

Fountain Valley Montessori

September 2017

"We must support as much as possible the child's desire for activity; not wait on him, but educate him to be independent." ~
Dr. Maria Montessori

Important Dates:

Monday, September 4th

School Closed in Observance of Labor Day

Tuesday, September 5th

First Day of the Academic
School Year

Monday, September 11th –

Friday, September 15th

Scholastic Book Fair

Tuesday, September 12th

School Closes at 4:00pm

Back to School Night 5:30-6:30pm **(Parents Only)**

Happy Birthday...

Ms. Gloria- 6th Ms. Yasmin- 28th

From the Director: Fountain Valley Montessori is thrilled for the 2017-2018 school year! On behalf of the staff, we are privileged that you have chosen Fountain Valley Montessori to be the place where your child spends their days learning, growing and making childhood memories that will last them a lifetime!

Toy Policy: In keeping with our "No Toy" Policy, we ask that all children leave toys at home. Share items can be pictures pertaining to our unit of study or something special from a trip. Talking shares; in which your child tells their friends about a special vacation, etc. are always welcome too!

Extra Clothing: Please bring two extra sets of clothing (including socks and underwear) to leave in your child's cubby.



Checking your Child In and Out: As you know, signing your child in and out each day is a function mandated by the State of California. Each person who has your permission to drop off or pick up your child on a regular basis must register their OWN door code and fingerprint. This acts as an electronic signature. Throughout the year, reasons do arise that you may have someone pick-up your child who may or may not be on your "authorized pick-up list. Please fill out a pink authorization slip from the office for these situations. Also, please ensure that they have a picture ID. Children will not be released to anyone without your prior permission.

Morning Drop-Off and Afternoon Pick up: Classes start promptly at 9:00am and concludes 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.

Parent/ School Communication: Good communication between school and home truly enhances your child's learning experience. Each child has a file folder on top of the cubbies in their classroom. Please check these folders daily. This is where parents will find information regarding activities, newsletters, and any other pertinent information. In addition, please routinely check your email for classroom and school updates. Please note each classroom also has a parent board with recent letters, reminders, and daily information.

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

Visit us at fvmontessori.com for the newsletter, calendar, etc.

A Reminder about Our Illness Policy: Children may not attend school with a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, discolored mucus, or any other infectious illness. If a child is sent home from school, he/she must be symptom free for a complete 24 hours before returning to school. For example, if a child is sent home at 1:30pm, their 24 hour period would end at 1:30pm the following day. FVM reserves the right to request a doctor's note for any child who is sent home.

In order for us to administer medication that is prescribed by a physician, you must complete the Medicine Log and give all medications to the front office. The medication must have the doctor's prescription sticker on it.

A Note about Tuition: Tuition is due on the 15th of every month prior to attendance (i.e. October tuition is due on September 15th, November tuition is due on October 15th, etc). All Tuition Express accounts will be debited on the 15th of each month. If tuition is not received by the 20th of the month, a \$50.00 late charge will automatically be applied to your account.

Snack and Our Low-Sugar Policy: As part of the children's Practical Life activities, each classroom has a monthly snack host/hostess sign-up calendar. This will allow the children to experience the full process of creating a meal: shopping, preparing, and serving. Each month please see the snack sign-up sheets located outside each classroom door. Please plan on serving 24 children and adhere to our "low sugar" policy. Please remember when signing up for classroom snack to bring at least two food groups. Also, please make sure items are pre-washed. Individually packaged or pre-distributed items are greatly appreciated. Please also note that we do not serve anything with peanuts for any group meal.

Parking Lot: Please remember to drive slowly in the parking lot. There are a lot of children crossing the parking lot and getting in and out of cars during drop-off and pick-up. For your safety, we also encourage parents to keep their purses or other valuables with them at all times. Please refrain from using your cell phones while inside or directly outside the FVM doors as this is cause for distractions. The children are our number one concern, as they are yours. Please help keep our children safe!

