



Nightingale Notes

October 2025



Upcoming in November

- 3 Falcon Glen Helen Info Meeting for parents/families 3:15pm
- 5 Eagle Math Night 6:30-7:30pm
School Picture Re-take Day
- 6 PTA Meeting 6-7pm
- 7 **Bookmobile**
- 14 **Midterm Q2**
- 15 **Nightingale Conversations: Prairie Architecture 11am-1pm**
- 18-21 Falcon Trip to Glen Helen
- 21 **Bookmobile**
- 24-28 No School--Thanksgiving Break**

Support Nightingale through Kroger Community Rewards!

Enroll in Kroger Community Rewards and earn money for our school every time you shop. It's easy and free to enroll! When you link your Shopper's Card, every purchase you make provides funds for schools in need. Plus, you'll earn fuel points at the same time!

Enroll in Kroger Community Rewards

- Sign in online to your Kroger Account
- Go to the Savings and Rewards Tab
- Click on Kroger Community Rewards
- Find an Organization: Nightingale Montessori



Yearbooks Coming Soon!

The 2024-2025 NM Yearbook is finished and off to the printer! When we receive the delivery, all NM families that joined us last year will be given a 2024-2025 yearbook for a school fee of \$20.

If you would like extra copies, please contact the office.



School Portraits

Individual student portraits were taken on October 22nd. Weather permitting, portrait re-take day is scheduled for November 5th. The office will be sending out a form if you wish to purchase a drive for \$10. The drive will be filled with all of the photos of your student.

Ski Club Coming Soon!

NM Ski and Snowboard Club will travel to Mad River Mountain for 5 Thursdays beginning mid-January. All are invited to join (parents and guardians too)! Chickadee and Eagle students will need to be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Owl, Falcon, and Wing students may travel with the school on the NM bus. More details to come in November.

Snow Day Delays and Cancellations

NM will make the decision to announce a closing/delay by 7:00am. We have students and staff that come from as far and wide as Clark County, Logan County, Champaign County, Greene County, Clinton County, Montgomery County, and Madison County. Our delay/closing decision will be based on weather conditions in the Clark County and Springfield area but as we make a decision we do consider our surrounding counties and our staffing needs for operation. WE WILL DECIDE IF WE ARE DELAYED OR ARE CLOSED BY 7:00AM AND WE AIM TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT WE CAN TO NOT CHANGE THE DECISION. Often, schools will call a delay to gauge changes in a weather situation and then change to a closing. Many families find it very difficult to make an arrangement for a delay and then make another arrangement when the delay changes to a closing. If we feel the visibility, road conditions, dangerously low temperatures or ice conditions warrant concern, we will announce a delay or closing based on the timing of predicted conditions in relation to school operation hours. Families that travel to NM need to make their own decision as to the safety of the weather and road conditions. If your area is delayed/ closed and you decide to remain home, please notify the office. The attendance will be excused due to inclement weather. Our Rapid Fire email, and SchoolCues notification systems will announce the decision. Please make sure the office has your current email and cell phone numbers. TV and Radio announcements (if utilized) will be: WHIO (Channel 7), WKEF (Channel 22)



Layers and Weather-Appropriate Gear



Families are reminded that all classrooms participate in outside work daily, no matter the weather conditions! Students should dress in layers and have weather-appropriate clothing on hand at school in order to participate in this outside work time. Please check the weather in the morning before sending your child to school without a jacket or weather-appropriate footwear. Items a student may need include rain boots, snow boots, rain jacket, hat, scarf, and sweatshirt. Students are invited to keep extra items at school to accommodate changing Ohio weather patterns. If your student needs help accessing any of these items, reach out to their classroom teacher.

Bloom Learning Center has a great article about the benefits of outdoor play in all weather conditions:

In today's tech-driven world, where children often find themselves glued to screens, it's easy to forget the magic of outdoor play. But did you know that regardless of the weather, stepping outside can be one of the best things for your child's health and happiness? Let's explore why kids flourish in all types of weather and debunk some common myths along the way.

