

# Fountain Valley Montessori

## January 2019 Newsletter

### Important Dates:

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> -  
Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>  
Winter Recess

Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>  
School Closed in honor of  
Martin Luther King Jr Day

Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Yearbook Dedication Boxes  
Due

Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>  
Progress Reports Out



Happy Birthday...  
Ms. Naranja- 8<sup>th</sup>

**See's 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 all the parents for your support. Special thank you to Nina Nguyen, Debbie Weed, and Julee Tovias for heading up this event.

**Holiday Shows:** Thank you to everyone who attended our Holiday Shows. 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!

**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.

**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.

**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.)*

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

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

**Room 1- Ms. Jahaira & Ms. Vicky:** Happy New Year!! We hope everyone enjoyed their holiday break! Welcome back, we can't wait to dive into January! Thank you so much for participating 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. Vicky and I during your holiday shopping. We really appreciate all of your kindness, love and generosity!

January will be filled with exciting information about the continent of Asia. We will be traveling to the landmarks like the Great Wall of China and learning about the beautiful historic architecture, popular landmarks, and talk about the people and animals of the continent. We will also be learning about the parts of a horse and exploring the various types of horses.

In Spanish, we will learn the names of clothing items and animals from our Lunar Year Calendar. We will be focusing on Asian Art and recreating a famous painting by Katsushika Hakusai! We will also be listening to music from Asia as we prepare ourselves for the Lunar New Year! The children will learn about the great philosopher, Dr. Martin Luther King. They will listen to a book about him and work on a fun art project! We look forward to a great 2019 year ahead!

Reminders:

\*Please make sure

your child has the proper extra clothing in their cubby.

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

\*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.

Happy Birthday: Adalene D.- 21<sup>st</sup>

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**Room 2- Ms. Lindsay & Ms. Marian:** Welcome back parents!

December was packed full of fun. The children had a great time working on their parent holiday gift 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 were here to watch them and to all that stayed to help with the huge potluck we had after the show. We ended our month with a fun filled day in our pajamas watching a movie and eating popcorn. Thank you to everyone for the thoughtful gifts and making Ms. Marian and I feel to loved. I hope everyone had an amazing Holiday break and Happy New Year with all their friends and family gathered together.

We will be starting off our new year by continuing to learn about the Parts of a Penguin. We will be talking about how they love to glide on the ice on their bellies, how they jump off the peaks of glaciers to dive for fish, and we will be watching a special documentary about Antarctica and the other wonderful animals that reside there. The students will still stay on board of the Room 2 Express and travel around Antarctica and exploring the Glaciers, talk about the temperature and why people can't live there, along with all the other amazing animals that roam the ice. We will be getting out our shovels and digging down deep into the ground to continue learning about roots and how they nourish the plants and trees around us. We will also be planting our own seeds in clear cups and use a magnifying lens to watch the roots grow. While working on new materials for the January, we will listen to the wonderful sounds of David Grey playing softly in the background. The students will be exploring art by Marc Chagall and for Spanish lessons, we will start learning the days of the week. It will be a great start to our New Year and I'm excited to begin a new year!



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**Room 3- Ms. Christine & Ms. Bea:** Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful winter break and had a relaxing time with your family. Thank you for showering us with so much love, we really appreciate your gifts and your generosity. We had a busy and fun month of December and the children did such an amazing job with their holiday performance. We hope you enjoyed their gifts as they worked hard to make them for you. Thank you also for all your amazing dishes that contributed to our delicious International potluck.

In January, we will be learning about the continent of Asia. We have so much to talk about...the people, their food, the various cultures and languages spoken throughout this vast continent and the breath-taking landmarks! Please let me know if you or a family member would like to come in and share information/experience with our class. I welcome your participation!

The children will also learn about the parts of a horse and we will talk about the properties of sink and float. For our Friday share days, please bring in a small object that sinks or floats and we will do a class demonstration with these objects. We will learn about common classroom objects for our Spanish lesson. The artist of the month will be Andy Warhol and we will be recreating one of his works of art for the hallway art board. We will listen to the music of the talented Sir Elton John throughout the month. We will also discuss Martin Luther King Jr and his importance.

