

Fountain Valley Montessori

April 2019 Newsletter

Important Dates:

Friday, April 12th
Egg Hunt &
Spring Potluck

Monday, April 15th -
Friday, April 19th
School Closed for
Spring Recess

Monday, April 22nd
Earth Day
Celebration

Happy Birthday...
Ms. Ashley- 1st
Ms. Lindsay- 18th



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.

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

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!

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 distributed items are greatly appreciated. items are pre-washed. Individually packaged or pre-packaged items are also acceptable.

Morning Drop Off/Afternoon Pick up: Classes start promptly at 9:00am and end at 12:00pm for our half day students and 3:00pm for our full day students. We encourage all students to be dropped off between 8:45-9:00am to ensure a smooth transition into school. Please note, when dropping your child off on the playgrounds in the morning, please ensure that your goodbyes are short and sweet. This is a time for the children to interact with each other and their teachers. Please observe through our classroom observation windows. 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. If you are going to be late, please quietly drop your child off in class, and one of the teachers will escort them to morning circle. Please make sure that your child is picked up promptly at the end of the school day.

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

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

Room 1- Ms. Jahaira & Ms. Vicky:

Hello Parents,

That naughty leprechaun left a mess in our classroom! However, the children were stoked since they were able to take a green/gold coin home and share their day with their family. Thank you to everyone who participated on making St. Patrick's Day another memorable and special day for the children. I would also like to thank everyone who was able to donate to Room 1's WAGS box in honor of 'Gorilla'. Your help and kind gesture is greatly appreciated!

This month the children loved learning about the land down under; Australia! They enjoyed learning about the landmarks, but their favorite part was learning about the animals. We had a great time talking and learning about 5 food groups and categorizing each food item. The children enjoyed creating their own healthy food plate. We also reviewed parts of a flower and parts of a turtle.

This month we will be traveling to the second largest continent in the world! That's right you guessed it...Africa! The children will be learning about four of the five fastest land animals that reside in Africa! We will also be learning about landmarks that make Africa extra special. In our unit of study, we will be learning about transportation through air, land and water. In preparation of Earth Day the children will be learning about parts of a seed and a root. We will celebrate spring gardening day on April 22nd. We will also learn about the life cycle of a hen.

This month we will have fun recreating splatter art by Jackson Pollock. The children will be able to experience the joy of splattering paint and creating a colorful and bright masterpiece. We will also listen to traditional African music. In Spanish we will learn about animals of Africa.

Have a happy Spring Recess!

Happy Birthday: Jensen S.- 28th

Reminders:

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

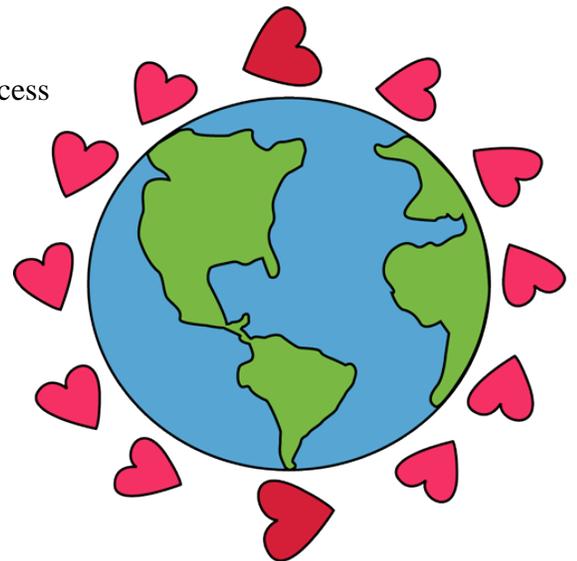
-Toy Policy: In keeping with our "No Toy" Policy, we ask that all children leave toys at home. Share items can be pictures pertaining to our unit of study or something special from a trip. Talking shares; in which your child tells their friends about a special vacation, etc. are always welcome too!

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Room 2- Ms. Lindsay & Ms. Marian:

Hello Parents,

March was a great month for Room 2! The children had a chance to paint the life cycle of the frog using a sponge. We finished our travels through Asia. The sneaky leprechaun messed up our classroom leaving gold glitter on the tables, green foot prints, and a fun letter. Better luck next time! For art they worked on "Red Fish Blue Fish", based on Dr. Seuss's famous book and made cherry blossom trees. We talked about parts of a tree and parts of an ant and they enjoyed working on jobs pertaining to them. Thank you to everyone who participated in the WAGS fundraiser. The children were so excited to have Doug the dog visit the school.

