

Philomath Montessori School Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2018



To Develop the Human Potential

Let's meet our new families

By Doni Manning-Cyrus

Greetings and welcome to a new school year with, as always, new families to get to know. This year we are admitting only six new students. Let's find out about them!

First of all is Hudson Jones. Returning families will already know Alicia and Tyler Jones, as their oldest child, Sophia, entered our school last year. The Jones family is a farming family and often has eggs for sale here at the school. They enjoy working on the farm and on projects in the shop. They often go to parks and they love reading and cooking together as a family. Hudson likes to do his own construction projects, play with trucks, dig with tools and play sports. He has been waiting a whole year to get into the classroom. Congrats, Hudson! You made it!

Another boy who is familiar with our school through an older sibling is Jay Nielson. His parents, Skye and Jacob, enrolled their



Hudson Jones works on scooping beans, while Swift McGann watches.

daughter, June, here a few years back and now it's Jay's turn. Skye is an office manager and Jacob is a scanner technician, but a shared

passion is being active outdoors. This family enjoys bike riding and hiking together, and Jay loves sand, dirt and playdough. If his toy ani-

mals and dinos can get in on the action, it's all good!

We have the pleasure of enrolling Swift McGann and getting to know his folks, Brittini and Kyle, who are both students. This family lives in a Tiny House and just welcomed their second son 11 weeks ago. The McGanns also like to ride bikes, go on hikes and to the park. Swift is very social and loves imaginary play, cars, building, books and puzzles. We are so glad you are here!

Darby Phelps will be in the mix this year and brings along her mom, Amy, who is a talent manager (recruitment) for Lululemon and likes to garden. Darby's dad, Kirby, is in construction and in his spare time likes to go backpacking and do remodeling (which sounds a lot like his day job!). The Phelps family likes to play board games and go camping together, but Darby's specialties are puzzles, Legos and playing in the rocks.

Continued on Page 2

From preschool student to staff member

By Pauline Tanaka

I have the great pleasure and honor of introducing Natalie Sullivan — our newest staff member!

We met in 1992 when she was a bit shorter, but just as spunky as she is today. Allan, my husband, who was helping me in the classroom at the time, remembers her very first day at Philomath Montessori. Her dad had just dropped her off and Allan announced that he

was going to read a book to the group when she upped him one and said, "I can do that!" She still exudes that confidence and enthusiasm to this day.

We bonded with her family and have enjoyed being a part of her amazing life of theater (put on plays from the age of 6 and has continued to act and sing on stage), travel (Europe and Africa), cooking and baking (now that she has mastered cake decorating she's moved on to sourdough bread) and, most

recently, aerial arts! Oh, and she's quite the athlete, too. Loves basketball and apparently running. She told us recently that she ran a half marathon — on her own. She went for a run and then just kept going until she reached 13 miles!

But her real passion is her family and friends. Like her parents, that has always been a huge priority. So we are *very* lucky to have her become a part of our family. Please give her a warm welcome, back.



Continued from Page 1

Here's another familiar little face from the hallway: After bringing older brother Tyler to school for a year, Kaia Schultz is ready to make her debut. Kaia's dad, Steven, is an engineer and senior project manager for ODOT, and is also an angler, and mom Kimberly is the chief child-wrangler at home. The Schultz family enjoys day trips to the coast or the mountains, bike rides, farmer's markets and playgrounds. Kaia likes books, coloring, playdough, puzzles, dolls and cooking pretend meals. She enjoys these activities much more with a companion at her side.

Lastly, let's welcome Ashton (Ash) Warren and his parents, Posy and Tim. Posy is a professor of botany and plant pathology at OSU and Tim is a postdoctoral fellow at OSU and UO. Posy pursues skiing and printmaking as hobbies, and Tim works on his Spanish language and tennis skills when time permits. They have a baby, George, at home and the whole family likes to go swimming and walking together.

We are so glad to have these families join our school and we hope to make them feel very welcome. Please introduce yourselves when you can!

Start-of-year reminders

Let's make it safe, sweet and wonderful:

Extra clothes – Please send in an extra set of clothes (tags labeled with your child's initials). Also rain gear and rubber boots for that upcoming Oregon weather.

Emergency packs – Please be sure to send your child in with a gallon-size Ziploc bag full of nutritious, non-perishable food by the end of the first full week of school.

Please be on time – We open the doors at 8:50 a.m. and will begin circle time at 9:10. You don't want your child to miss those wonderful stories, lessons and games that we do first thing in the morning! It's also a great message that being on time is important.

Hallway decorum – Please remember to walk in the building and use quiet voices. We hope you will do all you can to support us – holding your child's hand while walking in the building or, if necessary, picking her up and carrying her. Thanks!

Birthdays – Please contact us a week or two ahead of your child's birthday celebration so we can put it on the calendar and plan for it. We welcome ½ birthday celebrations, but please, only true May and June birthdays in May and June. We seem to have an onslaught of birthday celebrations during those months.

After-school play – Please remember that the safety rules we use at school keep everyone safe and happy. Children feel safer when parents set boundaries and consistently adhere to them.