Benefits of Outdoor Play in All Weather Conditions:

Physical Health:

- Outdoor play isn't just fun; it's also a fantastic way to keep your child active and healthy.
- Research shows that spending time outdoors can boost your child's immune system, helping them fend off illnesses.
- Shockingly, studies indicate that only a third of kids get enough physical activity every day, raising concerns about sedentary lifestyles and related health issues.



Mental Well-being:

- Nature has a magical way of reducing stress and boosting mood, even in the youngest of adventurers.
- When kids play outside, their brains come alive, leading to better focus, creativity, and overall mental well-being.
- With mental health concerns on the rise among kids, prioritizing outdoor play can be a game-changer for their happiness and resilience.

Connection to Nature:

- Encouraging your child to explore the great outdoors fosters a deep love and respect for the environment.
- These early experiences lay the groundwork for a lifelong commitment to caring for our planet.
- Studies have found that children who spend time outdoors are more likely to become environmentally conscious adults, making outdoor play a win-win for both kids and the planet.

Dispelling the Myth: Cold Weather and Illness:

Contrary to popular belief, chilly temperatures don't directly make kids sick. In fact, research suggests that the real culprits behind seasonal sniffles are indoor germs and poor air quality. So bundle up your little ones, because there's no reason to fear the cold!

Statistics Supporting Outdoor Play:

- Shockingly, studies reveal that kids spend as little as four to seven minutes a day playing outside without structure, falling far short of recommended guidelines.
- Research published in the *American Journal of Public Health* has shown that access to green spaces and outdoor playtime can lower the risk of childhood obesity and related health issues.
- With over 80% of adolescents worldwide failing to meet recommended physical activity levels, it's clear that we need to prioritize outdoor play now more than ever.
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Practical Tips for Outdoor Play in All Weather:

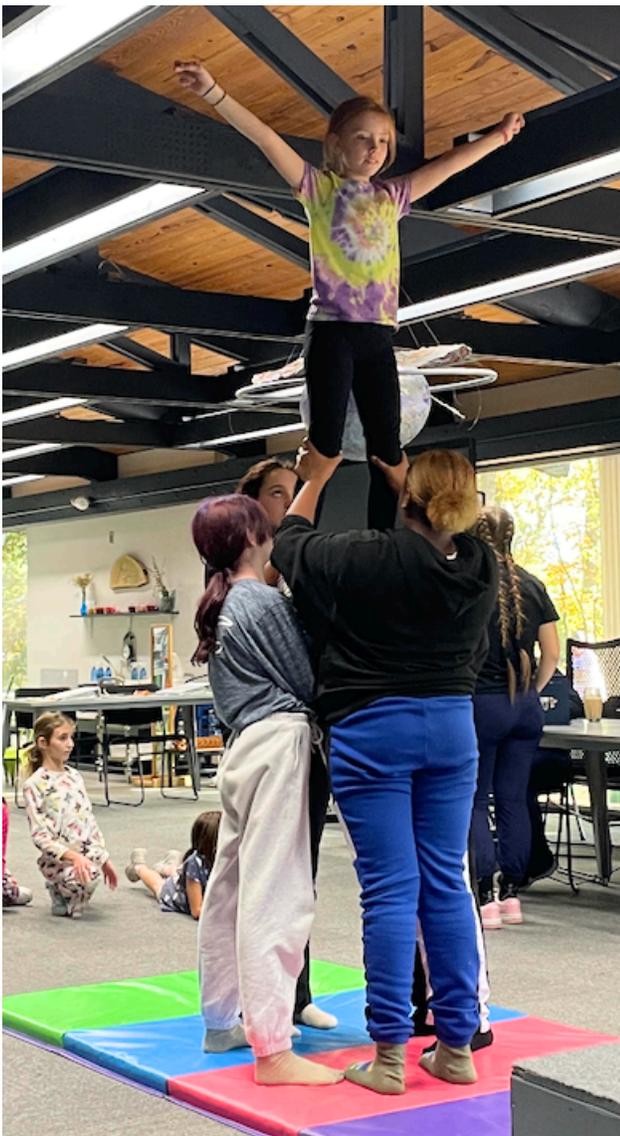
- As parents, we play a crucial role in encouraging outdoor play, rain or shine. Emphasize the importance of getting outside and exploring nature with your child.
- Make sure your little one is dressed appropriately for the weather, layering up when it's chilly and staying cool when it's hot.
- Get creative with outdoor activities! From nature scavenger hunts to backyard camping trips, there's no shortage of ways to make outdoor play exciting and memorable.

