



During the month of September, our children explored and learned about **My Body**, which was broken down into the following four areas:

- Various parts of my body
- The function of each body part
- Respect of our own and others' body
- How should we take good care of our body?



This is a very timely topic for our little ones as they start to learn about their body. Incorporating the theme of our



Character Education – **Respect**, we especially stressed the importance of following classroom rules and honoring one's personal space. We practice taking **deep breaths**, "**Silence Game**" and "**Walking on the Line**" almost every day. Such practices help our children listen to their body and nature sounds, refine their audial sense, develop physical balance and learn to control their body effectively.

They also enjoyed discussions on how to take good care of their body as a way of showing respect to themselves, and decided that they will do the following:

- Keep their body clean by brushing their teeth, washing their hands, taking a shower every day, etc.;
- Rest well with enough sleep (do not fight with their parents when being put to bed);
- Eating healthy food, such as vegetables and fruit, and stay away from sugar;
- Do exercise regularly (e.g. running/jogging, biking, yoga, swimming etc.)

It is heartening to hear some of our children declare that "I am going to change! I want to sleep more from now on." "I want to change too! I will eat less sweet stuff!" 😊



### Character Education – Respect

Our children loved the book "The Best Me That I Can Be – Respect" (by Rose Angebrandt), and they could listen to it again and again without being bored! They all agree to the following statements listed in the book:

- Because "My family, Teacher and Friends are ALL very special to me", "I want to show them the VERY best ME that I can be!"
- "ASK FIRST if you want to take something that doesn't belong to you."
- "To be the best ME that I can be, I always try to keep my promises."





- “I try to always do things right and be the best ME that I can be. This is called having Self-Respect. I should not do things that I know are wrong...like lying.”
- “Best of all, by showing Respect to them means they will show Respect to ME too! This makes me very proud and help me to be the Best ME That I Can Be!”



### Language Learning

Language learning is generally in line with our monthly theme. In September, our children learned about our body parts across the three languages: **English, Chinese and Spanish**. They loved to dance to the songs of “Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes”, “头、肩膀、膝盖、脚” and “Cabeza, Hombros, Rodillos and Pies”! In addition, they continue to progress with the alphabet letters and have come to letter “p”.



### Highlights of the Month:

#### Birthday Celebrations

We had two birthday celebrations in September – **Charlie** turned 4 on 9/17 and **Josiah** turned 6 on 9/28. We put in a great deal of efforts to make sure that our birthday children enjoy their special day thoroughly.

We were heartened to see the happy smile of our children, especially that of the birthday boy throughout the day! It was also touching to see that our little ones put their hearts into making birthday cards for their friend on their special day. Through the unique Montessori way of celebrating birthdays, our children have learned that it takes 12 months for the earth to go around the sun and they also start to develop the initial concept about one’s lifeline. Happy birthday again **Charlie** and **Josiah**!







### Gardening

Our children have been taking very good care of our plants in the garden by watering them and pulling out the weeds on a regular basis. They are so encouraged and thrilled by their initial success!

1. We have harvested the spring onions grown by our children.
2. The two potatoes which they planted have come out of the ground and the seedlings are growing nicely.
3. The lemon and oranges tree in our front yard are thriving.



They also peeled the cluster of seeds from the stem end inside a red bell pepper and grew them in our garden. As of now, we are still waiting for the seedlings to come out of the ground. Please bell pepper, do not disappoint our little ones! ☺

### Cooking

In September, our children enjoyed two cooking projects tremendously, one was to make pizza out of English muffins, and the other was to make Bao Zi (Steamed Buns with fillings inside). The latter one was carried out to celebrate the upcoming Chinese National Day and Mid-Autumn Festival, both of which fall on Thursday, 10/1. As they put their hands on the dough, roll it into a wrapper, then scoop the fillings inside to make a Bao Zi, the excitement and joy in the classroom was absolutely contagious! Cooking is an excellent way to help our children strengthen their fine motor skills, as well as refine all of their five senses (visual, auditory, tactile, olfactory, and gustatory). We were so delighted to hear them exclaim, "I made this one! It smells so good and it is so yummy!"





## What We Are Up to in October:

“Colors and Shapes” is our theme for next month, in which we will:

- Primary and Secondary colors
- Mixing the rest of rainbow colors
- All about shapes
- Colors and Shapes around us



### Character Education- Patience

Patience refers to the ability to stay calm and accept a delay or something annoying without complaining (in Chinese-耐心 ; 忍耐力).

## Montessori

### Teaching of the Child

“One must take into account the fact that very frequently a child when left to himself makes an effort to understand the speech of adults and the objects that are about him. But teaching, when it comes at the right time and in the right way, anticipates such efforts. The result is that the child is not wearied but refreshed and satisfied in his desires.

-Maria Montessori, The Discovery of the Child, p. 165



### Montessori Quotes & Manifestations



“Finally, to learn a craft, especially if it is of an artistic or refined nature, means that one must develop his senses and movements of his hands, and these movements are assisted by a consequent refinement of the sense of touch. If training of this sort is undertaken at an age when the formative period is naturally over, it will be difficult and imperfect. The secret of preparing one for a particular skill consists in utilizing that period of life between the ages of three and six, when there is a natural inclination to perfect one’s senses and movements.

-Maria Montessori, The Discovery of the Child, p. 146





“A child is by his nature an avid explorer of his surroundings because he has not yet had the times or means of knowing them precisely.”

-Maria Montessori, The Discovery of The Child, p. 102



## Announcements/Reminders

1. We have officially purchased service from Montessori Compass, a software program that can help Montessori schools for lesson planning, student progress tracking, and parent communication etc. As we try to familiarize ourselves with the new program, we will use both LearningGenie and Montessori Compass for our parent



- communication for the time being.
2. October tuition is due by **Monday October 5<sup>th</sup>**. To avoid any late payment fees, please make the payment before this date. An invoice will be sent to you soon.



3. Thanks to those who have completed and submitted the “**Beginning of School Year Survey**”. For those who haven’t done so, please complete it ASAP. Your feedback and suggestions will help our school to further improve our services. Working together, we can support our children to become the best version of themselves!

4. Please refer to the article about our **Friday Folder** and always remember to bring your child’s folder back to school on Monday mornings.
5. As mentioned previously, Thursday 10/1 is the Chinese National Day, and this year, the Mid-Autumn Festival (also called Mooncake Festival) also falls on the same date. We will have a parade on our playground that day, and we will enjoy some delicious mooncakes too! Happy Chinese National Day and Mid-Autumn Festival to those who celebrate these occasions!

