potatoes

Friday

Cheese Pizza

Middle Level Tours and Open Houses

Little Red Schoolhouse & Elisabeth Irwin HS invites you to attend

Middle School Tours and Open House

Tours:

Wednesday mornings,
October – December
272 Sixth Avenue
(at the corner of Bleecker)

Open House:

Thursday,
October 29, 6:00 PM
40 Charlton Street
(between Sixth Avenue & Varick Street)

Please RSVP to the Admissions Office 212-477-5316 x210

Students are welcome to join their parents for the morning tours.

Lastly, the Prepared Environment allows for the children to interact in a peaceful manner. The caring, safe atmosphere offers them a calm and predictable space in which to learn, while respecting each other's differences, abilities, work, and space. It is a place in which they can enjoy community. Within this interactive classroom, the children learn to take responsibility for themselves and for each other, and to treat each other with courtesy and dignity.

Please come and see these remarkable Prepared Environments for yourself, and call me to schedule a classroom observation!

Sincerely,
Kristina Wels
Head of Early Program

Community...

This Thursday!

The CFA Annual Welcome Back Party

October 8, 2009

6:30pm at The Caedmon School

Featuring

"What Makes Your Family"

A Community Photo Exhibit sponsored by
FACES

Please RSVP

CFA@caedmonschool.org

Community...

Open House for Perspective Families Tuesday, October 6th

This Tuesday, the Admission's Office will hold the first of two Open Houses to introduce the Caedmon teachers, program, and facility to families applying for next year. The second will be on **Thursday, October 29th**.

Should any of you know of a family who is embarking on a school search process, we hope you will direct them to our admissions office to arrange either a morning tour, or a place in the second open house. They may call the school, or email: admissions@caedmonschool.org. Thank you...

Community...

Autumn Clothing Drive Clean out your closets! Don't throw anything away yet!

Caedmon's fall clothing donation drive is scheduled for the week of November 16th. Start collecting all the winter clothing that you know you'll never wear again, and save it to bring in to Caedmon that week. Women's, children's, and men's clothing will all be accepted.

Volunteers will be needed during arrival and dismissal each day that week to greet folks and accept donated clothing. Please contact Dave Kleckner at DLKleckner@msn.com, if you would like to participate. Look for more information in Inside Caedmon soon.

**The Dwight School
Fall 2009--2010
Open House Dates**

Open houses are held on:

Tues, October 6th;
Tues, November 5th;
Wed, December 2nd;
Wed, January 20th.

Open houses are from
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm.
Please call the admissions
office at 212-724-7524 or
admissions@dwright.edu to
reserve your spot.

**The Hewitt School
45 East 75th Street
New York, NY 10021
212.994.2623**

This year, Hewitt will be implementing math and English placement tests for students applying to grades 6 - 11. We feel that these tests will help us assess students more comprehensively, and it will also give students an opportunity to showcase their abilities, especially for students who did not perform as well as they would have liked on the ISEE. Each test will be 30 minutes long and does not require preparation. **The tests will be given from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the dates listed below.** We will provide beverages and snacks. In answer to your requests, we have expanded the list of dates.

**Mon, December 7th
Tues, December 15th
Mon, January 11th
Wed, January 20th**

I will schedule the test date with each family either when they come in for their interview or over the phone. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Dara Broxmeyer
Assistant Director of
Admissions, Middle and
Upper School

Curriculum...

Welcome to Maria Howard



Please join us in welcoming Maria Howard back to the Caedmon community, Ms. Howard will be taking over for Kristina Wels who will soon begin her maternity leave. Ms. Wels is expecting in a couple of weeks, and will return in January.

Maria was Head Teacher in the Early Program at Caedmon from 1994 - 2000. She has since started her own family, but recently returned to fill in for Joyce Schneider during HER maternity leave. Maria is happy to have the chance once again to work with all the wonderful children, families, and staff here at Caedmon.

Curriculum...

New Parent Partnership Event MONTESSORI MONDAYS!

Please join the Caedmon Early Program and Beginners teachers at these informative events on the below dates (...one morning and three evening events).

Free Childminding will be providing for school-age children for each of the evening events!