The great outdoors offer endless possibilities for your child to learn, grow, and thrive in any weather. By debunking myths about cold weather and illness and embracing the many benefits of outdoor play, we can give our kids the gift of a lifelong love for nature. So grab your coats and let's make some memories outside!

<https://www.bloomlearningcenter.com/post/the-great-outdoors-why-your-kids-thrive-in-all-weather-conditions>

NM Cheer Club

This week during the Cheer classes, led by Alex in the Wings, both the Eagles and Mixed Owl/Falcon Class worked on stunting! Each class was assigned stunt groups and worked through basic stunting essentials. This photo is of the Mixed Class on Friday, with Jovie in a prep level. The classes have been going well, and during this class two students landed higher tumbling during the tumbling course!



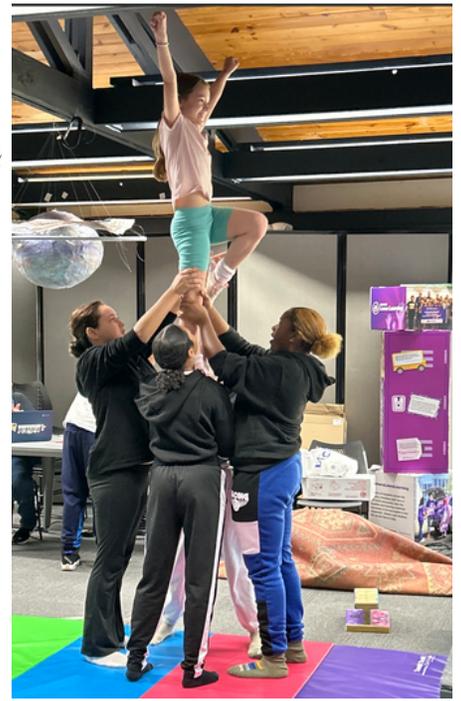
Falcons Nemariah, Lily, and Za'Ryah support Owl Jovie in a cheer stunt



Alex spots Falcons during tumbling practice



A Falcon stunt team supports Owl Skye

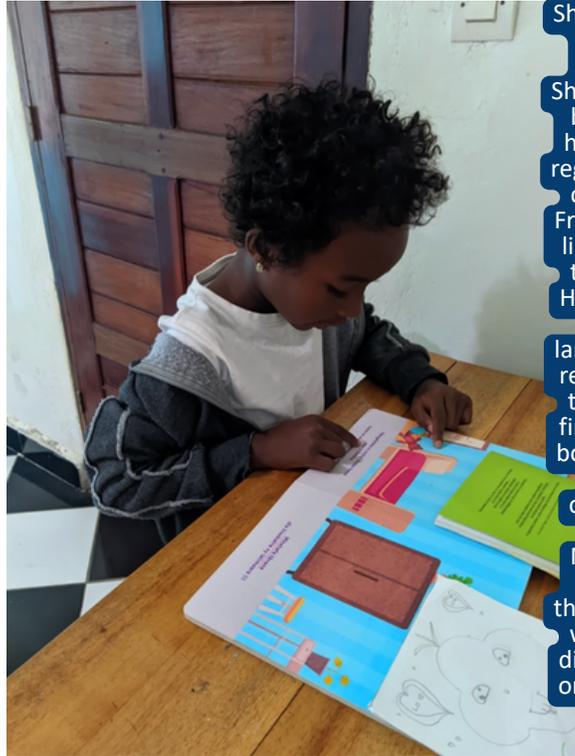


Becca gets lifted by her stunt team while Alex looks on

Updates from Madagascar



I tear up every time I watch this guy's lesson. 1st generation reader. Lala means "road," by the way. He's another who helps me with my Malagasy, and understands the importance of speaking slowly and clearly for me. I bet he ends up teaching his parents to read. --Meg



