



Nightingale Notes

September 2025

Upcoming in October

- 3 Our Earth Nursery Plant Sale 9am-4pm
- 7 PTA Meeting 6pm-7pm
- 10 **Bookmobile**
- 13-31 3rd Grade Testing Window
- 16 **End Q1**
- 17 **No School--Balance Day**
- 24 **Bookmobile**
- 31 Wings and Falcons attend
To Kill a Mockingbird
at Turner Studio Theater, 10am



Walk-In Freezer

Our walk-in freezer project is almost completed! NM received a \$40,000 NSLP equipment grant. The grant came from the

United States Department of Agriculture and was awarded to us through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. We are currently serving around 55 breakfasts and between 45-75 lunches each day. We can't wait for the extra space to lessen the burden of ordering.



South End Parking Lot Progress

A long time coming! We started our South End parking lot project in the summer of 2024 and were hoping to have it completed last fall. But, construction and obtaining materials at affordable costs became quite a challenge! Some of the project was modified and now we are close to completion! We have all enjoyed additional (and marked) parking spaces and we appreciate the arrows to direct our traffic. The structure our Chickadee and Hummingbird families "tunnel" through each day is expected to be ready for the solar panel roof installation very soon! These solar panels will provide up to 80% of our school's electricity cost!



Updates from Madagascar



Megan Thompson, Executive NM Board member, teaches Nightingale Montessori Sound Shapes Reading Program sequence for Malagash language in Madagascar



These guys are so hungry to learn!
Teachers and kids both



Alumnus Xavier Pearson Visit

NM Alum Xavier Pearson stopped in to visit the new building! He and his brother, Demetrius, attended NM Chicks-Falcons, and mom Shannon taught at NM from 2006-2014. Xavier is stationed in Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, and informed his old teachers that Demetrius is stationed in Hawaii. Xavier stayed all morning to catch up with several teachers from his youth.



Xavier and Nancy catch up



Xavier with Katrina and Stephanie

The Hummingbird students have been working hard developing essential skills that help them learn to respect their environment as well as contribute to their community.

Some of these important skills include: greeting classmates and teachers, hanging up their belongings, saying please and thank you, sitting together at snack, using proper table manners, helping friends that may need a hand, taking turns, working independently and together to keep their environment in order, learning to place their work on a mat, using the work correctly, and returning it neatly to its proper place on the shelf

This month, as a group lesson, the Hummingbird students were given the opportunity to wash apples, slice bananas, and peel oranges to help prepare a fruit salad, which they enjoyed as a snack together.

To go along with that lesson, each child had fun making a neat apple print painting using a few different colors we observed while preparing our delicious snack. We enjoyed watching two colors mix together, creating a new color for our craft.

The children waited patiently for their turn and each excitedly admired their finished product as it was displayed in the classroom.

“What the hand does the mind remembers.”
- Maria Montessori



Mackenzie examines an apple seed sticking to her painting.



Simran takes pride in her work.



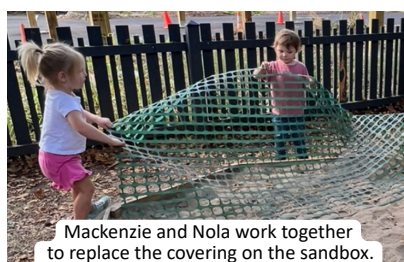
Brayzen and Nola slice bananas.



Anastasia is focused on her work with an imbuca box.



Mackenzie, Simran, Brayzen, and Nola observe an insect.



Mackenzie and Nola work together to replace the covering on the sandbox.



Mabel matches shapes.

Hummingbirds



Parent Corner reminders:

- Have your child bring their water bottle on Mondays. Please only send water in the bottles.
- **Label, Label, Label** any item that becomes separate from your child throughout the day. It's that time of year when we need a jacket in the morning, and by afternoon, we don't know what we did with it!
- Please do not send tie shoes for your child if they do not know how to tie them. It is important for their independence and safety that they can get their shoes on and off by themselves. Thank You!
- Thank you to those who have sent library cards for your student. We are looking forward to the upcoming Bookmobile visit!

Email Krista at klambdin@nightingaleschool.org to schedule a conference to hear more about what your student has been learning and enjoying!

DID YOU KNOW? Chickadees use the first bird's 'dee-dee-dee' call as a safety signal to alert other chickadees that your yard is a safe place to visit! When one brave chickadee discovers your setup and starts calling, it's like ringing a dinner bell that brings the whole neighborhood flock rushing over to join the feast.



Beckham creates order.