Room 1- Ms. Britney & Ms. Jahaira: Hello to all new and returning families! Welcome to Room 1! We had a fun filled summer and enjoyed many activities hosted

Staff Emails: Email is a great way to connect with your child's teacher, ask a quick question, or ask for an update. Below are the lead and assistant teachers' emails. Staff will be checking their email daily and will be using email to communicate with parents, updating you on events occurring in the classroom or at school.

Room 1-
Ms. Britney... britney@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Jahaira... jahaira@fvmontessori.com

Room 2-
Ms. Lindsay... lindsay@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Josie... josie@fvmontessori.com

Room 3-
Ms. Samantha... samantha@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Christine... christine@fvmontessori.com

Room 4-
Ms. Paula... paula@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Neranja... neranja@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Yasmin... yasmin@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Nikki... nikki@fvmontessori.com

Room 5-
Ms. Gloria... gloria@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Alicia... alenhart@fvmontessori.com

Room 6-
Ms. Rasika... rasika@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Bea... bea@fvmontessori.com

Room 7-
Ms. Kelli... kelli@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Allize... allize@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Nicole... nclaypool@fvmontessori.com

Director-
Ms. Sneha... sneha@fvmontessori.com

Director of Admissions-
Ms. Ashley... ashley@fvmontessori.com

Office Assistant-
Ms. Sara... sara@fvmontessori.com

by our amazing school. Ms. Jahaira and I are so excited to begin the 2017-2018 school year.

For the month of September we will be focusing on "All About Me". We will be learning about the various parts of our body, how to express emotions and feelings, as well as exploring our senses around the classroom. This is going to be a great time to begin normalizing the children into the classroom environment. We will be giving lessons on grace and courtesy as well as Practical Life. This will help the children with the basic skills like pushing/pulling in/out our chairs, setting up and cleaning up our own lunches, showing courtesy and manners in the classroom environment, and getting to know our classmates. We will also begin studying the parts of an apple!

In Geography, we will be learning about land and water. We will be exploring water and dirt, as well as using land and water tray to identify the difference between an island, peninsula, and bay!

We are excited to have Ms. Woo back for our fun music class every week! Our artist of the month will be Paul Cezanne and we will be making some fun representations of his art! Our musician of the month will be Adele.

We look forward to seeing all parents at our Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 12th. During this time we will have the opportunity to meet with you, talk about our class and curriculum, and answer any questions you may have.

Friendly reminders: Class starts promptly at 9:00am. Please drop off your child on the playground at 8:45am so they have a chance to interact with their peers. This will help your child normalize faster. It is very important that you child arrives on time so he/she can participate fully in the program. Also remember to check your child's folder daily for important updates and reminders.

If you have any questions, please email me at Britney@fvmontessori.com.

Happy Birthday: Katelynn W.-10th Samuel B.-26th

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Room 2- Ms. Lindsay & Ms. Josie: It has been a great summer and we are looking forward to the 2017-2018 school year. We can't wait to jump into all the new adventures with your children. The children had a great time over the summer and especially enjoyed our in-house field trips. Some favorites included the petting zoo, the insects and birds, and having water day with Kona Ice every Friday.

In the month of September we will be learning "All About Me"! The children will be learning about the Human Body and different characteristics like hair color, eye color, and skin. We will talk about what we want to be when we get older, what our favorite foods are, and what we love to do at home. We have many fun projects in store. Along with "All About Me" we will be learning about Apples. The children will learn about the life cycle of an apple and will even be painting with apples. We will also taste the many varieties of apples and we will be charting our favorite ones.

In Geography, we will be starting off the year by learning about the hemispheres of the earth. In Spanish we will be learning our colors. Our musician of the month will be Jack Johnson.

