

# World Academy

## October 2011 *Change is good!*

We had a few days two weeks ago that felt like fall. The sun was shining, but the air was cold enough that I had a sweatshirt on all weekend. As I always do, I started thinking about lavish meals to cook and wonderfully rich desserts to go along with them...and worrying about holiday shopping - of all things! My family laughed openly at my hibernation instinct and unnecessary anxiety.

The weather came and went and the summer has proven since then that it's not ready to go quite yet, but the fall weekend had me excited. It's always been my favorite season, and even though it's spring that's typically related to new beginnings and fresh starts, it's really fall that always makes me think of change, and in a good way.

At World Academy and for school-aged students and their families everywhere, the correlation I feel with fall and change isn't mine alone. The new school year has students excited about friendships, field trips, goals and brand-new, never-before-had experiences. For many of us as parents it admittedly brings relief with the return of structure after a summer schedule that can be even more to manage than a busy school year! It can also be a bittersweet time, that somehow faster than we'd ever imagined advance from grade to grade. "I can't believe she's already in..." and the grade that fills in that blank gets harder to believe every year.

No matter whether the new school year means all excitement, a sad farewell to a favorite season or a

bittersweet mix, it does definitely mean change for our school community as a whole. This school year, World Academy is excited about graduating it's first class of Eighth Graders, we welcome a host of new families with students from Infancy through the Middle School, begin the work of constructing two new buildings and settle into the fall and the rhythm of school with the typical new schedules, new policies, new plans and new ideas to help shape our days.

If all this change sounds tiring, it is! The positive changes at World Academy, of all kinds, are made successful by what is a truly hundreds of people-large community made up of our staff, families, extended families, advisory board, construction team, community supporters and dozens more whose efforts and interest contribute to the quality of World Academy's programs. But change is also an exciting, positively contagious and encompassing energy in itself. The constant, unending focus on and effort to keep World Academy progressive and it's programs relevant to the ever-changing needs of our students and families is such a rewarding one that each success motivates our whole community to work further toward that goal.

A similar version of this same comprehensive, self-inspiring cycle is evident in the engaged, animated and independent -thinking students of every age at World Academy. With all the change in the air this fall, and the careful work of the staff here to ensure that it is all positive for our students, there is no greater reassurance that we continue to move in the right direction than their happy conversations, eager to learn attitudes and smiling participation in all their classes and activities. They're taking all this change in stride, not just the changes throughout the school, but their own new classes, teachers and schedules, their friendships, their student council officers and even their new school name! In this month's newsletter, our teachers interviewed our students to ask them their thoughts on the return to the school year. Please enjoy their responses!

Jenny Smith

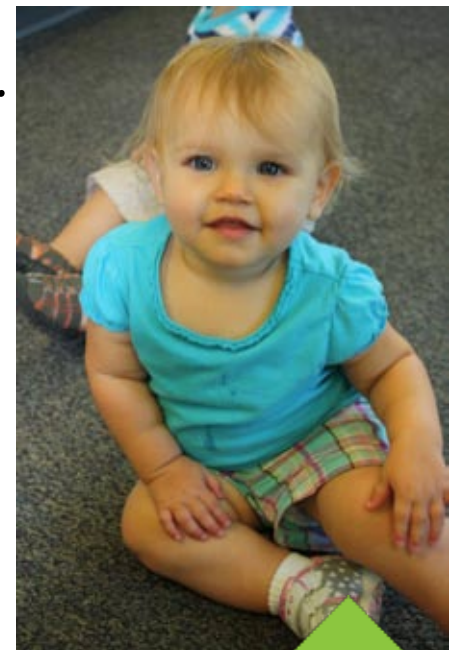


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# Older Infants

## Shaking things up!

Change is good, but sometimes routine is helpful, too! Your required cup of coffee or afternoon snack...The Older Infants are just like the rest of us in the morning - in need of a good stretch! Some wiggling, shaking and bouncing is helpful too (although not advised for all!). Miss Erica, Miss Lindsay and Miss Fiina know just how to get the day off to a great start with the Older Infant's Daily Dance Party. It gets every morning off to a rockin' good start! Sometimes it's slow to get going, but with a little encouragement...



we boogie right down...to the ground!

