



Nightingale Notes

May 2025

May

Promise Club Theme: Mindfulness for Mental Health

23 Last Day of School

26 Memorial Day

27-30 Staff Days

June

Office Hours: 9 am—12 pm

2-12 Mon-Thurs 8am—12pm June Program

July

Office Hours by Appointment Only



Jeremy Begel



Willie Calhoun



Bo McClain



Dominic Payne



Chloe Raines



Ethan Soto



Mayeli Trigueros-Hall



Lilianna Ventura-Velazquez



Briniya Wilson



Thank you to Stephanie for teaching me a lot about cooking, and about the measurements that work in it. It's really sparked my interest in working on that. I remember the first time I ever cooked with her in the Culinary class. I managed to fill the measuring cups to exactly full to a level I haven't been able to replicate since. I also want to give a big "thank you" to Jared, for how much he taught me about philosophy and the way to think. I remember playing four-player chess with him, Rae, and Shelby, and while we didn't finish the game, it was really fun. In addition, I'm glad to say how I've come to recognize the value of hard work thanks to him, that it sometimes can be useful for things. I also want to thank Tasha for teaching me about grammar in the Falcons. It was really fun, and she made it a really funny experience. I also want to thank Andrew for driving the bus to wherever we were going, and also for teaching me History and Government. I really feel like I understand them a lot more thanks to him. Finally, I want to thank my parents for taking all the time to drive me to this school from so far away for so long. Thank you all for coming to our graduation.



Jeremy Begel

As a student and graduate of Nightingale Montessori I have had many memories here. This school has played a significant role in who I am today. I came to Nightingale Montessori in my 5th grade year. I had a lot of fun and good memories with my friends. However, middle school was probably the best years, even though COVID-19 happened. It was still good. One person from middle school that I still love and cherish is Miss Tasha. She has always had my back, been honest, upfront, and most of all, a great person. I love her. She's the reason I made it through middle school and high school. Another person that I cherish and love is Miss Guyia. These two women have been my rock through high school because there've been times I wanted to quit, and they both were there to help me back up. I appreciate them.

Now it's time to show my appreciation to my high school teachers. They've played a huge part in me maturing and growing as a person. I appreciate Sarah, Andrew, Miss Verna, Todd, Miss Jewel, and Mr. Marty. All of these amazing people have shown me the right way to do things and have been patient with me. I can't show enough gratitude to them. I owe them a lot. Thank you guys! To my friends and my parents: I love you and thank y'all for being there for me when I needed y'all!



Willie Calhoun

My time at Nightingale has been truly wonderful. I don't think you could find such a close community at many other schools. I've been going to Nightingale since the 5th grade and met a lot of amazing people and lifelong friends. I don't know where I would be without my teachers. My family suffered a few difficulties this year and in the past few years as well, but my teachers helped me to still accomplish my academic responsibilities when it was at a less than ideal time. I truly owe a lot to these people; they have been very kind and understanding with me. I've had many great opportunities here, and I don't know the kind of man I would be without this school. After graduation I'm planning to continue the family farm operation, and maybe try a few other endeavours as well. I will definitely miss it here but I'm ready for the next step of life. Thank you to all the teachers, all the great classmates and friends I had, and thank you for your time.



Bo McClain

I think moving to Nightingale Montessori back in 6th grade, 2018, was one of the best decisions my mom made. I hated change so I didn't want to go but it only took a little time for me to make friends and start to enjoy my time here. Nightingale has been super helpful with work whenever I needed it, and everyone was very understanding if I had to step out or not answer a question. In all, I really enjoyed my time here and am so happy I got moved here.

I liked how we weren't confined to a desk for the whole day and got the free time to go outside and explore or go on field trips often. I liked how, being a small school, the teacher could provide every student with assistance when needed. I also liked how classes and work were set up for students. I liked how teachers gave people who were a bit slower to complete work due to not being able to focus extra time to complete it. In conclusion, I've really enjoyed my time here and would recommend this place to anyone.



Dominic Payne

From what I've heard, if you've been a student at Nightingale Montessori for seven years or longer, you're considered an old bird. I guess I'm getting an early retirement. I've been going to Nightingale Montessori for 6 years, meaning I started out as a second-year Falcon in the old building. I came to this school after having a hard time in public school due to bullying, so to have something like this was quite the change. When I initially heard I was going to a private school, I immediately thought about strict rules and uniforms. Needless to say, I was wildly incorrect. I don't think I would've been the person I am right now if I'd just gone to a regular public high school.