Along with our units of study, we will be focusing on normalizing the classroom. . I will be giving lessons on Grace and Courtesy as well as Practical Life. This will help the children learn how to walk around the circle, how to push in our chairs, carry the trays at work time, rolling rugs and many more classroom aspects; along with getting to know each other and having fun

Reminders:

- Class starts promptly at 9:00am. It's nice if they come a little early so that they are able to play for awhile before we start our day.
- Please be sure to bring their bedding every Monday and take it home every Friday to be washed. Please make sure to include a crib sheet, small blanket, and child size pillow.
- Check your child's file folder and cubbies everyday for any important papers.
- Don't forget to sign your child up for snack and share day on the calendar outside the classroom door.

We are very excited to start our new adventure and thank you for intrusting your little ones with us. If you

have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to call after 3pm or e-mail anytime at Lindsay@fvmontessori.com

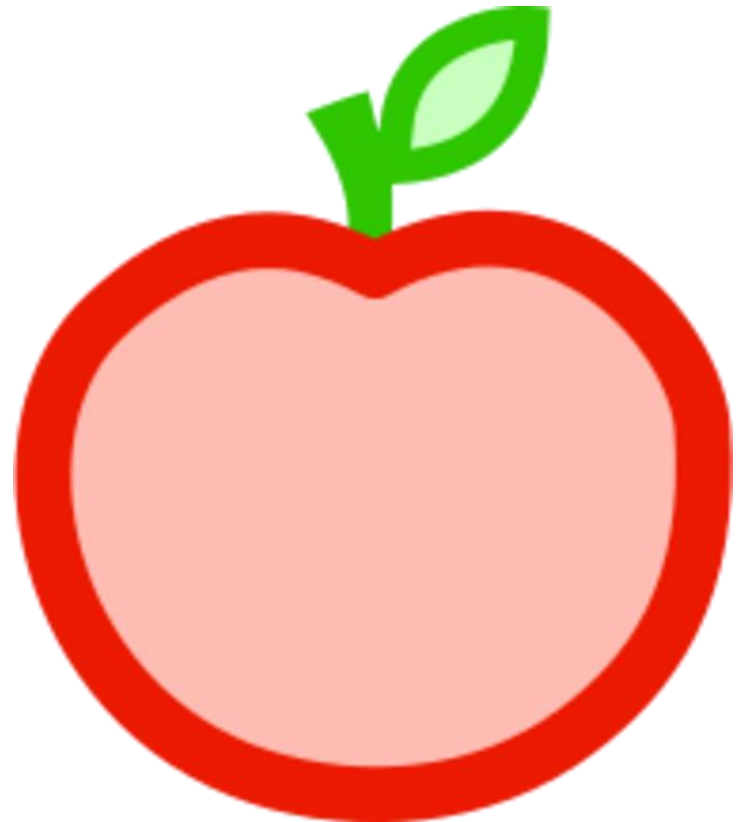
Happy Birthday: Sophie S.-5th Arush N.-25th

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Room 3- Ms. Samantha & Ms. Christine: We would like to welcome all our new and returning students and their families to an exciting new school year! A new beginning is always a time for adjusting and getting into the routine of school. September will be a busy month getting acquainted with our classroom environment, daily schedule, and getting to know each other. We will focus on setting a solid foundation for respecting one another with lessons on grace and courtesy as well as learning our classroom rules. Children will be introduced to different Montessori Materials as well as a variety of Practical Life exercises that will prepare them with life skills on their road to independence.

Our unit of study for this month is "All About Me". We will learn about each other and our families, our personal traits, favorite things we love to do, and we will have a fun nomenclature job of our body parts for the children to work on. Through Science & Botany we will study the parts of an apple tree, the lifecycle of an apple, different varieties of apples and the types of food made with apples. Our creative recipe of the month will be apple snails. In Geography, we will learn about the world we live in, and the names of the continents and oceans that surround us.

The artist of the month for September will be Paul Cezanne. We will be listening to the music of Ludwig Van Beethoven.

We will round up our studies by having discussions and supporting activities to help children understand each other's feelings and emotions as well as how they can contribute toward creating peace in the classroom by speaking kindly to one another. Focusing on having a peaceful classroom at the beginning of the year will generate a positive and safe learning environment. We are very excited to be your child's teachers and we look forward to educating and nurturing each one of our students.

