

Fountain Valley Montessori

January 2018

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

Important Dates:

Winter Break (School Closed)

Monday, December 25th - Friday, January 5th

Martin Luther King Jr. Day (School Closed)

Monday, January 15th

Progress Reports Distributed

Friday, January 26th

Happy Birthday...

Ms. Neranja...8th

Ms. Samantha...9th



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 Nina Nguyen for heading up this event.

Holiday Program: Thank you to everyone who attended your child's Holiday Show. 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 for the newsletter, calendar, etc.

Room 1- Ms. Jahaira & Ms. Nikki: Happy New Year!! We hope everyone enjoyed their holiday break and we can't wait to dive into January! Thank you so much for everyone who participated in our International Potluck. The children enjoyed tasting the different dishes that were shared. Our holiday show was amazing and the children were so excited to perform for you. Thank you all for coming! Thank you all for thinking about Ms. Nikki and I during your holiday shopping. We really appreciate all of your kindness and love!

For the month of January, we will be traveling to the continent of Asia. We will learn about the culture, landmarks, and animals of Asia. In our unit of study we will learn about farm animals. We will also learn about the parts of a frog and the lifecycle of a frog.

In Spanish, we will be learning the names of farm animal. Our art style of the month is going to be Rangoli, the ancient art of decorating with powdered colors; originating in India. Our composer will be Mozart. We will also be learning about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and have a fun art project for the children to work on.

We look forward to having a great 2018 ahead, and are excited to be working with an amazing group of children.

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Room 2- Ms. Lindsay & Ms. Josie: Although we had a short month it was packed full of fun. The children had a great time working on their parent's holiday gifts and cards. They worked so hard on their Holiday show and did an amazing job I am so proud of every single one of them. Thank you to all the parents who made it and helped during the potluck. We ended our month with a fun filled day in our pajamas watching a movie and having popcorn. I hope everyone had an amazing holiday with their closest friends and family.

We will be starting off our new year continuing to learn about the parts of a penguin and the continent of Antarctica. We will then hop back onto the Room 2 Express and travel to Asia. While in Asia we will be learning about the culture and celebrating the Lunar New Year.

We will be studying the unit on Transportation and have new work on our shelves to complement our unit. We will also have a variety of new art jobs on our art shelf. Not only for transportation, but for the Lunar New Year too!

Our musician of the month is YoYo Ma and our artist of the month will be Grandma Moses. It I look forward to a great start to our new year and I am excited for what will come in the New Year. Have a happy 2018 ahead!

Happy Birthday: Avery D.-15th Riley N.-19th
Sophie T.-31st

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Room 3- Ms. Samantha & Ms. Christine: Happy New Year everyone & welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday season surrounded by family & friends.

December was so much fun & eventful! We would like to extend our gratitude for the generosity you showed us, for all the lovely gifts and the charitable contributions towards our toy drive & holiday gift shop. Your generosity was overwhelming!

Our International Potluck was a huge success. It provided us an opportunity to learn about people, their customs & different types of food they like to prepare in creative ways! It also tied in nicely with our study of holiday traditions around the world. We thank you for participating in our potluck & for all the delicious food we were able to sample & enjoy.

The children had so much fun singing & performing their holiday songs! We hope you enjoyed watching it as much as we enjoyed putting the show together.

The New Year brings us many new learning adventures. We will introduce meaningful activities to enhance the students' growing capabilities & confidence.

Language & Math exercises with winter themes, building concepts, exploring textures & fun art projects such as watercolor snowflakes, cotton ball snowmen & winter scenes will keep the children busy & eager to learn this month.

In Geography we will introduce the continent of Europe, its countries, culture & how people prepare to brace the cold climatic conditions of the winter season.

In Science, we will learn the parts of a mammal (polar bear) & types of winter trees. Our featured art technique for January will be Polish Folk Art designs named Wycinanki by Polish artists. Our composer of the month will be Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky.

Happy Birthday: Emma N. – 15th Kadence P. - 26th

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Room 4- Ms. Paula & Ms. Yasmin: 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 children in Room 4. We extend our sincere gratitude for your thoughtfulness and gift giving during the holiday season. I appreciate the acknowledgement of my birthday, which was truly a pleasant surprise.