She was already pretty close and breezed through blankets. She's not our test case, but one who would have learned to read regardless. She's pretty close in English and French as well and will likely be trilliterate by the end of the year. However, her pride in having her own language honored and respected is beautiful to see and she's our first student to read a book in Malagasy. The other books are covering the French words, as pure Malagasy children's books don't exist--though, we're going to write some--but we did have this bilingual one and she is able to read it.--Meg



Monday-Friday, the school day begins at 8am. Students can enter the building as early as 7:45am. Free Breakfast is served until 8:15am. After 8:15, the students are considered tardy. Minutes tardy are counted toward absence hours.

Reminder

Nightingale Conversations 2025 SERIES

EXPERIENCE PRAIRIE STYLE ARCHITECTURE

JOIN US FOR A STIMULATING TOUR AND DISCUSSION OF THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR **PRAIRIE STYLE BUILDING, DESIGNED AS THE BONDED OIL HEADQUARTERS**

EMPHASIZING HORIZONTAL LINES, THE DESIGN'S STYLE MIMICS AMERICA'S MIDWEST PRAIRIE WITH LOW-PITCHED ROOFS, WIDE OVERHANGS, AND CONTINUOUS BANDS OF WINDOWS THAT SEAMLESSLY BLEND THE BUILDING WITH THE OUTDOOR LEARNING AND GARDEN AREAS NOW INCORPORATED THROUGHOUT THE CAMPUS. OUR TALK IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Saturday, Nov 15, 2025 11 - 1 with Lunch Provided

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All School News

Fine Motor Development and Pumpkin Exploration

Fine motor development is a vital foundation for many future skills. Strengthening the small muscles of the hands supports children in developing the coordination and control needed for tasks such as writing, self-care, and tool use. By practicing isolating the thumb and index finger to form a pincer grasp, children build the strength and precision required for an effective pencil grasp later on.

Materials are selected purposefully to not only refine the child's fine motor skills, but also to nurture creativity, concentration and problem solving abilities.

During our recent pumpkin exploration, the Hummingbirds gathered to open a pumpkin and observe its various parts. The children engaged their senses as they explored the texture of the pumpkin's interior, carefully separating the seeds from the strands—an activity that provided valuable fine motor practice. The seeds will be saved and incorporated into a future fall lesson.

To extend our learning and care for nature, we recycled the remaining pumpkin pieces by placing them in the woods for nearby animals to enjoy. At the end of the activity, each child chose a small "Jack-Be-Little" pumpkin to take home as a special reminder of the experience.



Anastasia practices using a fork.



Mabel sorts and matches utensils.



Simran matches shapes to outlines.



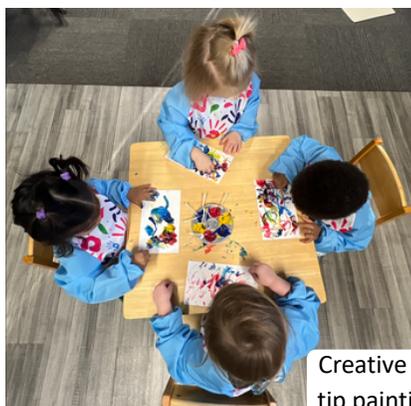
Nola explores magnetism.



Separating pumpkin seeds



Taking a nature walk to leave the pumpkins for the animals

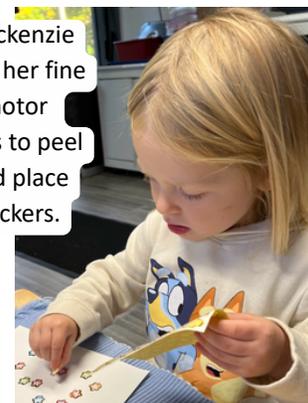


Creative Q-tip painting

Brayzen paints with Q-tips.