Happy Birthday: Charles T. - 19th Kenneth M. - 27th

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Room 4- Ms. Paula & Ms. Yasmin: Welcome to another wonderful school year!

The Lower Elementary year is such an important psychological plane in your child's social and academic development. This is a year to lay the ground rules of the expectations that need to be internalized in order to be successful in their upcoming elementary years ahead. The work habits that are acquired in Lower Elementary will stay with them for a life time. It is an honor and privilege to educate your child and we look forward to working hand and hand with you towards your child's growth in leaps and bounds.

As we soar into a new school year, please remember that it is crucial for your child to arrive promptly by 9:00am. We welcome all students between 8:30am for quiet reading time. Pick up time is at 3:00pm. They are welcome to stay until 3:30pm if they have any work that needs to be completed. If you should need to pick up your child early, please inform the teacher or the office.

School supplies will be provided by FVM and will be distributed during the first week of school. These materials will be in your child's desk. The school policies and procedures does indicate that closed toed shoes should be worn daily. We would like to take this one step further, no pun intended! Please have your child wear shoes that fit properly and stay on their feet. Sneakers are always our first choice! Shoes can often become a distraction for the child, ie, taking on and off repeatedly. Because we do calisthenics and have playground time at recess, proper shoe wear is essential for their safety.

The cultural curriculum for lower elementary starts with the continents, and continues each month in depth. This gives the child the opportunity to see the world from a global concept and see how each culture contributes to the earth, and where we fit into the equation. In Physical Geography we will be covering land and water formations. In zoology we will teach about Living and Non-living, the five classifications of vertebrates and parts of the fish. In Botany we will be covering the characteristics of plants. Our artist of the month will be Van Gogh. In music we will be introducing the children to the music of Fleetwood Mac.

We look forward to seeing all the parents at Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 12th where we will go through the school year in depth.

Happy Birthday: Emiko S- 10th

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Room 4- Ms. Neranja & Ms. Yasmin: Welcome everyone to Upper Elementary! We are very excited about starting a new school year with all of our new and returning families and we hope everyone had a fantastic summer!

We have a full curriculum planned for the school year along with many activities and field trips that will compliment our studies. The children will be using extensive Montessori materials, allowing them not only to experience the depth and breadth of the curriculum, but also become more comfortable with their learning styles, thereby transition to more abstract thinking, relying more on books and other resource materials to strengthen their knowledge and understanding. This year we will be going over the Montessori Cosmic Education and the Five Great Lessons: one of the most important underlying principles of Montessori programs is cosmic education, an overall Montessori approach to education that involves helping children develop an awareness that everything in the universe is connected and interdependent and forms a harmonious whole and that they themselves are part of and contribute to that whole. Math, Language Arts, Reading Comprehension, Journal/creative Writing, Earth/Physical Science, Cultural, Economic/Physical Geography, History, Zoology and Botany to name a few, are incorporated into our extensive curriculum.

Here is our curriculum for the month:

Geography:

- a. Rotation of the Earth and its consequences
- b. California: Physical Features, Energy, Vegetation, Wildlife, Climate, Population Density, Architecture and Transportation.
- c. Work of Air: General Information on Wind Systems, Effects of Winds on Different Zones and Season and Changes in the Wind Cause by the Season

History:

- a. Formation of Earth with Experiments
- b. Fundamental Needs of Man: Material Needs, Spiritual Needs
- c. Time Line of the Great Civilizations

Botany: Cosmic Organization Chart

- a. Inter dependence of living things with their environment
- b. To review parts of the plant and their functions
- c. To classify plants according to the shapes and forms of leaves

Zoology:

- a. Classification of Vertebrae/ In vertebrae, External Parts of Animals and Body Functions of a Bird/ Mammal/ Reptile/ Amphibian
- b. Classification of the living world
- c. Chinese Box of Non-Chordates : Phylum Protozoa, Porifera, Annelida, Arthropoda, Mollusca and Echinodermata



Masterpiece of the Month: Students will work together as a class to create a giant Mona Lisa picture. Each student will be

given a small square, which appears to be an abstract arrangement of shapes and colors. It will be their task to copy that square to the best of their ability onto a larger square as well as color matching, and measuring proportionately. When they are done, the students will be called up by number and glue their squares into the proper arrangement to reveal the project they had all been working on together... the Mona Lisa!