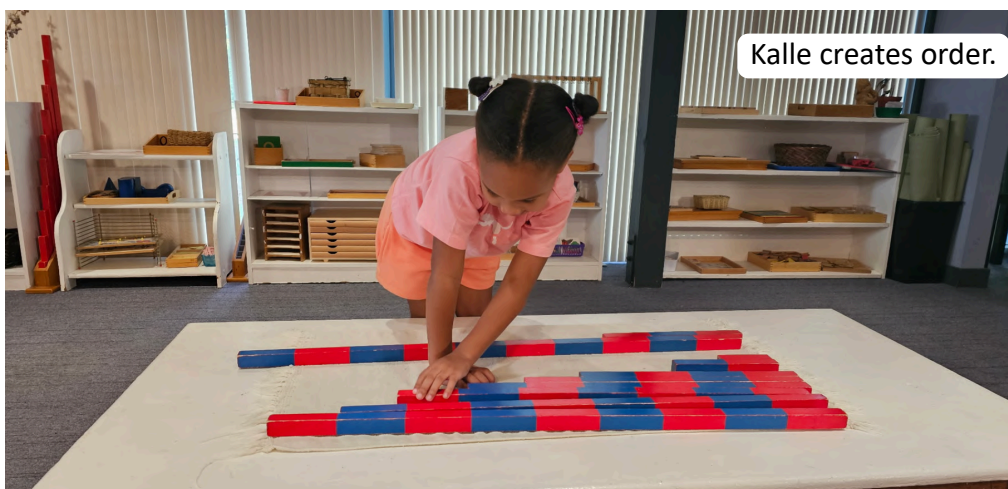
Calvin focuses.



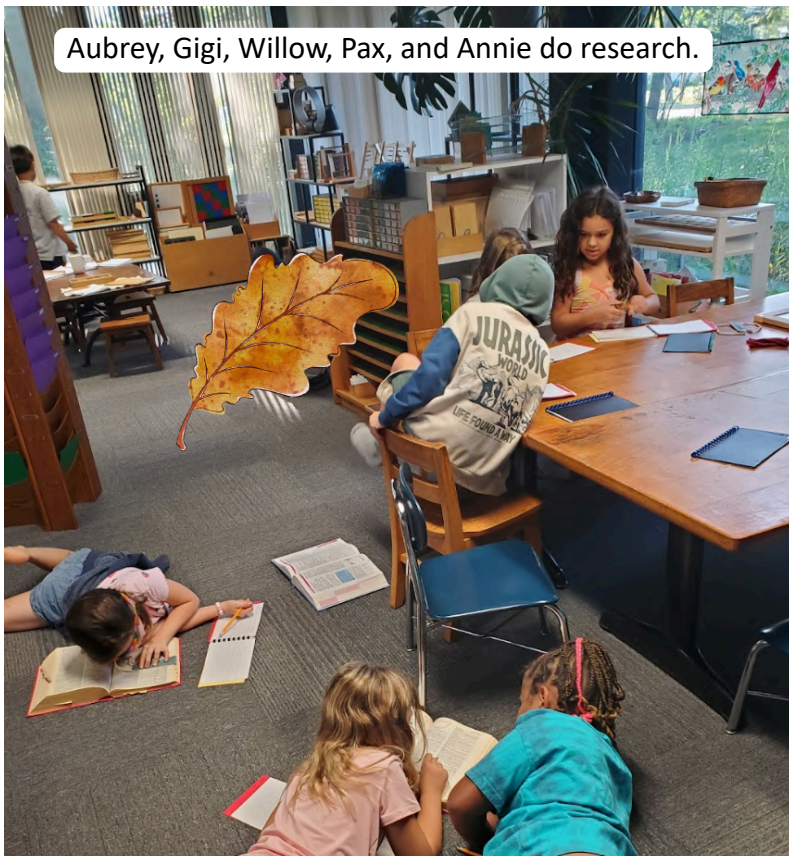
Sink and float discovery

Chickadees

We observe how **carefully** the children adhere to **laws of order**, from **meticulously**, **attentively**, and **conscientiously** executed work to working **peacefully and harmoniously with friends.**



Kalle creates order.



Aubrey, Gigi, Willow, Pax, and Annie do research.



Falcon River visits the Eagles to read with Zamirah.



One of many monarch butterflies on NM property

Kylin observes a monarch caterpillar.



Eagles



Students in the Eagle classroom have spent time this month doing research and observing Monarch life cycles. Nightingale Montessori has an abundance of Monarchs on the property. The children have loved exploring, investigating, and observing all of the stages of the monarch life cycle. It is a valuable and authentic scientific experience. It provides a hands-on, multi-disciplinary learning opportunity that covers biology, geography, and ecology. The Eagles in this age group have shown that they are ready for more structured research and detailed record-keeping, as they move beyond initial observation towards understanding the "why" and "how" of natural phenomena.