I have memories of both the old and new buildings. At the old building, I remember water balloon fights. I remember watching Harry Potter for the first time and writing a fanfiction about it in the middle of class, making that my first real story I'd written. I remember secretly saying hello to the neighboring Catholic Central kids. I remember Sarah running into the road on multiple occasions because the ball was hit out of the Gaga Ball pit. I never did play Gaga Ball, since I also remember all of the injuries people sustained from it. I was never one to risk an injury.

Then, when I entered the new building as a highschooler, I remember how interesting it was. We had a mere quarter of the hallway to ourselves as Wings. I also distinctly remember how weird and naive I was as a freshman, but I think we were all like that at one point. Besides, as the school years came and went, I grew and changed. I remember I was finally diagnosed with autism near the beginning of the year. I made friends, and I made more insanely fun and unique memories than I would've otherwise, discounting the numerous injuries I sustained in the process. We went on field trips that no other school would ever consider, like going to the turkey farm and getting donuts on the way there or going to Tractor Supply Co. Despite our financial limitations, we were also able to go to amazing places for end of year trips. While there wasn't one in my freshman year due to COVID, we went to Hocking Hills in my sophomore year, Gatlinburg in my junior year, and now we're going to Traverse City after graduation. I'm excited for that!

Talking about how excited I am, I'm also excited to mention my favorite teachers. I learned a year or two ago that, through marriage, I was distantly related to my favorite teacher. That would be Sarah, the English teacher that I had for nearly every single year. I'm closer to her than anyone else, but I love my other teachers! I liked Emily from freshman year, Marty will remain a favorite, and I'm surprised to have never heard Andrew or Jared get mad for the life of them. I'd also like to give a special mention to Verna Reed, who sadly passed at the end of the third quarter (March 7th, 2025). She's got to be my favorite math teacher that I've ever had, being efficient at her job and absolutely hilarious. I'll miss her. I'll miss Nightingale Montessori as a whole. You did more for me than any other school would've done. I thank you for that and all you'll continue to do.

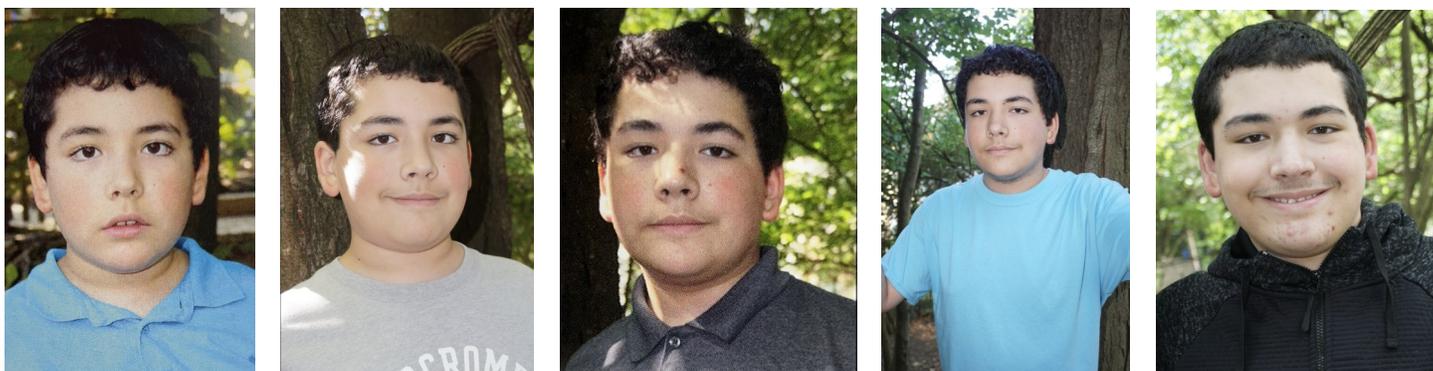
Thank you so much.



Chloe Raines

I'm Ethan and I've attended Nightingale since I was 4 years old. As such, this has effectively been the only school I've ever attended. Over the years, this place has become to me not just a place of learning, but also a community where I could meet people with different ways of expressing themselves. I have been able to learn skills and experience different activities here that I wouldn't have learned or done otherwise, such as learning to identify buckthorn and pot plants in Ecology, following recipe instructions in Culinary, Ski Club as an Owl, and field trips to almost all the nearby nature trails among other places. One of my favorite experiences here were the handful of days when we brought video games to school and played together.

