

# Fountain Valley Montessori

January 2016

“Growth is not merely a harmonious increase in size, but a transformation.” ~ Dr. Maria Montessori

## **Important Dates:**

### **Winter Break (School Closed)**

Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

### **Martin Luther King Jr. Day (School Closed)**

Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>

### **Islands Family Night**

Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>

### **Progress Reports Distributed**

Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>

### **Happy Birthday...**

Ms. Alecia...24<sup>th</sup>

**Sees Candies Fundraiser:** Thank you to all the families who participated in our See's Candies Fundraiser and for making it such a success. Thank you to our PTU President Cierra Orellana for heading up this event. A special thank you to all the teachers who helped sort the candy.

**Holiday Program:** Thank you to everyone who attended the Holiday Programs. We had so much fun and we hope you enjoyed watching your children! It was great to share the holiday season with everyone. A special thank you to Ms. Woo for the fabulous music selections!

**International Potluck:** Thank you to all the families who participated in our International Potluck. The children enjoyed tasting so many different dishes from around the world!

**Extra Clothing:** Please make sure your child has enough extra clothing in case of accidents. Thank you!

**Child Files and Email:** Please make sure to check your child's file folder daily, as well as check your emails regularly to ensure you are kept up to date with notes and emails from the office or teachers. Please see the office if you need to update your email information.

**Morning Drop Off/Afternoon Pick up:** Classes start promptly at **9:00am** and conclude at **12:00pm** for our **half day students** and **3:00pm** for our **full day students**. There is a 15 minute grace period during morning drop-off. We encourage all students to be dropped off during the grace period, to ensure a smooth transition into their school day. Please note, if utilizing this grace period or dropping your child off on the playgrounds in the morning, please ensure that your goodbyes are short and sweet. If you are running a little late, please enter the class quietly when dropping your child off in class.

If you require afternoon daycare for your child, this must be pre-arranged with the office. **We do offer occasional daycare at the rate of \$15.00/hr., which will automatically be billed to your account if your child is picked up after 3:15pm.** However, we do require that you call ahead and let us know, so that we can make sure that we are within ratio.

**Cold and Flu Season:** The cold and flu Season is here! Please follow our school illness policy to ensure our children and staff stay healthy. Please keep all ill children home. If a child becomes ill at school or has a fever, the parent will be called to pick up their child. Children must be picked up by a parent or authorized contact within **30 minutes** of notification. Children must be home for 24 hours or until all symptoms are gone. Please keep your child home if:

-They have had a fever, diarrhea or have been vomiting within the last 24 hours.

-A persistent cough and/or nasal drainage that's colored.

-They have an infectious or communicable disease without a doctor's release. (Please see your parent handbook for more information.)



**Facebook and Website:** Like us on Facebook! We post updates and pictures from recent events.

Visit us at [fvmontessori.com](http://fvmontessori.com) for the newsletter, calendar, etc.

**Room 1- Ms. Paula & Mr. Jason:** Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season! We wish all the families of Fountain Valley Montessori a happy and peaceful New Year!

In the month of December, we explored places of interest in Antarctica, the animals of Antarctica, and the Antarctic Treaty.

We are sure that you enjoyed the December holiday show performed by the movie stars of room one. We extend our sincere gratitude for your thoughtfulness and gift giving during the holiday season. Ms. Paula appreciated the acknowledgement of her birthday which was truly a pleasant surprise.

For the month of January, we will be covering the continent of Europe. We will learn about the European culture, study the map, and flags. We will learn about the animals that are indigenous to Europe.

In Science, we will be making frost and exploring liquids. In Zoology, we will be learning about parts of the fish.

In Spanish, we will learn the names for clothes as well as revise what we have learned throughout the year. In Music, we will be listening to the Beatles. In Art, we will be learning about the Impressionist, George Seurat.

As always, we are here for your child and you. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of us or send an email to [paula@fvmontessori.com](mailto:paula@fvmontessori.com)

Happy Birthday: Alexa T. - 5<sup>th</sup>     Matthew V. - 7<sup>th</sup>  
Koa E. - 19<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 2- Ms. Kelli and Ms. Josie:** Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed the winter break!

A huge thank you to all for your involvement in December! We had such a wonderful and fun month! The children had so much fun with all the art projects. They had a great time with our international potluck and they also loved our book exchange! Thank you for thinking of us during the holiday season!

We kick off the New Year with a journey through Europe. We will be learning about the different landmarks, flags, and types of animals that live there. We will also talk about the people living in different countries throughout Europe. We will continue our unit study of the water cycle and discuss El Niño.

In Science, we will be learning about the parts and the lifecycle of the fish. Our Artist of the month will be George Seurat. We will focus on his dot art method. Our Musician will be learning about Michael Jackson. We will listen to his music throughout the month. In Spanish will be continuing with the days of the week and months of the year.

**Friendly Reminders:**

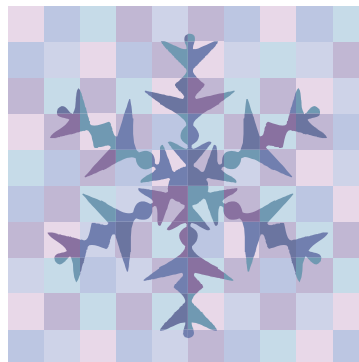
Please remember class start at 9:00am. It is important that children don't miss out on morning circle, since this is an important part to our day. If you are late, please drop your child off by the cubbies and Ms. Josie or I will help your child to circle.

