



Nightingale Notes

February-March 2026

March and April Important Dates

- 13 Bookmobile
- 19-23 No School, Professional Dev.**
- 26 Eagle Wax Museum 7pm
- 27 Bookmobile
- 30-April 3 Spring Break, No School**
- 6 Staff Day--No School**
- 7-30 State Testing Window**
- 10 **Midterm Q4**, Wings Little Women @ Turner, Bookmobile
- 13-17 PSAT, SAT Testing Window
- 22 Bar Bingo at the State
- 24 Bookmobile
- 29 Falcon and Wing Open House

Festival of Lost Celebrations



Wing students enjoy the Areito Celebration rehearsal



Owl students express pride and joy in their accomplishments



The Great Bath team celebrating their success





Cultural foods at the Festival



Skye presents the festival she studied from Ancient Egypt



Evan and Elijah at the Areito celebration



Summer Permaculture Design Intensive with Nightingale Montessori, Springfield, OH

Now enrolling for July 2026!

Cincinnati Permaculture Institute takes its internationally recognized Permaculture Design Course on the road with their most condensed format yet, a great overview of permaculture for people eager to get started right away. This year, *Nightingale Montessori* is the host site and partner for this three-weekend course in July. The course entails 60 hours of direct instruction and 12 hours of supplemental material & independent work.



Students and teachers work together to tap sugar maple trees



- History, ethics, & principles
- Methods of design and implementation
- Pattern understanding: Interpretation and application
- Climate: Weather, precipitation, micro-climates
- Water: Harvesting, conservation, and earthworks
- Trees: In landscapes, grow natural, edible resources
- Soils: Classification, the soil food web, restoring soil
- Plant selection, habitats, and growing food gardens
- Using integrated pest management
- Ethically integrating animals
- Managing bees in your ecosystem
- Renewable energy, using biological resources
- Appropriate technology and natural building
- Food preservation, fermentation, nutrition
- Food and herbs as medicine
- Invisible Structures: Personal, social, governance, and economic permaculture; intentional communities and local resiliency

** Contact Jayne Woodward, text (937) 765-1745 or email jwoodward@nightingaleschool.org for specific question or visit CPI website.

<https://cincinnati-permaculture-institute.org/summer-pdc-now-enrolling>
In person July 11 & 12, 18 & 19, and 25 & 26 @
2525 N. Limestone, Springfield; Online July 10, 17 & 24th



All School News



New Nightingale Bus

Nightingale's old blue bus has been our trusty source of transportation for many years. Purchased in 2014, it has taken students all over the region on field trips and overnight trips to other states. At least, until recently, when things broke, our trusty mechanic got us back on the road for more adventures. Unfortunately, the blue bus reached its last legs. Mr. Marty was charged with finding a bus worthy of being the blue bus's replacement, and he put in countless hours searching. We are so grateful for his efforts! Marty mentioned to Todd that Nightingale was looking for a bus, and we were in luck! Todd serves on the board of directors of a small nursing home in Yellow Springs called Friends Care. Friends Care is in the process of purchasing a new bus for their residents, and part of that process meant selling the bus that they already had--which is the perfect bus for Nightingale! It's a used bus that has been well maintained and well loved for many years. With the help of Marty and a generous donation from a friend of NM, we were able to complete the deal and now the Friends Care bus has a new home at Nightingale Montessori. We can't wait to see all of the adventures that this bus will embark on and all of the great memories our students will have. Having a bus to take our students on field trips and out to do service work in our area is a big part of learning in a Montessori school. We are so happy to be able to provide this opportunity again, so our students can soon get back to their away activities that are such a big part of the curriculum. It's so wonderful that two small nonprofit organizations can partner together to benefit each other. Here's to new adventures! 🚌

Nightingale Montessori Secondary Program

Open House

join us

Wednesday, April 29

6pm-7:30pm

to explore our Falcon and Wing programs, their new curricula, and the methods self-directed and project-based learning being applied to 6th-12th grades

TULIP SALE!

The Nightingale Erdkinder program is hosting a tulip sale to fundraise for our continued efforts to stock a native plant nursery as part of our environmental values as well as our microbusiness learning.