I'm not really sure how to condense 14 years into a paragraph, but I can say that I've learned life lessons and grown as a person here thanks to the guidance from my teachers and the experiences with my classmates. My math teachers especially have been a huge help and I would not have been able to finish Math without them. I might not be sure what my future looks like yet, but I'm ready and excited to turn both the tassel and to the next chapter.



Ethan Soto

When I first came to Nightingale I was in the 7th grade. I can't lie I was mad about having to come to a different school. I thought it would be the worst, but it wasn't. Of course there were days where I wasn't too happy but at the end of the day I have made some good memories. I met some people I hope to keep as friends as we grow up and become adults. When I came to Nightingale I thought 'what was this school'? I had never seen anything like this school because all I was used to was public schools. The way we learned was different. It took some getting used to but by the time I got used to it COVID hit. I can't say I was the best student because I slept in 85% of my ZOOM classes. COVID was a crazy and sus time for the world, but we got through it and we eventually were able to come back to school which I had mixed feelings about.

In the 7th grade I met a girl named Briniya and at first I thought she was a little crazy but I've grown to love her and she is super funny. Now as mad as I was about having to come here I always had my cousin, Lilianna. She is the most beautiful girl and one of the most supportive people I've had in my life. After COVID was officially gone I was in the 9th grade. During the 9th grade one of the other girls I met in 7th grade, Sanaa, and I got closer and we became good friends. But in 10th grade she said it was her last year here because she got accepted into CTC. To this day I am still so proud of her. 9th grade was an okay year. Nothing crazy really happened except for me meeting Jamarcus who also graduated that same year. Though we only had a year of school together he was also someone I consider a good friend.

I am thankful and grateful for my family, boyfriend, and friends. They supported me and were there for me for everything. I would definitely not be where I am without them and I love them all so very much. I am grateful for all the people I've met in my time being at Nightingale and for the people I met outside of school. I am thankful to my teachers, especially my favorite teacher, Miss Verna. I am so very thankful to Miss Verna for the almost 2 years we had together. She was the best teacher I've had since the 5th grade. She made my junior and senior year easier when it came to math. She was the funniest and most passionate person in this school and I'll forever be thankful to her. I am also thankful for my culinary teacher, Stephanie. She is an outstanding person and someone to look up to.

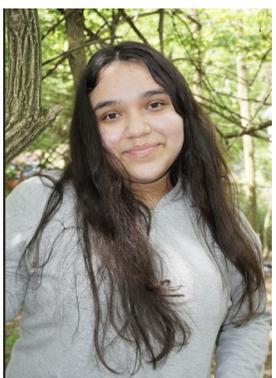


Mayeli Trigueros-Hall

In 2019, I started off as a Falcon here at Nightingale. The old building holds many of my memories with friends, teachers, and family. A memory still with me today is how much of an impact COVID had on us, even now that we're in 2025. We may not have to wear masks anymore in school, but it feels like COVID really took what could've been more time here at Nightingale. That 2019 school year was the best! Some of my family and I were in the Falcons at the time, and we'd do everything together. Thinking back I remember how stressful the science fair was, or how baking in the old kitchen was so much fun, even all the field trips we'd go on. I remember doing fly-up day, and that's when you go up to the next class and see what it's like for a day. I came to the Wings, and they were at the new building at the time. That's when I met a lot of new people. It was fun seeing what it was like being a Wing for a day. I thought that it'd be a while before I got into the Wings and started high school, but it wasn't like that. While I was enjoying making new memories with the people around me, time was flying by. People around me told me how fast time goes and how we take it for granted, but I didn't listen to them. Now I'm writing this two weeks before graduation, counting the days down until I graduate.

When I moved up to the Wings, I was really nervous. The environment was new, the people were new, but they were so welcoming and made my high school experience great. I was excited to see Mayeli and Briniya everyday, especially knowing it's our last year here. In my junior year, most of my family was in the Wing class with me. I remember how we'd all be in culinary on Friday, messing around, and how Joe and I would talk and laugh on the side while Mayeli would tell us to quit messing around. Or, when Aurelia and I would talk about playing Minecraft together after school, but never getting on the game. Near the end of the year, we'd all do puzzles together; they truly made my experience. Seeing all of us spend this time together in high school, my brothers and cousins, is something not a lot of people can say they had!

