

Concord Montessori School

Upcoming Calendar Events

- September 27th – No Lunch Bunch
- October 7th – NEW DATE for Apple Picking at Parlee Farms
- October 10th – NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day
- October 24th – Halloween Party after school at Ata Family home
- October 26th – Mom’s Visiting Day at 11am (Pre-Primary)
- October 27th – Mom’s Visiting Day at 11am (Primary)
- November 11th – NO SCHOOL - Veteran’s Day
- November 18th – Parent Social 7p-9p

Health & Wellness

Please be guided by your child as the season of flu, fevers & other contagious illnesses continue. Children who have had fevers must be fever-free for at least 24 hours before returning to school. However, if your child is showing signs of lethargy, crankiness, has greenish discharge, or any other symptoms, please keep them home! Childhood illnesses are typically very contagious, and your child will not love school if they are not feeling 100%. Please be sure to call the school to report absences. We are not able to check the school’s email until the evening.

After-School Halloween Party

Our annual Halloween Party is after school on October 24. Come in costume with a pumpkin, lunch and a blanket to sit on. Snacks, Water and decorations for the pumpkin will be provided.



Please do not have your child wear a costume to school.

Next Year – Already!

Open enrollment begins for families outside of the school in *November*. Applications for next year are available on the bulletin board or contact Laurel to have one emailed to you. To reserve your child’s place for next year, please send in your application and deposit. Enrolling a sibling? Moving up to Primary? Let Laurel know if you would like to observe either classroom.

Pick-up & Drop-off

Thank you for following the driving route during drop-off and pick-up. Because the Primary class drop-off follows the Pre-Primary class drop-off, we ask that Primary class families please arrive between 9:00-9:10 a.m. to ensure a smooth flow of traffic through the school yard. If you are stopping for more than drop-off or pick-up or you arrive outside your time slot, please do not park at the circle. We have not needed to lock the front doors because the building’s administrative staff has been on site. If that changes, we will lock the front doors after drop off, please use the library door (right side of building) if the front doors are locked.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

We will be in touch next month regarding the scheduling of parent-teacher conferences in November. We meet before and after school. Please email your child’s teacher any particular topics or concerns that you might wish to discuss.

Sorry, we will not be able to provide for child care during conferences. Often, parents “team up” with other parents to alternate “play dates” during these times. If you have children in both Primary and Pre-Primary and would like “back-to-back” conferences, please let your teachers know.

Mom’s Visiting Day Info

One adult (either parent) per child is welcome, but we ask that you please keep siblings home. We have found that children are quite forlorn if they do not have a special guest, so please consider keeping your child at home that day if you or a special friend cannot visit. The children are so excited to spend special time with you and to show you their work.

Playground Attire

With cooler fall days upon us, please make sure your children are equipped to handle the variable weather outside.

Greetings from the Pre-Primary Class

of

Mrs. Labitt and Mrs. Dresel

September-October



Children of the Pre-primary Class have settled in nicely and they are quite busy thoroughly exploring the Classroom and engaging in lots of fun activities.

Curriculum News

In practical life we have been scooping, pouring, twisting and spreading apple butter on crackers. As part of our fall theme we've been enjoying pumpkin scrubbing and stringing autumn necklaces.

Fall is such a wonderful time for a variety of sensory experiences. We've been having fun with crunching the different textures of sand, stones and leaves beneath our feet and feeling wet dew on the playground. These observances also provide an ideal segue to our language curriculum in regards to vocabulary and the discussion of opposites: wet and dry, hot and cold, cloudy and sunny. We've also observed and discussed many interesting creatures during

our outdoor activities: Daddy Long Legs, slugs, grasshoppers and a variety of birds: especially



Red Tail Hawks.

Fire Safety

We've been talking about fire safety. Our fire truck song is a big hit and we've



even had our very first fire drill.

Upcoming Events

We're looking forward to mom's visiting day on Wednesday October 26th at 11:00am. We'll have regular drop off and then come to the classroom at 11:00am and spend the last hour with your child who will have lots to share with you.

Parent/Teacher conferences:

Parent/Teacher conferences will start the first week in **November**. You'll receive an email shortly about sign up times.

Reminders

It's getting cold out there. Even though it's warm in the afternoon, that playground is cool in the morning. Polar fleece jackets, pullovers and hats should do nicely for the next few weeks.