Last fall, Nightingale students planted thousands of tulip bulbs in pots. The tulips are now preparing to bloom! Purchase some tulips and then you can transplant them into your garden to have them return year after year!

We will send home your purchased pots as they are blooming in the next couple of weeks, though you can request to pick them up as soon as you would like to.

If you would like to purchase tulip pots, please return this form with cash or check made out to **Nightingale Montessori**.

Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Quantity of large pots (\$20/pot): _____

Total Amount enclosed: _____



All School News

NIGHTINGALE MONTESSORI PTA & BETA PSI
PRESENT

BAR BINGO *at the State*



6-9PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

19 S FOUNTAIN AVE, SPRINGFIELD, OH 45502



Becca makes pizza



Wing Culinary guide Matt teaches noodle making



Eagles help with breakfast



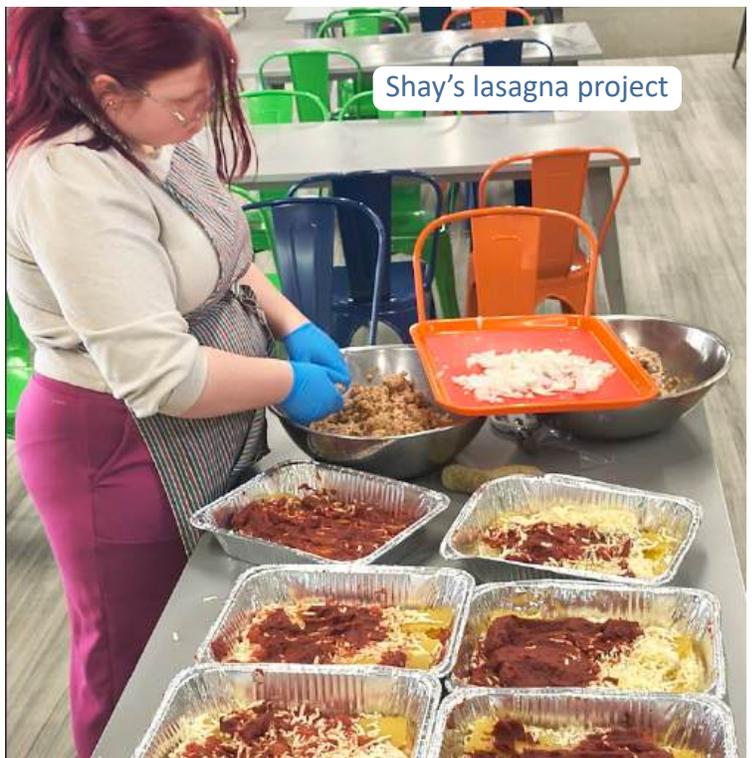
Falcon and Owl bread baking



Gourmet Grub



Marty shows Falcons knife skills



Shay's lasagna project

Bundled Up and Busy

This month's abundant snowfall also brought an abundance of excitement to the Hummingbirds! What began as weather certainly became an invitation we couldn't wait to accept. The snowy landscape transformed into an extension of our prepared environment -inviting movement, exploration, and discovery.

The students carried small buckets, scooped and transferred snow, filled and emptied containers, and used maximum effort to navigate the uneven ground as they moved through the deep snow.

These simple yet powerful activities supported coordination, concentration, balance, and muscle development within each child.

The snowfall did not interrupt our work - it *became* the work. The children's attention was captured in the most beautiful way as they would frequently stop for a moment to watch the peaceful snow blanket the world around them and noticing the size and texture of the snowflakes as they fell.

It was a quiet reminder of the beauty that unfolds when we pause long enough to truly see it.



Mabel's marble painted valentine



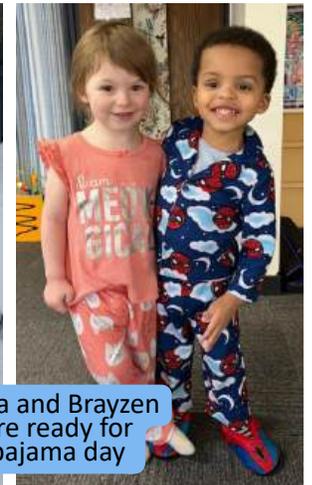
Simmi shows her excitement working outdoors.