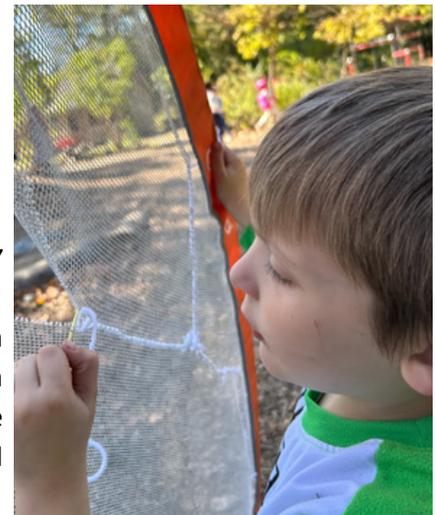
Mackenzie uses her fine motor skills to peel and place stickers.



Hummingbirds

Maria Montessori spoke of the hand as an “instrument of intelligence”

The children’s hands, at first clumsy and unsteady, start to reach purposefully, touch, and eventually hold with a gentle precision. It’s important to remember that the growth of these skills isn’t immediate but unfolds bit by bit, through practice and repetition. This gradual refinement of movement, enabled by myelination (the formation of a protective sheath around their nerves), allows the child to gain better control, little by little.



Graesen repairs a rip in the soccer goal



Ge'Vaya cuts yarn.



Camp traces shapes.

As they grow, their curiosity leads them to more complex activities. The child is developing their finger strength, learning the pincer grasp, discovering that their hands can work with precision, learning cause and effect, logical sequencing, and even the thrill of accomplishment!

Each step and sequence engages their mind, and each success builds their confidence. In these

interactions, the child develops an ability to create external order in their environment, which will create their internal order later. Children are so sensitive to the organization of their surroundings; they crave predictability and find comfort in routine. These moments of focus are not just signs of engagement; they’re the seeds of concentration and determination that will carry through their lives. These activities also bring together intelligence, will, and movement in a harmonious way. They are making decisions and taking action. They are choosing their steps, testing their abilities, and making sense of the effects they can create. This process strengthens their understanding of themselves and their environment. They see the results of their actions, and learn practical skills. In offering these experiences, we help children develop more than coordination; we nurture their ability to make choices, their resilience in the face of a challenge, and their belief in their own capability. It's an affirmation of their independence.



Beckham and Santi



Gintey



Beckham



Preston, Gintey, and Nora



Raelan and Morrison

Chickadees

October Eagle News

The Eagle team is excited to welcome **Natalie Wade** on board in the classroom to teach science. Natalie has experience in the nursing field and the food service industry. She is a mom of three wonderful Nightingale students.

The Eagle Team has planned a parent meeting evening for November 5, 2025. Sheila Brown and the rest of the team are looking forward to a fun math-lesson filled event. Montessori math is anything but typical and we cannot wait to show you a few of the tricks Maria Montessori had up her sleeve to help the children understand numbers on a fundamental and conceptual level. More details will be sent to parents via SchoolCues closer to the date. Hoping we can count you in!

The children in the Eagle classroom have developed a hunter-gatherer mindset as they find treasure on the school grounds. The children have had the pleasure of finding zucchini out by the large sign, walnuts all over the playground, acorns, neat insects, raspberries, and so much more. Take time with your children to explore the outdoors around them. Who knows what wonderful things might be in your own backyard?!



Gigi, Annie, Merm, and Paxton explore the forest.



WELCOME



Sheila and Cambria do a lesson out in the sunshine.



Annie, Paxton, and Tyson use Montessori math tools.



Eagles

October News

We got a new art cart this month because the old art cart was broken. We got a nice black one instead. We all like the new art cart and we hope this one doesn't break.

On Fridays in skills class we are learning how to be a super digital citizen which is someone who helps people online when they are being Cyber-bullied (being bullied by someone online).

Some students counted how many girls are in the school and how many boys are in the school. There are 83 girls and 49 boys so there are 63% girls and 37% boys.

In history we are learning about early humans and their needs. We also made Pawpaw ice cream and we shared it with the whole school.