Favorite Books We've Read

Llama Llama Misses Mama

10 Dogs in the Window

If you Give a Moose a Muffin

Good Night Moon

Songs and Finger Plays

Open and Shut Them

Five Little Pumpkins

Five Little Speckled Frogs

Lyrics to the ever popular: Fire Truck Song

Hurry hurry drive the fire truck
3X

Ding Ding Ding

Hurry hurry climb the ladder 3X

Ding Ding Ding

Hurry hurry get the fire hose 3X

Ding Ding Ding

Hurry hurry spray the water 3X

Ding Ding Ding

Hurray hurray we put the fire
out 3X

Pre-Primary Photo Page



Greetings from the Primary Class !

Laurel Zolfonoon and Ellie Brenner



September-October



We have had a terrific start to the year! Thank you, parents for supporting our start-of-year events and Phase-in week in particular. We really know what we are asking of you and we appreciate the challenge that those brief days impose on you. The Phase-in week was very helpful for returning students to get used to the changes in the classroom and new teacher. It helped the new and transfer students to get acclimated to the environment. The children were so comfortable with their surroundings that, by Monday, when both groups came together for the first time, it was a very smooth transition and joyful reunion!



What's in a day?

We often start the day with singing and sharing stories (yes, most of our friends are very outspoken!) and then I introduce to the group some new work such as food preparation or art projects. We then begin our "work period" where the children select activities or participate in new lessons. This is their opportunity to truly develop as independent learners. Soon, we will begin some of our days without a morning group. Shortly after 11:00 AM we gather and often have a brief discussion about an aspect of science or nature, sing more songs, and read a book. Weather permitting, we get ready and head out to the playground. When it is inclement, we do music and movement and a lot of gross-motor play and tricycling in the hall outside of the classrooms.



Science and Nature

We started the year with lots of shell activities on the shelf to identify, examine, and pair a wide variety shells. This work led us to discussions about categorizing mollusks (clams and snails), crustaceans (crabs and barnacles), and echinoderms (starfish); how they move and how some creatures grow their own shells (like clams and snails) while some have to find larger homes as they grow (like hermit crabs).



We have also been talking about other sea creatures such as the nautilus, octopus, sea horses and other fish; soon we will be learning more about sea mammals.



We have also been discussing the difference between fruits and vegetables and have work out that allow the children to sort wooden forms and colorful picture cards by category. We will be expanding this to include other food types.

Repetition – Is a good thing!

In a Montessori classroom, repetition is an important key to learning. Just as we always learn more when we reread a great book, children will absorb and internalize information with greater understanding the more they are exposed to a concept. In our classroom, it's the key to mastery. When we've given a child a lesson, we watch to see if the child repeats the work. We know that they have mastered the concept at hand when she shows refined movement with the materials and good concentration. Frequently, there is a joyful outburst or simply a very satisfied smile when a child learns a new concept from an activity.

Similarly, group concepts are repeated annually. As the child matures, he will come to a new level of understanding. For example, the child who mixed primary colors last year may have real insights this year to tertiary colors or learn the sequence of colors in a rainbow. If it's an art activity, the child might find a new level of refinement or feel more accomplished.

Art, Music, and Movement

We have been singing songs to help the children learn each other's names, some just for fun, some that use some of the sign language that we have learned in class, and others about the science we are discussing such as the seasons, the earth's travel around the sun, and apple picking. Even the game songs we use when we are unable to stay out on the playground help the children's listening skills. The lyrics to some class favorites are attached at the end of this letter.

You may have noticed an elliptical line on our rug in the classroom. We use this for "Walking on the Line" exercises that help the children develop their balance. The children are free to play soft music and walk on the line throughout the day. This week, I introduced objects that the children can carry while doing this exercise.



Regarding movement, we also have yoga cards and a yoga mat available. We start with the candle pose and then say "Namaste" (na-ma-stay), meaning "the light in me sees the light in you." Favorite poses include the Mountain pose, the Waterfall, the Windmill, the Hero, the Lion, the Squirrel, the Mouse, and, especially, the Do Nothing Doll.