Please check your child's folders daily, and the calendar/message board just outside our door daily for special messages or announcements. Please email me to neranja.fvm@gmail.com, if you have any questions.

Our school day starts promptly at 8:30 a.m. Your child's **regular and prompt attendance at school is crucial to his/her success**. Please have your child attend class on time and be picked up on time. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

We will have more information regarding the class schedule and plans for the year during Back-to School Night. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Happy Birthday: Kevin R.-27th

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Room 5- Ms. Gloria & Ms. Alicia: Welcome back and here is to a great start! We are certain that everyone had a great summer and is as excited as we are to have a successful year ahead. We wish to welcome all the new parents and children to FVM and our Room 5 community!

During the month of September, we will study about the hemispheres and the continents. We will also learn about “All About Me”. In Botany, we will study about the types of apples and the parts of an apple. An apple will be peeled and cut to observe the parts during morning circle. The children are welcome to bring an apple in their lunch box as we will focus on apple peeling and apple slicing! In Zoology, the children will also learn about the parts of a fish.

The main focus during the first few weeks of school will be on normalizing the children. They will be given lessons on taking care of themselves and their environment, classroom rules (walking in the line, using quiet voices and walking feet while indoors) and practical life lessons such as pushing chairs in after work/lunch and carrying a tray properly. The children who have been in our class for a year will be great mentors guiding the new children.

Over the year, we will learn about an array of artists and their work. In September, we will learn about Cezanne and learn how to use the brush stroke to create apple paintings. Please note that your child’s artwork will be displayed in the hallway. They will also work on a collective apple collage!

The children will learn about and listen to some compositions by Beethoven. His music will be played during work time. We will also talk about parts of the body for our Spanish lesson.

Please make sure that your child is in class by 9:00 am. It is important for the child to be on time for circle time lessons. In order to have an easier transition you may make use of the grace period and drop your child off in the playground. Please feel free to drop your child off at 8:45 on the playground.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Back to School Night on **Thursday September 12th**. The school year ahead will be discussed in details and you will be given an opportunity to have your questions answered on this day.

Thank you for investing your child’s foundation for learning and growing with us. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me by email on gloria@fvmontessori.com

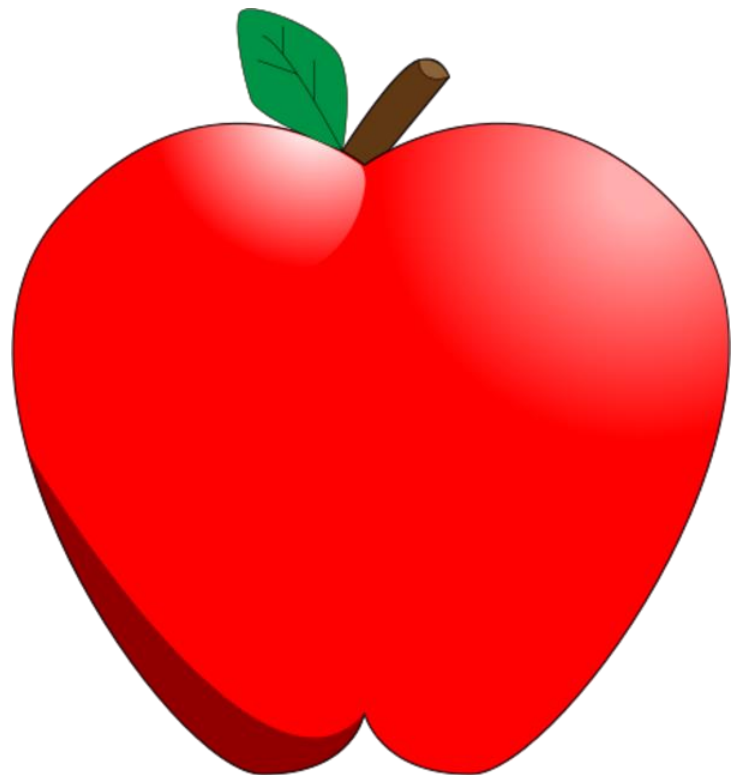
Happy Birthday: Ms. Gloria- 6th Chris N.- 16th