Ms. Bea and I are excited to be back, and we look forward to a great 2019 ahead!

Happy Birthday: Kadence P. - 26<sup>th</sup> Ally C. - 29<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 4 Lower- Ms. Paula & Ms. Yasmin:** Welcome back! Happy 2019!

Janus was the god of beginnings and the god of gates and doorways. He is shown with two faces. One face looks to the future. the other face looks back upon the past. In the northern part of the world, January is cold and snowy. It is the beginning of winter. But in the southern part of the world, January is warm. It is the beginning of summer. Let us ring out the old, ring in the new year.

Knowing the best is yet to come in 2019.

I would like to begin the new year by traveling to the land down under...Australia. This is such a interesting continent, with so many amazing facts. The animals are so varied and interesting, from the koala, sheep kangaroo and rabbit. The last weekend in January Australians enjoy a National Holiday on or near January 26th. They celebrate various cultures and I can't wait to talk about them. They will also learn about parts of the fish as well as tropical fish of the Great Barrier Reef. We'll be exploring the Atoll and Fringing Reefs. We will be covering different types of leaves as well. Looking forward to doing some Aboriginal art projects with the children. Our musicians for the month will be the famous band "The Beatles".

The children are flourishing in all areas of the classroom and are making steady progress. We will be doing a writing project on Martin Luther King and his famous "I have a dream" speech. Starting in January I plan to start giving spelling tests and will be working on a word list on a weekly basis. So many lessons to give, and such bright and happy children! Thank you for sharing your children with us in Room 4.



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**Room 4 Upper- Ms. Neranja & Ms. Yasmin:** Welcome to 2019! 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 delicious, and the children had such a great time. A big thank you for coming 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 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**

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15th. The children will research to learn five facts about him and write a construct a paragraph.
- The children will write their own “I have a Dream”, inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King’s ‘I have a Dream’ speech.

### **Biology Activities**

- Introduction of Carnivore/Herbivore/Omnivore using nomenclature Cards
- Types of mammals: nomenclature with definitions (Monotremes, Marsupials and Placental)
- Types of Seeds

### **Art**

- The children will be recreating Edgar Edgar’s Ballerina, using different Art techniques.

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: Ms. Neranja- 8<sup>th</sup> Ethan L.- 26<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 5- Ms. Gloria & Ms. Karla:** Welcome back! We hope everyone had a restful and joyous time during the holidays! Ms. Karla and I would like to wish everyone at FVM a Happy and Prosperous New Year! May the year 2019 be filled with joy, love and peace throughout the year! We want to thank everyone for all the gifts and gift cards we received during the holidays. We are very appreciative of your love and generosity.

I hope you had a chance to meet Ms. Karla, who will be working with me in Room 5 for the rest of the school year. She is looking forward to loving and caring for your children while watching them grow!

In January, we will be traveling to the land down under, Australia. It will be a fun journey visiting some of the marsupials such as a kangaroo, a koala and discover how fierce the Tasmanian devils are. I am quite excited to present Australia as I have visited my sister and brought home some pictures and souvenirs to share with the children. We will talk about “Perry the Platypus”, a famous cartoon character, as well as introduce ocean life in Australia. We will learn about the Sydney Harbor, the Opera House and a few other landmarks from down under!

The children will learn about the great philosopher, Dr. Martin Luther King. I will read to them a book based on his life and they will make a bookmark, encouraging them to read more books.

I have been promoting healthy eating habits and children are enjoying looking for various food groups in their lunch box. Taking this a step further, we will have Physical Education lessons every Friday from January! They will be introduced to simple exercises like jumping, jumping jacks, lunges, skipping, squatting, stretching, etc. I highly encourage appropriate foot wear every Friday. Please see me if you have any questions.

I am so happy to have had the opportunity to introduce various kinds and genres of music from around the world. So far, we have listened to classical music (Beethoven), rock music (The Beatles), pop music (Aretha Franklin & Michael Jackson). This month we will listen to Australian aboriginal music and some songs from Down Under. Who can tell me.... who sang “Down Under”? (without using Google!!)