The people here at Nightingale are truly so special. Continuing my adventure even after high school, I'll forever hold onto the memories I made here at Nightingale Montessori. Thank you to the teachers, the students, and most importantly, my Mom. Thank you for being here for me when school was too stressful, for making the drive out here every day, and reminding me it'll all be okay no matter what. She's such a beautiful person, inside and out, and I love her. Thank you, Mom, and everyone at Nightingale.



Lilianna Ventura-Velazquez

Wing class: thank you for your time in this class. Our class is a nice class. Thank you Jewell. Rest in peace Verna. Thank you Andrew. Thank you Todd. Thank you Sarah. Thank you Jayne. Thank you Jared. Thank you Marty. My first time here was in 2015, when I came to visit the old building. I wasn't going here yet but I was getting ready to. I really liked the back play yard. When I came to fully go here in January 2016 I was in the Owls in 4th grade. I met this girl and I was very nervous. That school year was the school year we went on a class trip to Indianapolis, Indiana. It was my first overnight school trip. It was good but I had to share a room. I did get sick on that trip because I accidentally ate dairy. I am allergic to dairy and egg products. My second year of the Owls was 5th grade. My cousin started going here that school year (2016-2017) so it was very good to have her starting to go here. I made a lot of besties that school year.

The next school year I went into the Falcons. I was in 6th grade. Two people from my old school came here and their brother was in my class. We went to Virginia that school year in October 2017. That school trip I did get sick of course because of dairy. My cousin, a student and Jayne helped me. I remember on that trip we were on the bus and we got lost. Everyone's phone was dead but not mine!, I had no service! We were eventually found.

My second year with the Falcons came and we went to Kentucky. We went to Mammoth Cave. It was a very interesting school trip. I liked the school trips we went on that school year. I remember we went to find the Indian sharp arrowheads on someone's land with Jared. My last year in the Falcons was the school year Covid started to spread around. I think that was a good school year. I met my besties. There was a lot going on in the class that school year as the school year went on. I remember that OG puzzle in The Hub. It was the best puzzle ever. I remember when they said, "no school for 2 weeks" I was sad because I had a streak of not missing one day of school that school year. I got excited because I had two spring breaks. Plus, I had gotten a new book bag the day before they said no school for two weeks. I think lockdown was hard at first. Online, I would only join the Friday meetings. I would do work at night sometimes. I do remember when Jayne gave me her number to show her my math. When I started in the Wings I was scared of the teachers. I came to school on Fridays for Micro Business. I remember Andrew's English class and he had us write poems sometimes. I wrote good poems. I liked being at home and doing school work. But then in 2021 I went back to school. My cousin was already attending in person so I went with her. I was sad at first but it was good. My second year of the Wings was a good and bad school year. The first part was good but not the second. My brother died on November 10th, 2021. I had a very bad month. But the people closest to me made me feel better.

In my third school year in the Wings we did start to go to Vegan Village and I miss going there. We planted plants there and made it nicer and watered the plants. My 4th year as a Wing and I thought I was going to graduate but I was missing some credits so I couldn't. That was a very good school year. One time last year there was a thunderstorm and Andrew put the radar on the TV. Then this school year started. I have been in this class since 2020. I really want to graduate. I thought this school year went by very fast. In Ecology we went to Jefferson St. The class uncovered a stone path going up a hill and I took pictures.

We went on a lot of hikes. I will miss the big Ecology cookouts. Jared had his random green oil for the bread. There was hot pepper salsa. There was steak, hot dogs, potatoes ,mushrooms, and green beans. One time I ate 5 hotdogs, a lot of green beans, a lot of chips, pepper and potatoes. I was so full. I did like it when it was a Friday and there was a S'more and hotdog fire.

My experience at this school was good and I'm going to miss a lot of teachers. I will visit the teachers if I'm allowed to come into the class. I hope the people who are going to be in this class enjoy the Wings.



Briniya Wilson

Experiencing the Outdoors

“There must be a provision for the child to have contact with nature; to understand and appreciate the order, the harmony and the beauty in nature”. -Maria Montessori

Experiencing the outdoors is very important for the **Hummingbirds**. A connection with the natural world of the outdoors is one of the central ideas of **Montessori** philosophy. **Maria Montessori** believed that outdoor education should be an extension of the classroom. Outdoor experiences provide the children with the ability to discover the world through all of their senses, fosters scientific inquiry, and inspires creativity. They can hear the beautiful melody of a bird, smell the fresh air, watch an insect crawling on a log, and feel the sand between their fingers. All of these activities help the children to develop an awareness of their surroundings. Playing outside also contributes to the physical development and health of the children as they practice and refine important gross motor skills including running, climbing, and jumping.