Mabel is full of laughter as she rocks in the snow



Mackenzie enjoys sliding into a snowdrift



Nola and Brayzen are ready for pajama day



Nola and Mackenzie watch the snowfall together



Simmi, Nola and Mackenzie gather at a snow covered picnic table



Brayzen uses maximum effort to transport snow

Small Hands and Kind Hearts

During our kindness celebration the Hummingbirds dressed in cozy pajamas, shared homemade valentines and enjoyed healthy snacks together throughout the day!

The students were also delighted to create their own unique Valentine to share with their families through a marble painting activity.

Little hands moved carefully, guiding the marbles back and forth over the paper, leaving behind what looked like tiny rivers of color.

Through these special moments our Hummingbirds are learning that kindness is something we can see, share and celebrate everyday.

They are practicing to be thoughtful members of their community and recognizing that kindness always matters!

Hummingbirds



Katrina helps Chickadee students collect icicles



Special visitor to our feeder



Raelan concentrates



Ma'Siah diligently assembles suet cakes



Camp adds vinegar to volcano experiment while Edén and Kaylee look on



Beckham makes paper



Graesen, Preston, and Beckham



Edén's turn to add vinegar while Santi and Camp look on

Chickadee News

February was another busy month in the Chickadees. With Valentine's Day being an exciting event to anticipate, we talked a lot about friendship and how to be a friend. We worked on community projects. The Children made suet cakes and balls for the critters that visit the yard. We even had a very special visitor at our feeder over the weekend. They also used recycled construction paper to make new paper for homemade Valentines.

Projects and activities with multiple steps and a required sequence foster concentration, independence, and a sense of accomplishment, building self-esteem and self-confidence. This carries over into all areas highlighted here by proud readers.

Chickadees





Music Class--indoor exercise on a rainy day!



Math time in the Eagle room



Anderson and Nona



Eagles help out their community by cleaning up trash around the grounds



Eagles enjoying the rain



Madison and Noah



Audrey and Mekhi

Eagles Prep for Wax Museum

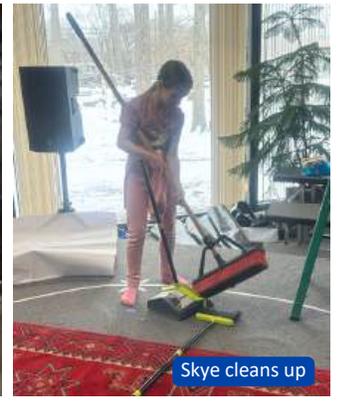
The Eagles have been teaming up with Miss Jayne, Biology teacher, and the Wing and Falcon students to develop their Wax Museum projects this year. The Wings have been working on projects in Biology on species taxonomy and diagramming in preparations for Earth Day in April, and with the Eagle Wax Museum theme this year being Timeline of Life, this is the first time these projects can overlap and build on one another. Eagles came down to the Wing room in small groups and met with Wing mentors to list characteristics and adaptations of their chosen species, and then draw up ideas for their costumes, props, and backgrounds for their displays. The Eagles, Wings, and Falcons will help make costumes and paint backgrounds as small teams. We are all very excited for the Wax Museum event on March 18!



Lochlan, Morrison, and Piper work on Festival preparations



Owl teamwork



Skye cleans up



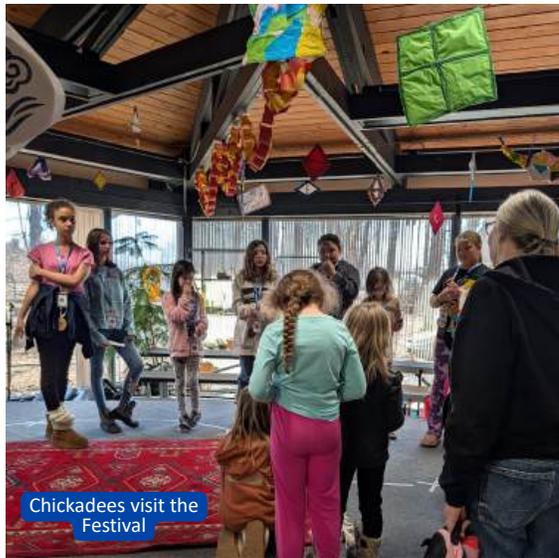
Owls present to Eagles



Leilani and Miah



Lochlan and Lucinda



Chickadees visit the Festival



The Areito team run through their presentation

Updates from the Owl Room

The Owls had a busy and fun February! They spent the month celebrating the Lunar New Year on February 13, preparing for the Festival for Lost Celebrations, and closing out the month preparing to take on new jobs in their environment.