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Room 6- Ms. Rasika & Ms. Bea: Welcome all new and returning families to Room 6! It is a pleasure to have your child in our class this year. We have an exciting year planned full of fun and learning and growth.

During the first couple of weeks, we will focus on family, friends, and learning all about our classroom environment. This will help to normalize the children and enable a smooth transition. For the month of September, we will be learning “All about Me”. We will be learning about the parts of the body, the five senses, and about our emotions. The children will be given lessons on taking care of themselves and the environment, classroom rules (walking in the line, using quiet voices and walking feet while indoors) and practical life lessons such as pushing chair in after work/lunch, and carrying a tray. In Geography, we will be learning about the seven continents, and oceans. We will also be learning about the parts of an apple in Botany. Over the year, the children will learn about an array of artists and their work. In September, we will be learning about Andy Warhol. Please note that your child’s artwork will be displayed on the hallway bulletin board. Our composer of the month will be Ludwig van Beethoven. In Spanish, we will be learning about the parts of the body.

Just a few reminders to ensure a successful school year: School starts promptly at 9:00am. I encourage all children to be dropped off at 8:45 on the playground for a smooth transition. If you are running late you say your goodbyes outside of the classroom as it does disrupt our morning circle. Please check your child’s file as well as their cubby daily. Please make sure your child has an extra pair of clothing in their cubby (this includes, underwear, socks, pants or shorts and a shirt).

We are looking forward to seeing all parents at our Back to School night on September 12th. The school year ahead will be discussed in details and you will be given an opportunity have your questions answered on this day. Please email me if you have any question at rasika@fvmontessoril.com. We are looking forward to a great year ahead.

Happy Birthday: Nicole V.– 5th Paige N.– 8th
Riley S.-12th Evan Y.-24th

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Room 7- Ms. Kelli, Ms. Allize, & Ms. Nicole:

Welcome all new and returning families to Room 7!
We hope you all had a wonderful summer. We can't wait to start our year with all the children, old and new!

We welcomed Louiconna, Ally, Luke, and Lyla, Philip, Madison, Brooke, and Kahealani, Clare, Jayden, Linc, and Olivia, Alexander, Layla, and Katelynn, during summer time. Welcome Porter, Naomi, Preston, Kayla, Hunter, and Charlotte to our classroom. We are so pleased to have Dean and Scarlett back! We sure missed you! I am excited to start our amazing new school year!

Each month, we will have a designated book as our "Book of the Month." For the month of September, we will be reading, "I like Me" By Karen Beaumont. Our unit will be based on the children learning all about themselves. We will learn about our parts of the body, emotions/feelings. Please look for the art work that will be displayed inside the class.

I will also be introducing a color of the month. For the month of September, the children will learn about red. I will be lining the classroom with red felt and also change our practical life objects to red. These jobs allow the children to experiment with various mediums and reinforce color recognition. Please keep an eye out for their fun September art projects!

Thank you to all that are signing up for snack! The children are really enjoying being able to serve their friends. **Please keep in mind that Room 7 is becoming a PEANUT and CASHEW FREE room. We have a child with a SEVERE nut allergy. Please note that almond butter is OK. As always, we do not provide any snacks containing nuts.**

We are excited to see everyone at Back to School Night where we will discuss the year ahead and answer any questions you may have.

Happy Birthday: Layla S. - 10th Charlotte S.-27th
Porter S. - 27th

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