As the weather continues to transition into the beautiful weather that accompanies summer break, support your child’s development by encouraging and guiding outdoor activities. There are easy ways to build on the 6 main skills we have been working on all school year. To promote language and literacy

skills: have outdoor storytime, name colors and objects in your environment, play “I-Spy”, have a conversation while taking a walk, or collect items on a nature walk and use them to create a story. To promote cognitive development: sort objects, discuss whether objects are the same or different, group objects that are the same, count the items you collected on a walk, draw shapes in the sand/dirt, or look for geometric shapes around you. Fine motor skills can be strengthened by: any activity that encourages use/development of the small muscles in the hand, and water play that includes squeezing, pouring, or wiping up messes. Social skills can be supported by: talking about how you feel when you have an experience, practicing simple manners, rolling a ball back and forth, making music together using objects in nature, pushing/pulling objects together, or any other activity that promotes working as a team to achieve a common goal. Practical life skills are promoted through activities such as: wiping off surfaces, pouring liquids from one container to another, sweeping the sidewalk, pulling weeds, watering plants, washing windows, and setting up an outdoor picnic. Sensory skills are encouraged by: water activities, pairing objects by color or design, going on a nature-themed scavenger hunt, scooping and pouring, or experiencing different smells, textures, and sounds. These are only a few suggestions. Get creative and enjoy the outdoors!

Hummingbird News



GeVaya helps spread mulch.



Brayzen and Calvin meet a chicken.



Auggie shovels mulch.



Henry experiences how a worm moves.



Germaine Jr. cleans the glass.



Nola helps plant a flower.



Anastasia practices placing balls in the ball return.



Maggie scoops and pours sand.

Parent Corner

The absorbent mind is the period between ages three and six when the child has the capacity to easily soak up the world around them. They become familiar with the culture they live in, the expectations, and the traditions of their environment. They are not even aware this is happening, which makes it all the more important that we are presenting what we want the child to internalize. Exposure to cultures and traditions around the world, as well as the values of peace and of the community that we wish to promote at NM through respect for nature, the community, and ourselves, builds the foundation for a future generation of peacemakers.

Montessori said, "Children have an absorbent mind. They absorb knowledge from the environment without fatigue. [...] This is the moment in the life of man when we can do something for the betterment of humanity and further brotherhood."

And

"If salvation and help are to come, it is through the child ; for the child is the constructor of man."

— Maria Montessori, The Absorbent Mind

Some summer thoughts

Things to do for low cost or free:

- Visit the library- participate in the summer reading program
- Go to the park
- Go on a picnic
- Go for a walk
- Volunteer
- Visit the art museum
- Roller skating/ice skating
- Northridge Lanes- kids bowl free: 2 games a day



Miss Nancy, Zamirah, and Merm reading.



Mulch delivery day!

Chickadee News

Age Appropriate Chores 4-6 Years

- All previous chores
- Take care of pets
- Set and clear table
- Match socks
- Putting away groceries
- Make bed
- Wipe down dirty walls
- Empty trash
- Sweep with small broom

Age Appropriate Chores 2-3 Years

- Pick up toys and books
- Put trash in garbage can
- Put Laundry in Hamper
- Dust
- Put away silverware
- Wipe baseboards
- Fold rags and dishcloths
- Put clothes in the hamper
- Put clothes away in drawers



Penny



Zed and Preston enjoy the waterslide.



Oliver enjoys the slip-n-slide.



Kalle and Gintey in the pool



Caleb Eden and friends soak up the sun

The school year is wrapping up, but there is still plenty of learning and fun in the **Chickadee** yard. We started this month with a cultural exploration of the traditions of Cinco De Mayo. The children learned about Mexico, made Mexican flags, listened to Mariachi music, and made tostadas in the classroom.

Soon after, it was time to say goodbye to our well-loved butterflies. The children watched them grow from tiny caterpillars, form their chrysalis, and finally emerge as butterflies.

In the second week of May, we received a mulch delivery. This is a great day in the Chickadee yard, and many were hard at work filling wheelbarrows as they take pride and joy in taking care of their community.