The Owls have been busy at work this month! We have been practicing new techniques to master spelling words: jumping rope to the beat of the syllables and writing the words in shaving cream.

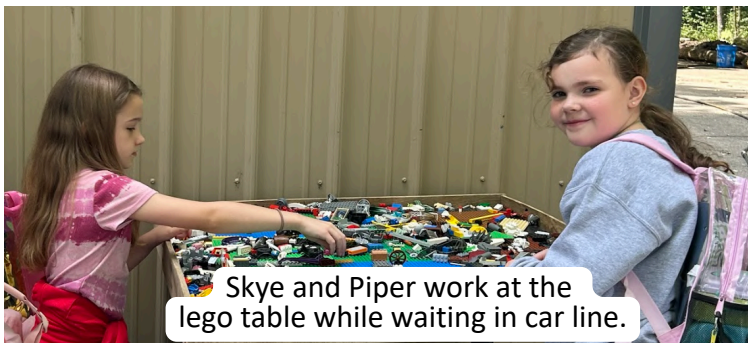
We started our weekly music class with percussion!

We have been enjoying the many ways we connect our learning to physical activity and our senses.

Student schedules have been adjusted to meet their needs and help support the flow of the classroom. Having small classes of 4-12 students allows teachers to work individually with the students and encourages small group work as the students dive deeper into their studies. Students have opportunities to teach one another as they learn which helps them solidify the material and grow as presenters and speakers.



Owls



Skye and Piper work at the lego table while waiting in car line.



Owl students work together to clean out a pond.



Leilani and Lucinda jumping rope



Evan on the triangle



Levi working on the keyboard in percussion



Za'Mara plays the triangle.



August gives maximum effort at his hatchet-throwing attempt during the visit to the Fair at New Boston.



Falcons participate in a hands-on archaeology experience at SunWatch.



Falcons at SunWatch

In poetry, students have been diving into the work of Mary Oliver lately, especially her poem "Don't Hesitate," where she reminds us not to hold back when joy shows up. The line, "If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate. Give in to it," really stuck with them. We also spent time with her powerful reminder that "joy is not made to be a crumb," not something small or leftover, but something we're meant to savor and celebrate. To explore this idea further, students were invited to capture a moment of joy through photography, an image of something that lights them up, makes them pause, or brings them peace. Just like in Oliver's poetry, this exercise encouraged them to notice the beauty in small, everyday things. It also echoes the Montessori approach, where students are encouraged to follow their curiosity, engage their senses, and find meaning in the world around them.

Falcon students also traveled to SunWatch this month to learn more about local Native American history and participated in a hands-on archaeological activity.



Addy and Lily observe the model SunWatch Village.



Jace and Noah work in the wood shop with Marty.

The French Corner

Bonjour! This month we are going to learn how to ask for the time in French. You can choose between:

1- The basic version.

Quelle heure est-il ? (kel uhr eh-teel)

What time is it?

2- The polite version.

Excusez-moi, quelle heure est-il ? (Ex-kew-zay mwah, kel uhr eh-teel)

Excuse-me, what time is it?

3- The casual version.

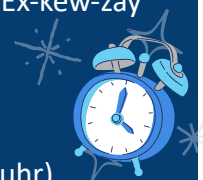
Vous avez l'heure ? (Voo-zha-vay luhr)

Do you have the time?

Note: In french, you must use "il" in the question : " Quelle heure est-il ? "

You cannot drop it.

A bientôt !

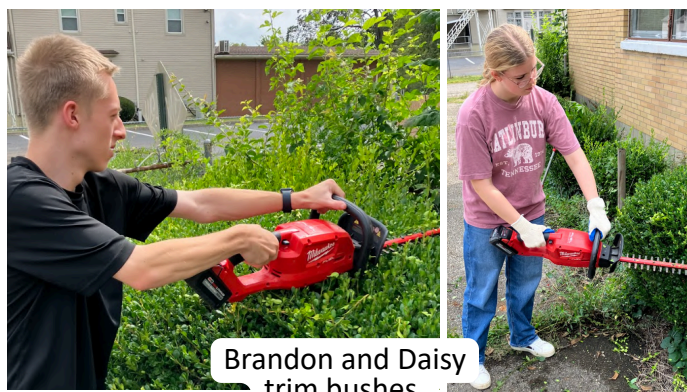


Falcons



As part of our Wing curriculum, we have a steady stream of community service projects that we complete outside of our school environment. Over the years we have partnered with many groups and organizations. Our current work continues our relationship with Buck Creek State Park and we are also developing a new relationship with the Ohio

Performing Arts Institute.