Bags on Fridays

Our classroom is "process not product," so many of the activities your child is choosing has no written component. However, if your child is choosing art activities or has started written activities, he will have papers to take home on Friday. *Please send a bag with your child's name on it on Fridays.*



You may have heard this term in regards to Montessori classrooms. What we mean by this is that we place the importance of a task on the steps involved (which are designed to satisfy the child's developmental needs), not on the end result. In fact, most of the activities do not produce a (material) product. Therefore, do not be surprised when the only "papers" your child brings home are art projects, this does not reflect the sum total of your child's efforts in school. This is also why we wait until Fridays to send the work home. We do not want the children to be choosing work solely because it creates something to bring home.

Food Preparation and Flower Arranging



You may be asked to bring in some items for food preparation and/or flower arranging for the following week. Please let us know if it is not a convenient week for you!

When selecting flowers, please choose ones that are easy to cut, such as carnations and daisies, for example.



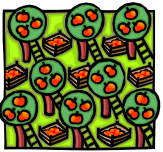
So far this year, we have done “Apple polishing” where the child washes and buffs the apple and then, if s/he likes, eats it. This week the children peeled and cut small sections of banana. For the next week and a half, we will be cutting apples – eating some and saving some to make apple sauce!

Wish List

We would love to have one or two large dried sunflower for Practical Life exercises.



Coming Up



While we are in the temporary classrooms, we will do a lot of activities with a fall theme, such as leaves and the parts of a leaf. With all the colors of fall, it’s a great segue to discussing the secondary colors. We will also be studying how apple trees grow, how apples are formed, and the parts of an apple (stem, skin, flesh, core, seeds). We will observe that when an apple is cut in half through the core, the core looks like a five-pointed star.

Later in the month, we will be learning about Europe and marine mammals. We will also look at pumpkins from the inside out. For science, we will begin our categorization of animals as invertebrate versus vertebrates.

In November we will be studying the countries and cultures of North America and begin our study of land mammals.



Primary Class Orientation Day and Family Picnic



Here are some lyrics of their favorite songs...



Three Brown Buns

Adapted by Leila Parrish from the traditional rhyme, "Five Brown Buns."

Three brown buns in a bakery shop *[wave 3 fingers, right hand]*
Three brown buns with lots of sugar on the top *[wave right hand over head]*
Along came a man with a penny in his hand *[walk with left hand]*
He took one bun, and away he ran. *[take a bun with righthand, run fingers away with left]*

Two brown buns in a bakery shop... *[wave 2 fingers, right hand]*
One brown bun in a bakery shop... *[wave 1 finger, right hand]*

No brown buns in a bakery shop *[hold out both hands, shake head side to side (like no)]*
No brown buns with lots of sugar on the top
Along came a man with a penny in his hand
He took one LOOK! And away he ran. *[hold out both hands, pretend look and pop out eyes]*

Apple Picking Song

Hey-ho makes me feel so fine,
looking out across the orchard in the bright sunshine!
Hey-ho, makes me feel so free,
standing in the top of an apple tree!

You start at the bottom
And you pick them from the ground
Then you pick that tree clean all the way around
Then you set up your ladder
And you climb up high
Then you're looking through the leaves
At the clear blue sky!

Hey-ho makes me feel so fine,
looking out across the orchard in the bright sunshine!
Hey-ho, makes me feel so free, standing in the top of
an apple tree!



The Seasons

Unkown

Autumn, winter, spring, and summer
These are the seasons of the year
Autumn, winter, spring, and summer
These are the seasons of the year

La-la-la-la. These are the season of the year. (2X)

Finger Play

[sit with hands behind the back]

Tommy thumb, Tommy thumb, where are you?
Here I am! *[take out left thumb and bend]*
Here I am! *[take out right thumb and bend]*
How do you do? Whoosh! *[hide hands again]*

Repeat with: Peter Pointer, Mary Middle, Ruby Ring, Baby Small, Fingers All



Five Little Seashells

Five little seashells lying on the shore,
Swish! Went the waves, and then there were four.
Four little seashells cozy as could be,
Swish! Went the waves, and then there were three.
Three little seashells all pearly new;
Swish! Went the waves, and then there were two.
Two little seashells sleeping in the sun;
Swish! Went the waves, and then there was one.
One little seashell left all alone

Whispered "Shhhhh" as I took it home.