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**Room 3- Ms. Alecia and Ms. Christine:** Happy New Year! We hope everyone enjoyed their holiday break and we can't wait to dive into the January! Our Holiday Show was amazing and the children were so excited to perform for you. Thank you all for coming! The book exchange was a big hit; all the children loved participating in it. Thank you all so much for thinking about Ms. Christine and I during your holiday shopping. We really appreciate all of your kindness!

For the month of January we will be traveling to the continent of Europe where we will be studying the beautiful and historic architecture, popular landmarks, and talk about the people and animals of the continent. Our unit of study will be the water cycle. We will also be learning all about parts of a turtle.

In Spanish, we will learn words for classroom items. We will be studying Henri Matisse as our artist of the month. Our composer will be Franz Peter Schubert. We will also be learning about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and have a fun art project planned.

Reminders:

- \* Please check you parent files on a daily basis.
- \* It's getting colder outside! Please check your child's extra clothing to ensure they have everything they need in case of an accident, and please make sure the clothes are appropriate for the weather change as well.

Happy Birthday: Shane P. -24<sup>th</sup> Ms. Alecia -24<sup>th</sup>  
Major S.-30<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 4- Ms. Riza and Ms. Angela:** Happy New Year and welcome back to school! I hope that everyone had a restful holiday and that the year 2016 will continue to bring peace, love, joy, happiness and good health to all of you.

Our holiday shop was a huge success! Thank you to all FVM students for shopping and for supporting our shop each year. Our Holiday Program was fun and fabulous. All the students did a marvelous job with their part as well as singing all the songs! I hope that you enjoyed watching our performance as much as we enjoyed presenting them to you. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the goodies and gift cards we received over the holidays.

For the month of January, all students will be learning about the continent of Europe. We will study the countries, landmarks, food, and culture. This month, all students will begin learning about the U.S. Presidents and Biomes of the World. They will also work on the Time Line of Life. For Spanish, all students will be introduced to naming the different musical instruments. We will be listening to the music of the Beatles as well as learn the parts of a guitar. Our artist for the month is Pablo Picasso.

In connection with the U.S. Presidents lesson this month, all students will begin researching about their favorite U.S. President. Please look for the letter that will be placed in your child's file soon. Lastly, if you have any questions about this project, please feel free to speak with one of us. We will also publish our first "FVM Monthly", our very own newspaper written, compiled, and edited by the children of Room 4. We will also introduce the concept of a debate to teach them how to argue for or against a topic. Be on the lookout for more information.

Happy Birthday: Matthew T. - 13<sup>th</sup> Melissa W.-  
26<sup>th</sup> Zoe N.- 26<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 5- Ms. Gloria and Ms. Bea:** Welcome back! We hope that everyone had a restful and joyous time during the holidays! Ms. Bea and I would like to wish everyone at FVM a happy and prosperous New Year! May 2016 be filled with joy, love and peace throughout the year!

We like to start the year by being thankful to everyone for all the gifts and gift cards that we were showered with during December. We are very appreciative of your love and generosity.

In January, the children will explore the continent of Asia and learn about the major countries and their geographic location. Being a native of Sri Lanka, I will give the children a presentation on Sri Lanka and watch an educational documentary about the island, animals, food, clothes, language, art and other interesting facts the country has to offer. We will also learn about Land and Water Formations as well as parts of a volcano.

In Spanish, the children will learn about fruits. During January, we will listen to the great music of Elvis Presley. In Art, we will reproduce the "Lily Pond" by Claude Monet. The children will also learn about Dr. Martin Luther King.

Reminders:

- \* Please make sure your child has the proper extra clothing in their cubby.
- \* Please make sure all jackets are labeled with your child's name.

Happy Birthday: Esme – 16<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 6- Ms. Leah and Ms. Rasika:** What an eventful and festive month December was! Welcome back! We hope that everyone had a really wonderful holiday. Thank you to all the families who attended the Holiday Show. It really was a special night for the children. We had so much fun learning all about the holidays celebrated around the world as well as learning about penguins. Thank you for thinking of us during the holiday season!

During the month of January we will be learning all about Volcanoes in different parts of the world. We will be learning the names of shapes in Spanish.

In Geography we will be traveling to the continent of Europe where we will be studying the beautiful and historic architecture! The children will enjoy learning about the animals, people, and culture of this beautiful continent. In Botany, we will be studying the parts of a root.

In Art, we will be studying George Seurat. In Music we will be enjoying the sounds of Aretha Franklin.

Reminders:

- \* Please replenish your child's set of extra clothes also,
- \* Please remember school starts promptly at 9:00am.

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**Room 7- Ms. Jamie, Ms. Lindsay, and Ms. Alicia:**

Welcome back to school in the year 2016! We hope you had a safe and wonderful winter break with your families. During the month of December, we really felt the spirit of the season in Room 7. The children had fun making their art projects, participating in the book exchange and learning about the different holidays celebrated at this time of year. I hope you enjoyed our holiday show and getting to know other families in the classroom. We would like to thank all the families for being so generous to us during the Holiday season. We really felt the love.

Ready, Set, Go! In the month of January our unit of study will be transportation. The children will be learning about the many different ways we travel around. We will be working on many art projects this month, which will include hot air balloons and the very popular trains and much more!

**Reminders:**

`Please make sure your child has two sets of extra warm clothes and a jacket at school since we have been experiencing cold temperatures during the day!

`Please remember school starts at 9:00 a.m. If you are running late, please send your child into the classroom quietly so as not to disrupt our morning circle.

Spanish: We will be learning about transportation

Color of the month: Green

Book of the month: Chugga Chugga Coo Choo

Song of the month: Wheels on the bus

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