This year we are using handwriting books instead of individual pages and we think they are better. We also switched from spelling a list of words 3 times--now we just spell it once or twice and do the rest on Moby Max.

One of the activities on Friday is cheer and we are learning lots of cool tricks and jumps. Also on Fridays, Ashleigh is teaching hand sewing, Barbara teaches us jump rope, and Todd is teaching percussion.

By Jovie and Bella



Skye and Piper



Bella M chooses crocheting for choice work.



Lochlan with sheep at Learning Tree Farms



Myron, Caroline, Skye, and Bella show off their hats for Hat day.



Leilani on a tire swing at Learning Tree Farms

What a full and fun month for the Owls!

This month, in three groups, students have been able to go to Learning Tree Farms for fall fun. While there, kids interacted with the farm animals like sheep and chickens, had the chance to pick a pumpkin to bring home, and enjoyed some farm obstacle courses and play time. Field trips are a fun way to expand one's learning in tactile, sensory, and explorative ways. When able, the Owls will take trips to further their understanding about a topic they've been working with, or to kick off a new unit. As you know, life in the world is full of different experiences so we are glad to set up opportunities for students to find ways to engage in and out of the classroom!

Owls also had the chance to use the native pawpaw fruit for the whole school! Nightingale grows Pawpaws and so, partnered with work around nomadic gatherers in history, we used pawpaws to make homemade ice cream for students! All Owls had the chance to participate in the work, from processing the pawpaws, to making the ice cream base-- it was a tasty way to try a new food to many, and explore our understanding of native foods. We hope to find more ways to partner our learning with play along with different senses in the Owl pod.

Owls



Lily and Levi picking pumpkins

The French Corner: Telling The Time In French

Bonjour!

In French, time is usually expressed using the 24 - hour clock, especially in writing.

To ask the time, you say "Quelle heure est - il?"

To answer the question, start with "Il est...." followed by the number of hours and minutes.

Examples :

Il est - eel ay

It's one o' clock.....Il est une heure (eel ay uhn uhr)

It's three o' clock.....Il est trois heures (eel ay twahz uhr)

It's five PM.....Il est dix-sept heures (eel ay dee-set uhr)

Please note:

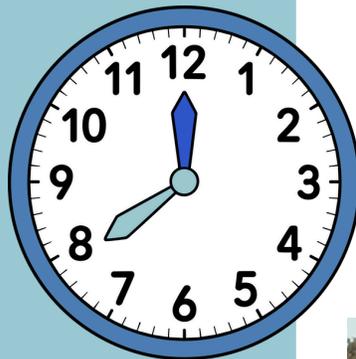
Quarter pastEt quart (eh kahr)

Half past.....Et demie (eh duh-mee)

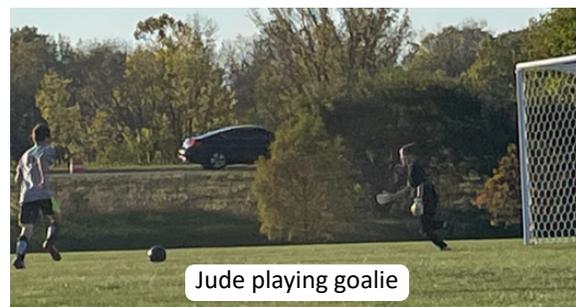
Quarter to.....Moins le quart (mwan - luh kahr)

Tip: Use the 24 - hour clock for schedules (like trains or tv shows) and the 12 - hour clock in conversation.

À bientôt!



River and a Falcon classmate work together to saw a log



Jude playing goalie



River and her sister at dance and MMA



Jace and Noah playing football for Springfield City Schools

Partners for Sports--pt. 1

JaMiyah Chapman plays soccer out of Vandalia, Ohio's Parks and Recreation. The season is drawing to an end but the tournaments are starting up soon.

Noah Clark and **Jace Keyton** are playing on the 8th grade football team for Roosevelt Middle School, part of Springfield City Schools. The team also has former student Amontay King. The middle school football program is divided into two teams: a sixth and seventh grade/eighth grade team. This year the younger team won all their games and took the Greater Western Ohio League, GWOL, championship.