Finally, it was water day! This event usually happens in the last week of school to celebrate the end of another great year. We held it a little early due to weather concerns. We are so thankful for Katrina and her husband, Tim, who helped orchestrate setting up and connecting all the different pieces to the water. As a last-minute surprise, we were able to join the Owl class for a visit from the Raptor Center. The children enjoyed meeting a Screech Owl, a Barn Owl, and the biggest owl in Ohio, the Great Horned Owl. To wrap up our day, we enjoyed popsicles out on the log.



Butterfly release



Checking on the butterflies



Mekhi and Simone

At the end of the school year, the Eagles celebrate by playing a “Minute to Win It” Competition. “Minute to Win It” games are a long time tradition for our class. The children look forward to the games all year long. The upcoming Chicks often get to come join in the fun. The games emphasize the collaboration of the whole community. The children start by making a team poster where each of the team members add their own special touch. The games all showcase different types of skills and abilities. This offers all of the children in the classroom an opportunity to shine. The teams each keep track of their own points and the children love calculating at the end to find out which team is the victor. The children all work together to cheer for each other. It is a beautiful, friendly competition and so much fun.

In May we also hosted the upcoming Chickadees who will become Eagles next year while our third years Flew Up to the Owl room. We enjoyed meeting and sharing our spaces with our new friends, and are looking forward to next year with them. We will miss our third years and all of the leadership they provide the room, but we are proud of them and know they will be great Owls!



Eagles and Chicks bonding on the Eagle stage.



Fly-Up Bonding with incoming First Year Eagles.



Cali closely examines items from the Eagle yard, with an older Eagle mentor, Gigi, looking on.



3rd year Chicks trying out the Eagle yard.

Eagle News



Third-year Skye mentors First year Kenna.



Tristan experiments with the rope course.



Chicks visit Eagles on Fly-Up day.

May!

It's May! It's the last month of school! A lot of kids are excited for summer break to finally start! For the last week of school we are doing a water day! We will be outside all day.

Since spring is finally here we've been seeing some little animals like chipmunks, squirrels, rabbits, and birds. We are also starting to see butterflies and bees.

Last month the **Promise Club** theme, as you may already know, was **Empower Upstanders** and we did a **Promise to Pledge Tree**. The theme for **Promise Club** this month is **Mindfulness for Mental Health** so we are doing a **Leadership Skills Corner**.

This month was also Fly Up Day, so the third year Eagles came to the Owls for a little bit and the third year Owls went to the Falcons for a little bit. In the Falcon room, we played games like the rag game or a different version of bingo. Third year Owl students really enjoyed going there! Thank you for the welcome, Falcons!

This month the group of students who made the play performed it for the class and it was awesome! Our play, *The Return of the Wicked Witch*, contained characters from *The Wizard of Oz* and some of our own characters like **Mrs. Carrot** who was made and played by one of our students named Annie. Another one of our invented characters was **Cherry the Chocolate Covered Strawberry** made and played by Caroline. We set up black curtains and the Kansas house background to create a backdrop. We also had an amazing backstage crew who made and put on all of the needed props for us!

This month there were some field trips to the Boonshoft. They were so much fun. There were animals, artifacts, and even a bird watching room. We also went to Owen's Place for a field trip and it was so much fun!

Cinco de Mayo was spectacular! We had one amazing student named Lucinda Bojhay who made us a pinata!! The pinata was in the shape of a cactus! She spent 2 hours on the cactus pinata and she picked a cactus because it is a tradition in her family. Thank you for sharing your family tradition with us, Lucinda!



Mrs Guyia and Boonshoft.



Visit from the Glen Helen Raptor Center--Owls visiting the Owls.



Thank you Raptor Center!



Owl News



Astro, Caroline, Leilani, Becca, Bella, Jovie, Evan, Addy, and Jackson perform in The Return of the Wicked Witch.



Return of the Wicked Witch--Autumn, Leilani, RosaFay, Lilly



Plant Sale volunteers got caught in the rain.



August and the pinata.



Bella and her Maracas.



Clifton hitting the pinata.



Addy and Mrs. Sofia cutting oranges.



Jaleeya and Ka'miyah Serving the food.



Ava Mixing juice.