For the month of January, we will be covering the continent of Asia. . We will learn about the countries from the Far East and focus on China, Japan, and India. We will learn about their culture, study the map, and flags. In Botany, we will learn about the parts of the flower. In Zoology, we will learn the parts of an insect.

In art we will be exploring the art form of mandalas. Our musician will be Ravi Shankar. In Science, we will be making frost and exploring liquids.

Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, and was shot in 1968. Acknowledging the life of this hero will be observed on Monday, January 15th.

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Room 4- Ms. Neranja & Ms. Yasmin: Welcome to 2018! We hope you and your family had an enjoyable and relaxing vacation. Thank you so much to all the parents who made our International potluck so wonderful! The dishes were absolutely delicious and the children had such a great time. A big thank you to all the parents who came to see our holiday program. Your presence was a morale booster and their performance was fantastic!

January is the beginning of the school year and the workdays will resume back to normal with complete emphasis on academics. This month the children are going to be extremely busy, working on all of their Math, Reading, Language, Geometry, Writing as well as cultural subjects. Please make sure the children are here on time so they will not miss out what our program has to offer as well as minimize the disruptions to class.

The units for the month of January will be:

Creative Writing: * Many people set goals at the beginning of the year. The children will be asked to make their own resolution. Next, share their resolution and tell why they think it is a good goal to have. Then they will write about the steps they will take to help them reach their goal.

* Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15th. The children will work on researching him to learn five facts and write a paragraph sharing what the children have learned about him.

History: *Study of Ancient Greece.

Science: *Parts of a cell: Plant cells vs Animal Cells, How do cells make and use energy? How cells are organized.

Music: *Study of South Asian Music

Art: *Anime/Manga Art: Students will view the Introduction to Manga PowerPoint, which will provide a brief history and introduction to manga. Students may also view short video clips of popular anime, such as My Neighbor Totoro. Then they will create manga versions of popular well-known stories (fairy tales, classics), historical events for older students or create a manga character or animal and draw a portrait.

Cultural/Physical Geography: *State Reports Continued *Chemical properties Changes

Botany: *Build a Tree Impressionistic Chart: to explore and describe the general structure of a tree. To explain how different parts of a tree help the tree survive.

Zoology: *The Worm Phyla: to observe external characteristics of an earthworm. To learn how earthworms respond to stimuli and to identify the distinguishing characteristics between the three major phyla.

We will also be reviewing our schedule and allow the children to ease their way back into school after their wonderful vacations. Last but not least, we would like to thank you for all those thoughtful and generous holiday gifts. Have a great January!

Happy Birthday: Matthew T. - 13th Zoe N. - 26th

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Room 5- Ms. Gloria & Ms. Allize: Welcome back! We hope that everyone had a restful and joyous time during the holidays! Ms. Allize and I would like to wish everyone at FVM a happy and prosperous New Year! May the year 2018 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 holidays. We are very appreciative of your love and generosity.

In January, in Geography, the children will explore the continent of Asia and learn about the major countries, flags and its geographic location on the world map. 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, elephant orphanage and other interesting facts the country has to offer. You are welcome to talk about a country in Asia on share day in lieu of your child's share. Please let me know if you are interested.

In Botany, the children will work on three part cards of parts of a tree.

The children will gain valued information about Nutrition and also learn fruit and vegetables in Spanish. They will be introduced to taste many fruit and vegetables during January. A separate sign-up sheet to bring a fruit or vegetable will be posted by the snack sign-up. If you have any concerns about your child eating any fruit/vegetable, please let me know.

During January, we will listen to the Asian musicians Ravi Shankar on Sitar and Yo Yo Ma on Cello. In Art, we will be working on Rangoli Art that originated from India. This form of art is now widely spread around other Asian countries such as Sri Lanka and Singapore.

The children will also learn about the philosopher, Dr. Martin Luther King. They will listen to a book about him and make a bookmark to encourage them with reading.