Primary FAQs

Letter sounds (not names)

In Montessori classrooms, we teach letters as *sounds* and this facilitates early writing and reading. The first sounds are the short vowel sound (|a| as in ax, |e| as in elephant, etc.) and more common consonants (|c| as in cat). When a child knows letters by name, it actually *slows* the child's ability to write and sound out letters to read. Today I was working with a child and held up "w" and asked what sound it makes, he said "dddd" (as the first sound in the name double-u) and "y" was "www" (as in the name of the letter Y). So you can see how this would be confusing. Once the child learns the letters as sounds and is comfortable, learning the names are easy with the ABC Song and such.

Friendly with Error

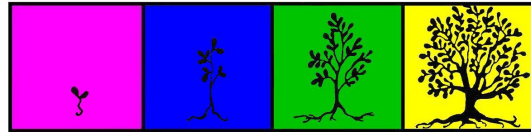
Dr. Montessori stressed the importance of developing a life-long love of learning. (It is hard to love something when you are always told that you are doing it wrong!) So in our classroom, we emphasize "friendliness with error." After all, it is mistakes that make life *interesting* and often lead to new discoveries! It is not that we promote sloppy or half-hearted efforts; it is that the work reflects the child's best efforts for that moment in time. When a child learns something new, s/he may not be able to do it consistently. We celebrate the efforts to promote a love of learning and we encourage repetition so that the child can master the challenge. Whenever possible, work has built-in "controls of error" so that the child can check his/her own work and make corrections. When a child needs help, we may sit with the child and ask to "have a turn" so the child is able to review the technique.

For example, when a child first begins to write with the Moveable Alphabet, the words are spelled *phonemically* (the way they sound). At this point in time we want to encourage the child and celebrate this newly developed skill to *write* (analyze sounds and translate them to symbols). Later on, as the child begins to *read* (analyze and translate symbols, and then synthesize the sounds into a word), we introduce the child to phonograms and sight words and other challenging aspects of written English.

This is true for mathematics as well. For initial lessons, we focus on the process, that the child understands the steps to undertake. Later on, we introduce ways in which the *child* can check his/her own work.

Primary Class Goals

1. Help the child in his/her natural path of development
2. Functional Independence
3. Strong character (Self confidence and self esteem, able to engage and concentrate, able to make good choices, self control, feelings of benevolence towards others, developed will)
4. Life long love of learning
5. Life long skills for living
6. A sense of world citizenship
7. Prepare for the next plane of development (abstraction and imagination)



Concord Montessori School

Sample Newsletter

Upcoming Calendar Events

- **December 19 – January 2** – No school winter break
- **January 3** – School Resumes
- **January 13** – Parent Coffee at drop-off
- **January 16** – No school Martin Luther King Day
- **January 26** – Dad's Visiting Day 9a-10: Primary
- **January 27** – Dad's Visiting Day 9a-10: Pre-Primary

Reminder!

Second term tuition is due by January 1st

Space in Pre-Primary Class of 2012-13

We still have space for 2 year-old children in the Pre-Primary classroom. If you or know someone who is interested in enrolling their child, please contact Laurel Zolfonoon. Thank you!

Sharing School Pictures

As you take pictures at school-related functions, please be sure to send them to Laurel Zolfonoon so that can upload them to the parent pages on our website.

Snow Day Policy

We follow the Concord public schools for cancellations and delays. If school in Concord is delayed 2 hours or more, however, we are closed for the day.

We appreciate that some of our families live outside of Concord. Always use your discretion and keep your children home if you do not think the commute to school is safe.

Dad's Visiting Day Info

Primary: Thursday, January 26 at 9-10a

Pre-Primary: Friday, January 27 at 9-10a

One adult (please! either parent is fine) per child is welcome, but we ask that you please keep siblings home. We have found that children are quite forlorn if they do not have a special guest, so please consider keeping your child at home that day if you or a special friend cannot visit. The children are so excited to spend special time with you and to show you their work!

School Website

Stay tuned for our new and improved website, coming online (real) soon!



Apple picking at Parley Farm was so much fun!

Parent Committee News

A quick **Thank You** to our hosting families for having the very successful and well attended Halloween Party and Parent Social. It's always so great to gather outside of school.

Our next offsite event will be an evening at the Discovery Museum in Acton in March 2012!! More details to come in January.

Don't forget, our next Parent Coffee at school after drop off is Friday January 13th. Enjoy coffee, snacks and catch up with other parents! Mark your calendars now.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out.



This year's Halloween Party – we had a blast!

We wish you a happy and safe holiday season!!