It is fun to observe the children work on Art projects that originated from famous artists. This month I am excited to introduce them to Claude Monet and his Lily Pond. I am looking forward to the masterpieces created by our Little Artists of Room 5.

I will introduce parts of a volcano and they will participate in a volcanic eruption experiment! Historically, this experiment has been a hit and I am sure they will enjoy it this time as well. We will use the model of a volcano and add red food color, baking soda and vinegar into the “magma chamber”! Ms. Karla is excited to teach the children Spanish! This month they will be learning the names of family members.

It is going to be an exciting month full of new lessons and adventures and I am really looking forward to it!

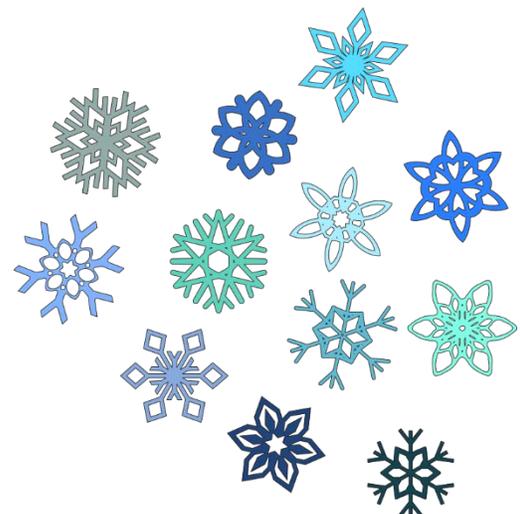
Happy Birthday: Christopher T. -19<sup>th</sup> CJ L. - 28<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 6- Ms. Enoka & Ms. Josie:** Thank you to all the parents that helped make our Holiday Show and the International Potluck a success, we couldn't have done it without your help! We hope you all enjoyed the holiday gifts and cards your children brought home, they worked very hard and put a lot of love into it to make it special for you.

Now that the busy Holiday Season is behind us, we are ready to dive into the New Year and continue to learn new things. For the month of January, we will learn about the colorful continent of Australia, where we'll visit the Great Barrier Reef, travel through the outback where the kangaroos, koalas, and wombats roam, and explore "Uluru" the red mountain. Children will get a chance to replicate Aboriginal artwork and learn about boomerangs and the fun Aboriginal instrument "Didgeridoo".

Since winter is in full swing, we will learn all about snow! We'll learn about the formation of a snowflake and read a beautiful book called *Snowflake Bentley*. And don't worry, we won't forget about Mr. Snowman! Children will have fun creating their own snowman craft. We'll discover how the cone shape and needle like leaves of evergreen trees help them survive winter in the Tundra forest. We will also discuss Martin Luther King Jr and his importance.

Claude Monet is the artist of the month. We will study his artwork and try our hand at painting our own version of his famous painting of lily ponds. Throughout the month, we will listen to the music of Beethoven and learn about him.

As a reminder, please label your child's jackets (many children have similar jackets!).

Wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year!



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**Room 7- Ms. Britney, Ms. Alicia, & Ms. Nicole:** Wow! I can't believe how fast 2018 came and went! December was full of fun, cheer, and the giving spirit. We explored different holidays such as Christmas and Hanukah, got frosty making our fun snowmen, and helped decorate our class tree! The children have really grasped our class routine. They are pros at putting their bedding away, cleaning up after meals, and so many are already potty trained! We are ready to take on 2019.

This month, we will be star gazing and learning about the moon and sun. It's going to be nice and chilly, so we will need our "Cozy Mittens" book to keep us warm. Our class will be exploring with the color yellow. We will learn how the sun brings us day and the moon brings us night by turning our felt board into a galaxy. We will be napping with "Goodnight Moon". This month we will also focus on the sensorial area of the classroom. This will include seriation with brown stairs, pink tower, and red rods. We will be star mapping for art with star cookie cutters. Be ready for some cute art work on the outside bulletin board. We will also make our mittens for our class room board. The children will be introduced to the song "Ten Little Stars".

We would like to welcome Tyler N. and Isaac P. to our class.

We are happy to be back with the little ones and we look forward to a great 2019 ahead!

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