To coincide with the topic of Nutrition, and also to promote and encourage healthy eating habits, our children will be engaging in Physical Education on Fridays. We will work on simple physical exercises like running, jumping, stretching, etc. Please see me if you have any questions.

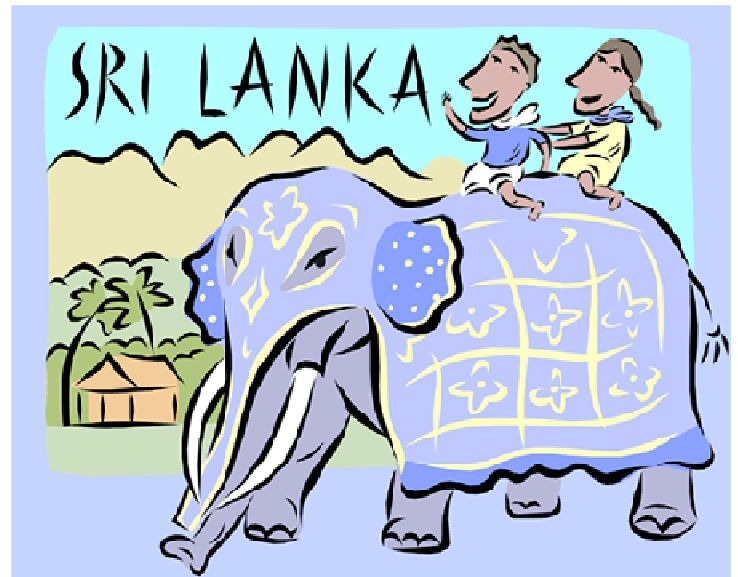
Your child's extra clothes were sent home in December so that you may replenish with weather-appropriate, size-fitting clothes.

Happy Birthday: Aveline N. - 2nd Zoha K. - 13th
Jake T. - 30th

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Room 6- Ms. Rasika & Ms. Bea: Happy New Year and welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a restful holiday and that the year 2018 will continue to bring peace, love, joy, happiness and good health to all of you. We had so much fun learning all about the holidays celebrated around the world as well as learning about arctic animals and Antarctica. Thank you for thinking of us during the holiday season! We really appreciate it.

For the month of January, we will be travelling to Asia where we will be studying the beautiful and historic architecture, popular landmarks, and talk about the people and animals of the continent. During the month of January we will be learning about the volcanoes. Our artist of the month will be Katsushika Hokusai and we will be working on our own interpretation of one of his art work. We will also be learning all about parts of a frog. The composer of the month will be Ravi Shankar.

In Spanish, we will learn the names of clothing items as well as review what we have learned throughout the year. We will also be learning about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and have a fun art project planned for the children to work on. We look forward to a great 2018 ahead!

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.
- Please remember class starts at 9.00am. It is important that children don't miss out on morning circle



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Room 7- Ms. Kelli, Ms. Nicole, & Ms. Alicia: Welcome to the New Year! We can't wait to get 2018 started! We hope you all had a wonderful and restful break!

We fancied up the classroom a bit and can't wait for the children to enjoy their classroom!

A huge thank you for making December so amazing! We had so much fun at our Holiday Performance and such yummy food at the potluck! Thank you all for cooking and bringing in all homemade foods!

We say goodbye to Brooke, Dean, and Scarlett, as they move into our preschool rooms. We welcome Avery, Nathan, and Vanessa to our room.

We look forward to continuing our hard work in 2018! The children are learning their numbers and how to count. They are starting to recognize their shapes. They have even begun learning months of the year and days of the week! I am so proud of all their dedication to learn and grasp everything we teach.

For the Month of January, we will be diving right back into our routine.

Our book of the month is a classic favorite, "Goodnight Moon," by Margaret Wise Brown. We will be learning all about the Moon and Stars. Please keep an eye out for the art work.

Our color of the month will be black. The children will be enjoying another fun craft using black paint. I will be lining all the jobs with black felt to emphasize the color.

As we continue our shape of the month, we will focus on a star this month.

Starting in January, we will be adding song of the month. This month, we will be singing, "Moon, Moon, Moon".

Once again, welcome back and happy 2018!

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