The Owls spent their 3rd quarter in history and ELA studying ancient myths and ancient regions to understand how humans are driven toward finding ways to celebrate together. From food, festivals, and gathering in community, it is a basic human desire to come together and have FUN! And the Owls are mastering their ability to both research these ancient celebrations and finding fun and unique ways to make them their own.

Each quarter Owls apply for new jobs in their community. For 4th quarter, they will fill out an application where they will share their strengths and challenges, and then have the chance to rank job opportunities. From "Meeting Master" to "Animal Caretaker," there are jobs for all of our Owls. Some wait almost 3 years in our community to have a coveted job; others prefer to learn a job and try to keep it quarter after quarter. The Montessori method helps us all learn life skills as well as community work that help us build our ability to collaborate.

Owls



A view of the whole Festival



Tilly, Leilani, and Caroline



Miah, Zamara, Adalyn, and Skye



Todd and Jackson



Owls support each other on the monkey bars



Morrison, Bella, and Jovie



Evan and Myron



Autumn, Caroline, Bella, Lucinda, and Skye



Autumn, Bella, Skye, Caroline, Mia, and Lilly



Bella M enjoys the snow



Bella WB

Owls



Jovie relaxes in a snow drift



Lucinda and Autumn enjoy playing in the snow with a friend

Our Precious Falcon Community invitation to families

NM is a Montessori school founded and absolutely dependent on the principles of peace, respect, and decency towards all our members, and the development of exceptional work ethics. We will not tolerate teasing, disrespectful, and/or unsafe behavior. Aggressive and/or violent play is unacceptable. At NM, we believe children, adolescents and adults are all deserving of being shown the highest level of respect as well as capable of showing that same level of respect for others. We seek and respect the involvement of all parents in supporting the growth of a safe, respectful and inclusive community in which learning can happen at the deepest level and exceptional work can be enjoyed to its fullest.

Falcons demonstrate our commitment to the community through jobs, mentoring, and individual skills. We practiced being a community this month traveling to the Chiller, going sledding in our woods, and enjoying a bit of chess.

We also partnered with local senior living facilities to share kind words and sweets with older citizens. The event was held at The State Theater and folks from all over the city came to enjoy the food, fun and Elvis impersonator. Our students decorated the facility and handed out cards and brownies. Thanks to Ryan Ray and all the people who made this event possible.



Ali and Ma'Kenzie ice skating



Falcon students face the challenge of ice skating



Ma'Kenzie, Ma'Kaylen, Lily, Jude, Jace, and River use teamwork to sled through the woods