Greetings from the Pre--Primary Class of
Mrs. Labitt and Mrs. Dresel
November-December 2011

New Students

We're happy to announce the addition of two new students to the Pre-primary class. Please help us welcome them.

Curriculum News

In practical life we have been making ants on a log with sunbutter, celery and raisins. We've had fun with bubble making and changing the bubbles to different colors as we advance into color mixing activities.

In language and math Sandpaper Letters and Sandpaper Numbers have been a big hit. The children have been busy feeling the shape of the letter, saying the sound and then finding objects that begin with that sound. We've also been feeling the shapes of numbers and introducing the concept of matching quantity to symbol. Out on the playground we counted how many teachers and children can fit inside the open playhouse. For a bit of trivia the answer is: four children and two teachers.

In science we've had lessons on magnets. There's a popular work the shelf that depicts the difference between magnetic and non-items.



currently on magnetic



We've also had lessons on the differences between land and water and finding examples. The playground lends itself as an extension to this curriculum as we often find the water out there has been turning to ice. What a fun discovery that has been!

We've practiced yoga in the classroom and it's received a very positive response from all the children. We're using poses from the book: Wai Lana's Little Yogis. It's been a relaxing way to end the day.

Reminders

Even though it's still fall, it can feel quite wintery on the playground. Please send your child to school with a warm jacket, hat and well fitting mittens that still allow for dexterity.

Favorite Books we've Read

Rain Feet

Songs and Finger Plays

I Have Ten Fingers

Piglet and Granny
More Pocket Poems
Max's Ride

A Circle is Round
Jack in the Box
What Can we do Today?



Mrs. Zolfonoon and Ms. Ellie Brenner
November - December 2011

Greetings from the Primary Class !

Thank you for joining us for Mom's Visiting Day. Visiting days are so important to the children who take great pride in their accomplishments. Thank you for taking the time out of your busy days to be with us!

So what was going on?



Sorting leaves by color. The challenge is to pick up the small plastic leaves using tweezers. This work is great for developing fine motor, hand-eye coordination, and organization.

The short 6 chain where he counts in groups of 6 up through 36. There are chains from 1 to 10 squared and 1 to 10 cubed. This work solidifies a child's ability to count sequentially, uses visual discrimination to discern numbers, and gives them hand-on experience with skip counting and squares and cubes of numbers.



Matching shapes to three kinds of cards that show the shape three ways: solid filled, thick outline, thin outline. This work develops visual discrimination and is also a language activity (the names of the shapes).

Writing the sounds he hears in words, using the Movable Alphabet. This helps develop writing and pre-reading skills.





1-10 activities not only reinforce counting to 10, but the recognition of the numerals.



Thank you as well for participating in the parent-teacher conferences. Your support at home is critical to your child's successful experience in Montessori school!

Topics of Discussion

We are learning about the continent of North America and the people who live here. We have also talked about a few Native American tribes including the Navajo and Wampanoag. This segued into a discussion about the first Thanksgiving. We looked at some toys that Pilgrim children and Native American children used. The MacDonald family donated beautiful fruits and vegetables for our cornucopia display.

We learned the song "Over the River" and talked about one horse open sleighs. We marveled that some of the children were taking airplanes to visit their grandparents. When we talked about what we are thankful for, most children, you'll be happy to know, spoke of their families. One child was thankful for her grandmother who can cook really well! One of our more unusual responses was, "I'm thankful for my vitamins!" Here's to good health!

Art and Artists

Our Miss Ellie introduced the children to techniques used by first Monet and later Van Gogh.



She and the children designed a room like the one in Van Gogh's painting *The Bedroom*. Miss Ellie even created linens!

Enjoying a hands-on experience with art!





Thank You!

Thank you for providing our class with foods and flowers for Practical Life, for supplying us with birthday treats and gift books to the school. Thanks for the cornucopia fruits and vegetables.

Friends celebrate a birthday!

Coming Up



We will continue our study of mammals and conifer trees. In January we will study the Arctic and Antarctica. Towards the end of the month we will begin our study of Asia.

Upcoming Holidays



We have also been studying the calendar, marking the special days, and learning the months of the year. Which leads us to discussing the upcoming holidays, we tend to purposefully keep it low-key in the classroom. However, we do have crafts and presentations from holidays that are reflective of the population and encourage families to come forward for these presentations, so let us know! When we talk about Christmas or Hanukah, we mention that “many families celebrate this holiday, but some do not.” We focus on the cultural aspects, such as the family traditions and the commonality of many of world’s celebrations (like lights).