Brandon and Daisy trim bushes.



Urbana Flea Market

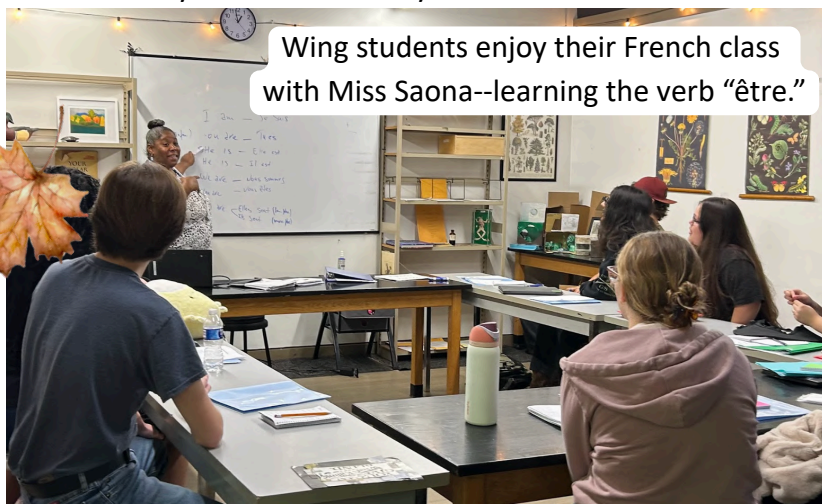
Wings learned objective words in French, and how to form them into a French sentence. "Nous sommes fantastiques!" This means "we're fantastic!" French class had a lot of fun with "fantastique" because of the new Fantastic Four film that just released. French class 2025 is pretty fantastique with Ms. Saona Jean. --Jack Westfall

At Buck Creek State Park, we are continuing to develop wheelchair accessible native plant garden beds along the handicap accessible "Coyote Run Trail." Our long term goal, aligned with the goals of the park, is to provide experiences in nature for all people and steward the land by adding native plants and removing invasive species. We consider these new beds of native plants and mini plant nurseries that will seed in more and more baby plants that can be dug up and planted out into the woods and prairies around the park.

The OPAI provides theatre, dance, and arts opportunities all year long for the community and many of our students at Nightingale benefit from this. We have the opportunity to bring some of our ecology and landscaping skills to OPAI and are proud to be able to spruce up their landscaping, shape their shrubs, and offer some basic repair services from our Micro Business students. We are also excited to have begun a mini-orchard planting by putting 8 fruit trees in the back of the lot. This is not our first mini-orchard donated to the community, and our goal is that in a few years time, free fruit will be accessible to the students of OPAI and nearby residents. One of the long term goals of the Nightingale ecology program is to spread edible plants throughout our community to play a small part in increasing food access and food security in our community.



Shay and Terriona make a great team in the wood shop.



Wing students enjoy their French class with Miss Saona--learning the verb "être."

Wings

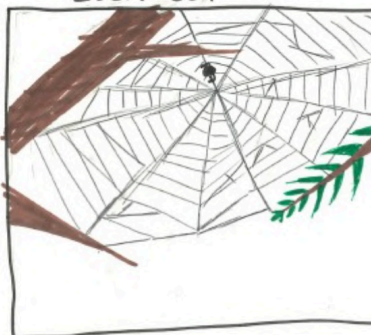
Nature Journals: fall began when the Autumnal Equinox occurred on Monday, September 22, at 2:19 pm

9-23-2025

9:30 - 65°

ZOOM OUT

*Mind you, the web is
dawn-till invisible



ZOOM IN



*There was
a spider.

9-23-25

FALL

Below dawn
with tree

Dead branch
from separate
tree

9:30 am

65°

Humid

I looked

around water

noticed when

I looked up

the best example

of Autumnal

light came on.



look up at

the

the

I do add

to see

this

9/23 2025

Meeting little in woods

9:25

65°

Calm and cloudy

humid too



Some of the
mushrooms are
like a funnel

Fall as started, the leaves have started falling.

The mushrooms look like (funnel shells).

I think there's like at least 100 mushrooms

on the stump. There also moss growing.

Sep 23

Side workshop

1:23 PM

67°

mt, Cloudy, lil Sunny.



many
little
white
bugs

Wings



Thank you so much to the local businesses and events that have supported us and welcomed us into their communities!