Community service for Springfield Senior Citizens



Wing Shay teaches a sewing class



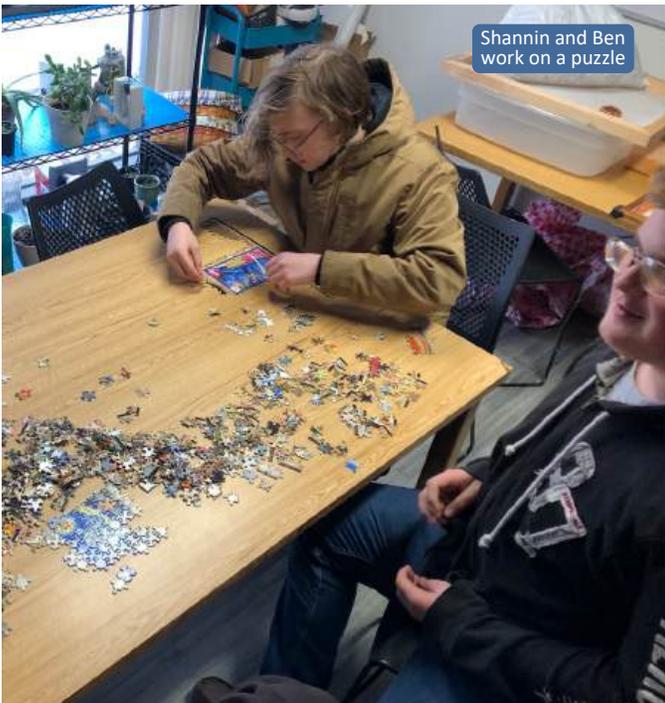
Kamia and the snowman she created



Addy works in Mr. Marty's class



River and Ma'Kaylen paint bug capturing boxes



Shannin and Ben work on a puzzle

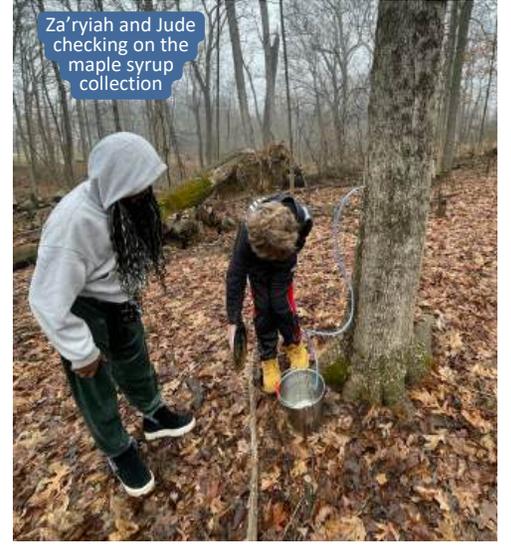


River and Ben face off in a game of chess

Falcons



August and Ben check out the vernal pool which has reappeared and turned to ice



Za'ryiah and Jude checking on the maple syrup collection



Birds gathering at bird feeders outside the Wing room

Wing News

The Wing class is emerging from the heavy snow and winter looking forward to the prospects of spring weather and opportunities. Each year, the months of January and February feel like a bit of a break from the hustle and bustle of the rest of the year in the Wing room, but there were still some highlights and memories made. We welcomed our new friend, Tom, from Clark County Partners in Prevention, for a four-presentation series for education on vape products and the risks associated with vaping. He also returned last week for a one-time introductory presentation on marijuana and its effects on the adolescent brain and body.

The large snow brought several opportunities for sledding at the country club, which were taken advantage of by the Wings. One of our favorite occurrences that coincides with a big snow is the presence of many more birds than usual coming to our feeders near our windows. Students were able to observe many species, including ones that are more rare to see, like the Northern Flicker Woodpecker and the Eastern Towhee. This yearly tradition is worth the cost of cleaning and maintaining all of our large windows!

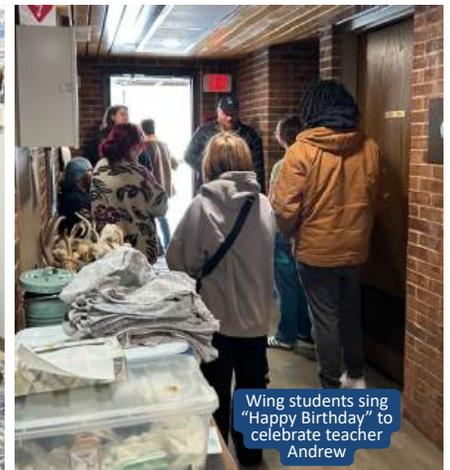
Students are beginning to get a bit of cabin fever and are looking forward to spring hikes, bike rides, and spending more time outside each day, even while completing their academic work in one of our outdoor classroom spaces.



Wing students take initiative and responsibility in filling out the job board for the next day--without being asked!



Parker and Wyatt enjoy a comforting space and hot drinks while working on course work



Wing students sing "Happy Birthday" to celebrate teacher Andrew



Audrey found a friend on a PE hike at the reservoir



Wing students participating in a lesson on the dangers of vaping

Wings