Za'ryiah Jordan, **Nemariah Clark**, and **Ka'myiah Jordan** all play softball here in Springfield. They span 12U up to 15U, which are two different leagues. Their games are played at Vernon Murphy park in their Baseball Association. They are also trying out for the Wildcats basketball this fall.

Jude Westfall wrapped up his soccer season recently at the Eagle City Complex in Springfield. **Kamia Perriere** hits the tennis courts in Dayton and **Ben Ault** has been sharpening his skills in Tae Kwon Do this season.

Jaleeya Rice is a part of the Behind the Curtain Dance group. They are stationed in Springfield and they perform at the Kuss Auditorium. The recital is in June every year. She was supported last year by Guyia and Sophia, her teachers from the Owls.

River Blair dances with Ohio Performing Arts Institute in Springfield. They are a local non-profit dance school. They put on the annual *Nutcracker* at the Kuss Auditorium, as well as many other performances throughout the year—past shows include *Cats: YAE* and *The Spongebob Musical*. River takes ballet, tap, and contemporary classes. She is also taking martial arts lessons at Storm MMA in Springfield. She just moved up to the Blue-1 belt.

Falcons



Westheimer Peace Symposium at Wilmington College

Falcons and Wings were invited by Falcon parent, Dr. Tanya Maus, to the Westheimer Peace Symposium at Wilmington College. Dr. Maus is the Director of the Peace Resource Center and the Quaker Heritage Center. August Lockett-Maus is a first year Falcon, after moving up from the Owls, and the family has been a wonderful addition to our community. The theme of the symposium was Practicing Art, Practicing Nuclear Abolition. A mix of Falcons and Wings traveled to Wilmington College for the day where students got a taste of life on a college campus. We navigated the beautiful campus and attended various classes taught by peace leaders from around the nation.

Our classes and teachers included the following amazing sessions where we joined with other learners to not only listen but participate in the conversations:

- A Nuclear Podcast for the Future-Libbe HaLevy
- Embodied Theater for Nuclear Citizens-Queen Zabriskie
- Reflecting on our Lives and Deaths in a Nuclear Age-Jasmine Owens
- Capturing the Sun: Nuclear Abolition Photography- elin O'hara slavick
- Songwriting for the Nuclear Age- Bob Lucas and Chris Westhoff
- A Legacy of Cranes-World Friendship Center

Students engaged in dramatic skits, songwriting, podcasting, cyanotype photography, and folding paper cranes. The mind body connection was emphasized as a mechanism for learning and healing social and historical traumas. Thank you Wilmington College. Thank you to the Peace Resource Center. Thank you Dr. Maus. Thank you for helping us to conceptualize what a peaceful world might look like and steps we can take to get there.

Spirit Week!



Twin Day!



Serenity dressed as Tasha for "Dress Like a Teacher Day" during Spirit Week.



Noah as Marty



Lily as Jayne



The students didn't get to have ALL of the fun! The Falcon team dressed as students, too!





Wyatt, Joey, and Jack at the Springfield 2051 event

Springfield 2051

Wyatt, Shay, Jack, and Joseph attended an interesting conference on the future of Springfield in 2051. The conference was a mix of presentations and discussions about how current-day residents hope to see Springfield change by the milestone year of 2051, which will mark the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Springfield by American James Demint in 1801. Our students were able to think through and discuss the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for Springfield over the next 25 years and beyond. For more information on the project or to get involved in future Springfield 2051 events, see www.springfield2051.com.

