



October 2017



## Message from the Director

Dear Grosvenor families,

I want to give a special thanks to the parents for putting out flyers about the Grosvenor location. Please take a moment to read through this month's newsletter and mark on your calendar for the upcoming events like field trips, parent teacher conferences, and some upcoming closings for Montgomery Child Care Association. As always feel free to contact me with any questions. The center's phone number is 301-312-8122 or you can email me at [Karen.Fajardo@mccaedu.org](mailto:Karen.Fajardo@mccaedu.org).

Thank you,

*Karen Fajardo*

## What's New

### CURRICULUM CORNER

Our classrooms will begin to study trees. We'll be observing and comparing trees to learn about what lives in them, what they're made from, and who cares for them. We hope that this study will help children explore and appreciate nature. As we study trees, we will use literacy, math, the arts, and technology to explore the topic in depth. We will learn important social studies and scientific concepts through firsthand investigations. Please visit the classroom during the study to see how we do this.

If you are able to take a "tree walk" with your child, we would appreciate your help in collecting tree parts to investigate. If you can, please take a bag to a tree and collect things that have fallen, such as leaves, bark, twigs, flowers, or cones. See below for suggestions of other tree parts to bring in.

### What You Can Do at Home

Talk with your child about the different kinds of trees in your area/neighborhood. Share stories about your favorite childhood memories involving trees and games you might have played around them. Wonder out loud with your child to encourage his or her thinking about trees.

"I wonder why leaves fall from trees."

"I wonder what makes some trees grow so big."

You might also enjoy making a collage with the items you collect while out on a nature walk.

Thank you for playing an important role in our learning.



## Important Reminders

**Birthdays:** We want each child to enjoy their special day with friends. If you wish to bring in a special treat, we ask that it be store bought with ingredients label and be free of any nuts. We also ask that you bring in a healthy alternative such as fresh fruit if you choose a “sweet treat” option such as cupcakes.

**Clothing:** As the weather cools down, please check in your children’s cubbies to make sure that their extra change of clothes are weather appropriate.

**Field Trips:** Please bring a brown paper bag lunch (no heat-up/ all disposable items). Please send your children with comfortable walking shoes.

**Parent/Teacher Conference:** These conferences are a wonderful opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss your child’s development, talk about any challenges that have been observed at either home or school, take some art and writing samples in your child’s portfolio, and can just be an opportunity for parents and teachers to get to know each other better.

## Upcoming Dates

### OCTOBER CALENDAR

MCCA’s Professional Development Day October 9th (CLOSED)

Butler’s Orchard Field Trips: October 11th

Parent/Teacher Conference: October 23-27

## Suggested Resources and Reading

### RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES ON MCCA’S WEBSITE

Suggested Reading Books

A Tree for ME by Nancy Van Laan

The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein

We’re Going on a Leaf Hunt by Steve Metzger

Up in the Tree by Margaret Atwood