# Preschool Threes Fun & Games

## Back to school is so cool!

Especially when you're three! Ms. Lisa and Ms. Allison's Three Year Old Class took a poll to see just what is the coolest thing about school this year!

Kaylee - "Playing with the bus!"

Vicki - "Shaking and Dancing!"

Vibha - "The bus - driving the bus!"

Joe - "I have two things; riding on the bus and shaking and dancing!"

Noah - "The BUS!"

Ben - "I like shaking and dancing!"

Becca - "The bus! Singing 'The Wheels on the Bus!'"

Brooke - "When teachers read books."

Abhinav - "Driving the bus!"

Jameson - "Abhinav!"

Owen - "The Boat"

Karthik - "Playing!"



## Different but the same!

Ms. Cait and Ms. Tara's Preschool Threes were asked what they liked best about school and fall - and while they were happy to answer, their thoughts weren't particularly seasonal. Guess these kids are just happy all year long!

"Playing with toys and gym class. Sign language and Music & Movement with Miss Lindsay. Painting, playing outside and 'Going on a Bear Hunt!'"



**Covering all the bases!** Miss Danielle and Miss Amy's Three Year Olds have a lot going on. Some of the class has already noticed the leaves changing on the trees. Other have started to work to spell their names and learn other new concepts, and all are excited about their new classes in Music & Movement, Physical Education and Sign Language! Many parents are excited about one particular change - from diapers to underwear their Three Year Olds have conquered potty training! Change is GOOD!

# PreSchool Fours Unique Perspectives



Miss Jackie and Miss Tracy's Four Year Olds have a lot to say about change. Some noted that change can mean "changing the baby's diaper!" Others say change is helpful, some that it's scary. Some of the Funky Monkeys think change is good because:  
You can change your room!  
You can change your toys!  
You can change the puzzle you play with and you can watch trucks change!"

The Funky Monkeys are really enjoying all the changes at our school right now. They've had a front row view of so much happening right outside their room, and even got a chance to talk to the construction crew about their work. Change is fun!





# Emergent Kindergarten Looking ahead!

**The Emergent  
Kindergarten Class -  
settling in, ramping up!**

The Emergent Kindergarten Class really does tackle everything with all the energy and excitement you see here! They're tackling their their jobs and lessons in the classroom, enjoying Technology, Gym, Music and Sign Language each week and looking forward to Parlee Farms next week! They've welcomed Ms. Kaylee and got right down to work in the classroom - working up quite the appetite!



# Discovery Program

## Discovering Our Spot!

### Change it up!

Discovery Threes and Fours are busy exploring their new classroom and school. They have made a wonderful transition from home to school and we are looking forward to the school year! Some of the four year olds expressed that they are enjoying their outside time, center play, learning about apples and music class with Mrs. Collins.



### Musing about Music Classes in October by Mrs. Collins

Throughout our Musical “World”, it is evident...  
Autumn breezes and colors are ablaze  
The students create and amaze.  
The children sing and sign, and clap then pat,  
Soon we’ll see spiders, bats, pumpkins and a little black cat.  
Stories are captivating and thrilling,  
Because, our sounds are fun and chilling.  
Hurry, hurry, hurry along with the howling breeze,  
For soon, Old Jack Frost will cause us to freeze.

Peer Leadership, Conflict Resolution and Character Education,

Have us all working together to study and play with thoughtful reflection.  
Activities and songs deliver messages dear,

## Music Program

### Change your tune



To everyone willing to lend an ear.

Older students are reading & writing, while others, their guitars are strumming,  
The piano is melodic while the choruses rehearse, part and unison, harmonic humming.  
Personal music scores will be a delightful journey as we notate with passion and reason  
During this breezy, freezy, colorful autumn season.





# Kindergarten

## New words and fresh air!

### “Bear-y good start for Kindergarten!”

The Kindergarten learned new words with a bear theme, read stories about bears, then practiced their sorting, graphing, weighing and measuring skills using their bears. The celebratory “Teddy Bear Picnic” was a sweet finale!