*However you celebrate -
please enjoy -
happy and safe holidays!*

Here are some lyrics of their favorite songs...



The Earth is Our Mother

The earth is our mother, we must take care of her (2x)
Hey-ya-na Ho-ya-na Hey-ya-na-ho (2x)
The sky is our father, we must take care of him (2x)
Hey-ya-na Ho-ya-na Hey-ya-na-ho (2x)
The rivers are our sisters, we must take care of them (2x)
Hey-ya-na Ho-ya-na Hey-ya-na-ho (2x)
The trees are our brothers, we must take care of them (2x)
Hey-ya-na Ho-ya-na Hey-ya-na-ho (2x)
The earth is our mother, she will take care of us (2x)
Hey-ya-na Ho-ya-na Hey-ya-na-ho (4x)

Continents



(to Row, Row, Row your Boat)
North and South America,
Europe and Asia too;
There's Africa and Oceania,
But Antarctica's not for you!

A Turkey

A turkey is a funny bird
His head goes wobble, wobble
And he only knows one word: Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!



Give Thanks

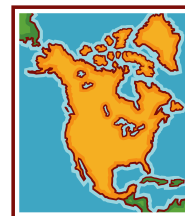
Give thanks for the rain and
water
Give thanks for the air and sun
Give thanks for the earth
Where the gardens grow....
Give thanks everyone!

Land of the Silver Birch

Land of the Silver Birch
Home of the Beaver
And where the mighty moose
Wanders at will...
Blue lakes and rocky shores
I will return once more
Boom-diddy-um-dum-boom-boom
Boom-diddy-um-dum-boom

High on the rocky ledge
I'll bill my wigwam
Close by the waters edge
Silent and still...
Blue lakes and rocky shores
I will return **once more**
Boom-diddy-um-dum-boom-boom
Boom-diddy-um-dum-boom

Down in the forest green
Deep in the lowlands
My heart cries out to thee
Hills of the north...
Blue lakes and rocky shores
I will return once more
Boom-diddy-um-dum-boom-boom



Here we are together in North America

Here we are together, together, together
Here we are together in North America
There's Greenland and Canada, United States, and Mexico
Here we are together in North America
There's Belize and Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras
Here we are together in North America
There's Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and Jamaica
Here we are together in North America
There's Cuba and Haiti, Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico
There's even the Bahamas in North America
Here we are together, together, together
Here we are together in North America

Primary FAQs

What are the Benefits of a Concord Montessori Education?

- Children are helped along their natural path of development. Dr. Montessori believed that the goal of early childhood education should not be to fill the child with facts from a pre-selected course of studies, but rather to cultivate their own natural desire to learn.
- Children develop functional independence at Concord Montessori School. We respond to a child's call, "Help me do this myself!"
- Children develop skills for living. Children are taught an "I can do it" attitude that will ensure their future success in all aspects of their life. We nurture self confidence, self esteem, self control, the abilities to engage, concentrate, and make good choices.
- We foster a life long love of learning. Learning activities are individualized where each child engages in a learning task that particularly appeals to him, that are geared to his needs and level of readiness. Consequently, he works at his own rate, repeating the task as often as he likes, thus experiencing a series of successful achievement.

How do you handle social challenges and hitting?

Our classroom has a rule that we do not hurt another person's *feelings* and we do not hurt another person's *body*. Great, what happens when someone doesn't follow the rules? We gather the children and help them to talk through the difficulty. We remind them of words that they could have used and teach the "victim" to defend himself by saying "You may not ____." We remind the child that if the other does not respect his wishes that he should tell a teacher.

Why all this insistence on having the child hang her coat and change her shoes, etc.?

In Maria Montessori's own words: "Any child who is self-sufficient, who can tie his shoes, dress or undress himself, reflects in his joy and sense of achievement the image of human dignity, which is derived from a sense of independence."

Why is concentration so important in a child this age?

Again, in Montessori's own words:

- "The first essential for the child's development is concentration. The child who concentrates is immensely happy."
- "The organization of psychical life begins with the characteristic phenomenon of attention." and
- "The more the capacity to concentrate is developed, the more often the profound tranquility in work is achieved, then the clearer will be the manifestation of discipline within the child."