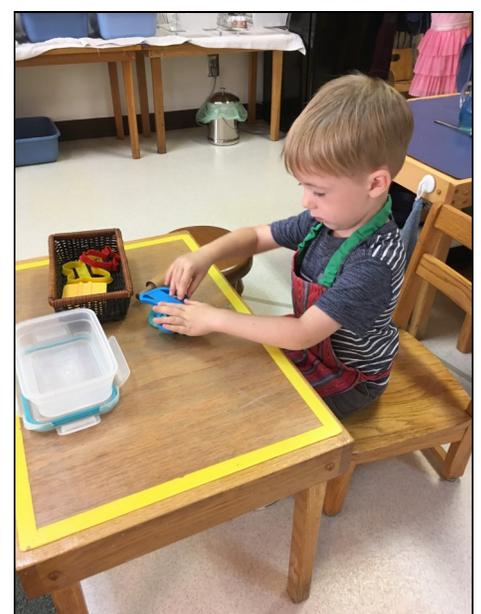
TOP: Darby Phelps washes dishes.



LEFT: Kaia Schultz works with a set of Russian dolls.



BOTTOM LEFT: Ashton Warren organizes the animal cards.



BOTTOM RIGHT: Jay Nielson makes shapes with playdough.



LEFT: Dads Palmer Vilagi, left, and Steven Schultz load gravel into a wheelbarrow, with help from Swift, Isaac and Cedar at Parent Work Day.

ABOVE: Alalia Berry works with daughters Claire and Laura to wash the greenhouse panels.

Thank You!

SUMMER YARD WORK

Weeding and Harvesting: **Houtman family, Jones family and Eisenlohr family**
 Mowing: **Eisenlohers**
 Pathway super redux: **Tyler Jones**
 Repair tool rack in shed: **Kevin Hulick**
 Sand and stain greenhouse: **Kevin Hulick**
 Fence staining: **Tara Starr Marvin, Alicia Jones, Karen Petersen and Karen Remedios**

TAKE HOME PROJECTS

Iron laces of bow-tying frame: **Alicia Jones**
 Trace and cut collage circles: **Karen Remedios**
 Refinish classroom tables: **Russo family**
 Make playdough: **Alicia Jones**
 Sew loops on new drying towels: **Leah Houtman**

DONATIONS

Indian artifacts and books: **Remedios-Natarajan family**
 Rose petals: **Jocelyn Eisenlohr and Karen Remedios**
 Walnuts: **Isaac Veltri**

CLASSROOM PAINTING

Kai Foster and Rachel Splan

PARENT WORK DAY!!

Jocelyn and Fred Eisenlohr, Andy and Kai Foster, Leah Houtman, Kevin Hulick and Alalia Berry, Jonathan Jensen, Tara and Scot Marvin, Alicia Jones, Kyle McGann, Skye Nielson, Amy Phelps, Karen Remedios, Candace and Chris Russo, Sirje Tamm, Steve Schultz, Rebecca Veltri, Palmer Vilagi, Kolby Walker and Rachel Splan, Amy and Brendan Ward, and Shannon Zuschlag.



Roo works with mom Karen Remedios in the school garden during parent work day.

YEAR-ROUND AND SPECIAL EVENT PARENTS

Library Parent: **Karen Remedios**
 Volunteer Coordinator: **Kai Foster**
 Newsletter Designer: **Karen Petersen**
 Montessori Services Coordinator: **Rachel Splan**
 School Chronicler: **Anthony Veltri**
 Laundry: **Rebecca Veltri**
 Snack/Playdough: **Alicia Jones**
 Giveback Coordinator: **Houtmans**
 Benefit Concert: **Shannon Zuschlag and Karen Petersen**
 Online Auction: **Amy Ward and Jocelyn Eisenlohr**

Newsline

❖ Join us this Saturday, Sept. 8, for our **beginning-of-the-year potluck** in the schoolyard, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Please bring plates, utensils, napkins and drinks for your family, as well as a potluck dish. Many families also like to bring a blanket.

❖ Thursday, Sept. 13, is our **first parent meeting of the year**. It will be from 6 to 7:30 p.m. We will provide free child care for all children, as long as they are potty-trained. **Another parent meeting** follows on Thursday, Oct. 18. Please put these dates on your calendar!

❖ **Thistledown Studios** will take the class picture and individual photos of the children on Thursday, Sept. 20, at 9 a.m. Please be on time!

❖ Our **Parent Orientation/Workshop** will be Thursday, Oct. 4, at 6 p.m. Doni and Jessica will be presenting *Hands on in the Casa*, an interactive evening in the classroom.

❖ During the year, we may see **fliers and brochures** on the bulletin board from individuals and groups offering services that may be appropriate for your families. However, **it should not be taken as a recommendation** as we cannot investigate every source for quality.

❖ Here are some great links for Montessori information and blogs:

- o montessoriguide.org
- o mariamontessori.com
- o <https://montessori-nw.org/blog/>

❖ Join our parent Facebook group, Philomath Montessori Parent News!