There will be a video on aspects of the Montessori philosophy, and parents will then be invited to their child's classroom to learn more about the methodology and work with some of the materials themselves.

Each Montessori Monday will focus on a different aspect of Montessori. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please do not miss these invaluable opportunities to learn about your child's school experience here at The Caedmon School.

Montessori Monday Dates:

- 1) **Monday, October 19th** from 6:30 - 7:30 pm
- 2) * Montessori Morning: **Wednesday, November 11th** from 8:45 am - 9:45 am (this will be the one morning session we will have, and it will cover the same material as the October 19th session).
- 3) **Monday, January 25th** from 6:30 - 7:30 pm
- 4) **Monday, March 15th** from 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Mark you calendars now!

Coommunity...

CFA News

- 1) **CFA Welcome Back Cocktail Party & FACES Family Photo Exhibit** - This Thursday, October 8th 6:30-8:30PM. All families must RSVP no later than Saturday, October 3rd to cfa@caedmonschool.org. Childminding will be available to those families who do not have other childcare arrangements. The cost is \$15 per family and reservations are required no later than Monday, October 5th (please email the CFA at cfa@caedmonschool.org and **put "Childminding" in the subject line**).
- 2) **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!** This Wednesday, October 7th, please plan to join us immediately after drop off in the Lobby. We need your help as we will be putting together the Spring Fundraiser mailing. We need as many people as possible to make this happen (folders, stuffers, sealers, etc. - we need you!). The more the merrier. Even if you can only stay for 30 minutes, come and help out!
- 3) **Are you a single parent at Caedmon?** Interested in connecting with other single parents to form an affinity group, gain support, or just to exchange ideas? If so, please email us at cfa@caedmonschool.org and we will organize.
- 4) **Adult Yoga Classes** EVERY Thursday from 8:30-9:15AM in the Gym (4th floor). Classes are taught by Jenny, a Certified Yoga Instructor from New York Yoga. Classes are \$15 each and all proceeds will go back to the CFA. Parents of all ability levels welcome! Don't miss this great opportunity to start your day off relaxed and refreshed!
- 5) **Fall Pajama Day** is coming soon on Monday, October 26th. The CFA will speak at the October 19th All School Assembly to introduce the children to this fun event that serves such a good purpose. Stay tuned to Inside Caedmon for more details.
- 6) **Halloween Raffle/Picnic**, October 24th in Central Park. Mark your calendar now! This year's event will be a B.Y.O.B - Bring Your Own Blanket (and picnic lunch)! Children's costumes encouraged! More details to follow.

Curriculum...

Homework Helper Update

**The cost has been lowered
to match the cost of Childminding!**
\$15.00/hour
\$7.50/half-hour

This change allows 1st - 5th grade children in Childminding to attend Homework Helper every day as part of their Childminding fees. If your child is in childminding, he or she will be sent to Homework Helper automatically for no extra charge.

The regular **Homework Helper Program** will continue as before at the new lower price of:

\$15.00/hour
\$7.50/half-hour

Students looking for a little quiet space to study after school can find it in the Homework Helper classrooms. From Mondays through Thursdays, any student from 1st grade through 5th grade can hit the books with valuable assistance from experienced Caedmon teachers. Sessions are 30 or 60 minutes and take place between 3:40 and 5:10.

Interested families should make arrangements with Mr. Kagan at kagan@caedmonschool.org

Community...

Family Contact Info Updates

Neil and Hillary Hohmann (parents of Andrew, LL)
370 E. 76th St.; Apt. A1601
New York, NY 10021
Home Tel: 212.717.9221
Hillary's cell: 917.613.0526
Hillary's email: hillarych@yahoo.com
Neil's cell: 917.678.9200
Neil's email: neihhohmann@yahoo.com

Suzanne Gourlay's (mother of Miette)
email is: cmsqny@gmail.com

Coommunity...

Weekly Thank You Notes

Thank you in advance to all the FACES and CFA volunteers who have been working to prepare the "What Makes Your Family?" photo gallery, which will be the highlight of the CFA Welcome Party this Thursday. We hope to see everyone there! You will be amazed at how moving it is to see so many families displayed side by side in all their loving variety.