Hello! This is our last column for the 2024-2025 school year. It was a pleasure for me to introduce the French language to some of you. In this lesson, you will learn how to say goodbye in French. As you have probably guessed by now, there are “goodbyes” in French for the friendly “you,” and for the formal “you.” Here is a list of some you should know:

The friendly “You” – Le “Tu” sympa

Bye! ----- Salut! ----- (“sah-loo”)

See you later! ----- À plus! ----- (“ah-ploos”)

See you soon! ----- À bientôt! ----- (“ah-byan-toe”)

So long! ----- Tchao! ----- (“chahw”)

Let’s go! Bye! ----- Aller! Tchao! ----- (“al-eh! chahw!”)

The formal “You” – Le “Vous” formel

Goodbye, Sir/Ma’am ---- Au revoir Monsieur/Madame ---- (“oruvwa monsyo/madam”)

Have a good day! Goodbye! - Passez une bonne journée! Au revoir! - (“Pah-seh oon bon joor-neh! Oruvwa!”)

~À bientôt!

Ms. Saona.



Yellow Shirts: Fall Birthdays



Blue Shirts: Summer Birthdays



Falcon News

Earth Day

To celebrate Earth Day, the Falcons and Wings soared into action, hosting a hands-on event that inspired and engaged their younger schoolmates in caring for the planet. Marie Montessori believed that older students gain confidence and deepen their understanding by teaching, while younger students are inspired by observing and interacting with more experienced peers. When the older students led Earth Day activities they reinforced their own knowledge of environmental stewardship but also fostered a sense of community and shared responsibility. This practice aligns with Montessori's belief in educating the whole child through meaningful real-world experiences that nurture respect for nature and one another.



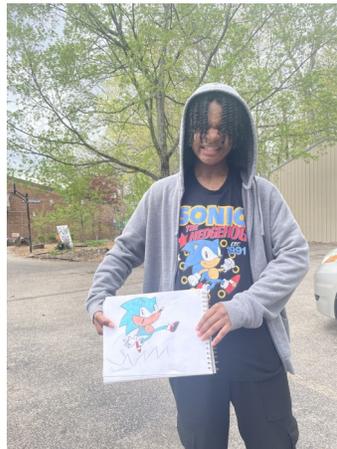
Falcons teach Owls how to make nature mandalas.



Shannin and visiting Kamiya find beauty in the garden.



Damarion's seeds sprouted!



Damarion's drawing matches his shirt!



Owls during Earth Day making mud mandalas.



Ben plants peppers.

Planting Seeds

Planting seeds is a powerful act of hope, patience and responsibility. It teaches us that growth takes time and care, reminding us to nurture not only the Earth but also our own ideas and dreams. As we plant seeds in the soil, we learn about the delicate balance of nature, the importance of sustainability, and our role in caring for the environment. Planting a seed and watching it grow fosters a deep connection to the natural world, a sense of accomplishment and instills the values of stewardship, perseverance and wonder.



Earth Day Station Grassroots.



Addy during fly up day.

May has been a BIG month in the Wing room. We concluded the first quarter of our new curriculum, and we are pleased with what we've learned so far. We hope that the new curriculum will allow for a more Montessori-focused learning environment for our secondary students, and much more freedom and choice. The curriculum proved successful in its infancy—most of the students were able to find projects and topics in the historical/literary time periods (The Enlightenment, the 1900's, and The Victorian Age) and to complete their projects at their own pace. Students came up with some really creative ideas—like skirts, paintings, Minecraft builds, and collages. We are so excited to see what they come up with next year!

We also celebrated the graduation of NINE Wing classmates. This is the biggest graduating class in Nightingale's long history. Congratulations to Jeremy, Willie, Bo, Dominic, Chloe, Ethan, Mayeli, Lilianna, and Briniya! We are so proud of you!

Finally, the Wing class is traversing to Traverse City, Michigan for their end-of-year trip. They will stay on the beach, hike the sand dunes, kayak, and have lots of other adventures. Thank you to Andrew, Stephanie, Todd, Olivia, and Mr. Carson for chaperoning this amazing trip!



Audrey's jewelry making.



Aidan, Joey, and Jack participate in Alex's History project--recreating a WWII Funeral.



Jazlyn concentrates on her painting.



Joey and Ladainian



Jared sends off the boys to Traverse City.



Flowers from the Chicks!



Behind the scenes of graduation.



Stage preparations for graduation.



Miss Jayne celebrates with Wings for Teacher Appreciation Week!



Graduation food preparations.



The boys are ready to graduate!



Buck Creek Clean Up!



Wing students sign each other's NM t-shirt.