### Let the Good Times Roll!

Not a group to ever let the fun die down, the Kindergarten got together and headed over to Parlee Farms for apple and pumpkin picking this morning and all were energized and ready to burn some steam on the playground upon their return!

1. Now that you’re a Kindergartner what is different?

- More writing
- Homework
- Shorter nap times
- Big cubbies

2. What is the best thing about coming back to school when summer ends?

- Getting to see all my friends
- Muffins Miss Cindy makes
- Meeting my new teacher

3. What have you already learned this year in school?

- The sounds of all the letters!
- How to make a lower case ‘a’
- The months of the year
- Bear facts

3. What is your favorite thing our class has done together?

- Practiced writing our upper and lower case letters in shaving cream
- Made an alphabet book
- Sings silly songs
- Reads fun books
- Teddy Bear Picnic

5. What has changed about you since last year?

- Taller
- Less teeth
- New class

### “Hands on” Learning!

Mrs. Tucker’s Kindergarten Class found practicing their letters with shaving cream a far more fun writing experience than traditional pencils and paper!



## Math on the Move!

First Graders in Mrs. Guidoboni's class have a lot of work to do. But their favorite thing to shake up the day is the Visual Learning Animations that keep them "moving" right through their new math curriculum!



## Elementary Elements of Change



**Science Rocks in 2nd grade!** We've started our unit on rocks and we're having a "rocking great time!"

**Wow!** When the volcano erupted it exploded everywhere, it was just awesome and the best experiment ever! It's not stopping here, we have made "igneous" pops, making edible conglomerates, and watching crystals grow when we make rock candy! We all agree, We love science!

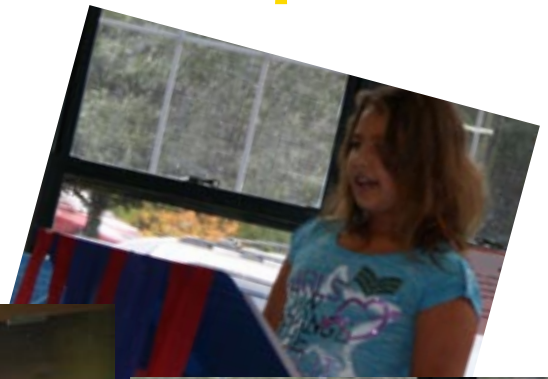
## Feeling good about Fall!

The beginning of Third Grade is an exciting time. Mrs. Webber is so proud of the way the Third Graders work together, help each other, and respect one another. Observing the signs of Autumn, they are in the midst of writing a descriptive paragraph about this season. Some students share their favorite things about Fall are: Adele-Halloween Gio-Harvesting vegetables Gabrielle-Picking pumpkins and carving them into Jack-o-lanterns Nathan-Making leaf piles and jumping in them Hannah-Going apple picking with family Aya-Going to the farms and Corn Mazes Sarah Becker-Leaves changing colors Robbie-School, Football, and Hockey starting Ishika-Making candy apples Sarah St. Lawrence-Making apple pie and pumpkin pie Madison-Dipping apples into



# Student Council Speeches

## Forward Thinking



### **Now that you're a 4th grader, what is different?**

Fourth grade is quite different... We are in the Annex, and it is a great place to learn. We are transported to the main building for lunch and specialists. We also get to use our lap tops every single day... It is awesome!

### **What is the best thing about coming back to school when summer ends?**

Learning... Snack cart... Running for a Student Council office... Seeing friends... Using my computer

### **What have you already learned this year in school?**

We have learned lots of things: how to count back change like a cashier, reading decimals, doing rounding sandwiches, typing, learning all the states in the Northeast Region of the USA, and problem solving using lists.

### **What is your favorite thing our class has done together?**

We loved working together to make a scarecrow to enter the contest at Dr. Todd's office. Our class decided to make Medusa. Every week we are helping each other add on to our digital portfolios... Every student is creating one in PowerPoint.

### **What has changed about you since last year?**

All the 4th graders are smarter, more mature, and more responsible!