Service Work at the Gammon House

The Wings were honored to get involved over the past couple of weeks with the Gammon House Underground Railroad Historic Landmark for our service Thursdays. The Gammon House was owned by George and Sarah Gammon, who, as free people of color, risked everything by providing a safe house on the Underground Railroad journey from southern states to the north. The Gammon House organization has developed a wonderful outdoor space with the intent to eventually have edible plants that those escaping slavery would have eaten to sustain their journey. This goal matches our ecology goals of spreading sustainable food sources and native plants across the community. We planted apple and pear trees, hazelnuts, a pawpaw tree, and an oak. We hope to continue the partnership in the spring to help the organization grow this aspect of their work. The organization has great plans to continue the Gammon legacy and expand the educational capacity of the Historic Landmark. For more information, check out www.gammonhouse.org. This service work has coincided with the Wing American History class contending with the issues of liberty, slavery, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction era, offering our students a truly unique learning experience. History students are deciding for themselves, after considering multiple sources, how they think our government handled issues of liberty, equality, and the complex needs of Southern Reconstruction. In our history class, our goal is for each student to decide what they think about a given subject (usually a controversial one with modern implications) while leaving room for more evidence to potentially change their mind. We hope that each student has a flexible mindset that allows them to take in new information and never feel that they are so certain about something that they can permanently dismiss anyone as inferior. This leaves open a pathway for peace in all situations.



Kailee and Aurelia assist with landscaping at the Gammon House.



Wing service trip to the Gammon House

Wings

Date: 10/15/25
 Time: 10:31
 Temp: 57°
 Weather: Sunny/Wet
 Location: The Woods

- What types of leaves are they?

- I Reminds me that it is actually fall time.



Yellowish Orange

- When did they fall?
 - When did they start to change color?

- Colors: Yellow and Red

10-13-25, 8AM
 2525 s limestone
 50 degrees
 Sunny

~~Plant~~ Plant Yarrow

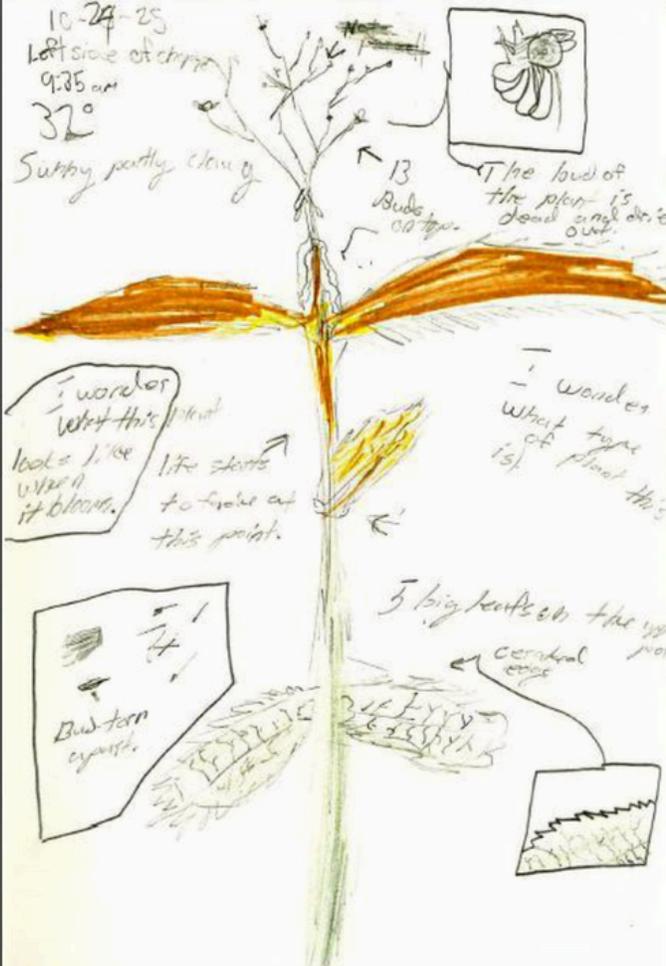


noticed the red budding pebbles, very small, but plentiful.

It reminds me of the tip of a makeup brush, thin, pointed leaves.

larger leaves at Base.

10-24-25
 Left side of campus
 9:35 am
 32°
 Sunny, partly cloudy



13 Buds on top.

The bud of the plant is dead and dry.

I wonder what this is? It looks like what it blooms.

I wonder what type of plant this is? It looks like what it blooms.

5 big buds on the top

central buds

Bud torn away.

October Nature Journal entries



Alex and Jazlyn take a break from service at Buck Creek State Park

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