This month the children will be learning about Dinosaurs! We will go deep into the mountains, forest and oceans and talk about the different types of Dinosaurs, how they lived, what they ate, and why they aren't around anymore. We will have a lot of fun projects to go along with our unit. We will be celebrating Earth Day on April 22nd and talk about how important it is to take care of our planet. We will learn how we can re-use many different items by working on an interesting Earth Day project, with emphasis on recycling. We will once again board the Room 2 jet liner and travel to Australia. We will learn about their culture, their animals and share some interesting information about their places of interest. For this month we are going to do something a little different. Ms. Marian is going to teach us some fun words in Arabic and the children will have the opportunity to trace them. For musician of the month will be 'The Beatles' and our artist of the month will be Claude Monet. They will be making a replica of his art using cotton tip bundles. We will be on Spring Recess from April 15th through April 19th. I hope everyone has a great time with their friends and family!

Reminders:

- Please have your children here at 8:45am so they can transition easily and benefit fully from the morning circle and lessons.
- Please be sure to sign up for snack one day during the month.
- Please make sure to bring snack from two different food groups for 24 children.
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Happy Birthday: Leon B.- 1st Colette N.- 15th Ms. Lindsay- 18th Senna S.- 28th

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Room 3- Ms. Christine & Ms. Bea:

Hello Parents,

We had such a great month of March! Thank you again to all the parents that helped make my birthday so special. I truly enjoyed celebrating with your children and it was fun having so many March birthdays!

This April, we will be moving to the continent of Africa, studying the countries, the culture, the people and the animals of this continent. We will also be listening to African music and drums this month. Our unit of study will be music and instruments from around the world. As a special treat, we will be listening to and reading “Peter and the Wolf” which was composed by our Russian composer of the month, Sergei Prokofiev.

We will be learning about the parts of a butterfly as well as the life cycle of the butterfly. We will be getting our very own caterpillars and watch them turn into butterflies! We will then release them back in nature. This is something the children really love to see, and it is such a fun, exciting and interesting example of the cycle of life that we get to witness in our very own classroom. The children will be making their own African masks for the art of the month and will paint and decorate Spring eggs, giving it their own creative touch.

We will be closed for Spring Break from April 15th through the 19th. School will resume on April 22nd. Happy Spring to all!

Happy Birthday: Clare N.- 20th Oliver U.- 22nd

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Room 4 Lower- Ms. Paula & Ms. Yasmin:

Hello Parents,

The Romans called this month Aprilis. That name comes from a Latin word that means "to open." In the northern part of the world, April usually brings more changes than any other month. The last ice and snow disappear. The grass turns green. And the buds of trees, shrubs, and flowers begin to open. Small animals are up and about. Birds are singing and building nests. And here in southern California we have the desert flowers that create the "Super Bloom!" This month the world will be filled with the miracles of this season!

To bring together Spring & Earth Day, each child will plant a seed, water it daily and watch the growth throughout the month. I will also have two additional control plants- one with no sunlight and one with no water. This will show how important everything is for survival. We will review the life cycle of the plant so they can see what the spring will bring!

In addition, we will travel to Africa while listening to tribal and traditional African music. We will study the stark difference between Northern and Southern Africa. The amazing animals, natural resources, culture and people are sure to fascinate everyone. We will be creating amazing masks from Africa for our art project of the month.

Finally, we get to explore the world of poetry as April is National Poetry Month. The children will be writing their own poems and exploring different types of poetry.

We hope everyone has a safe and fun-filled Spring break. We can't wait to hear all about your many adventures. Our heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to work with your child.

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Room 4 Upper- Ms. Neranja & Ms. Yasmin:

Hello Parents,

This school year has been flying by and we are so excited that springtime is here at last!

Shouldn't we celebrate poetry all year round, not just in April? Yes! We encourage the year-round, life-long reading of poetry. In April, we will be celebrating the National Poetry Month. We will be highlighting the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets. We will also be working on reading/writing Poem-a-day activities. Save the date for Poem in Your Pocket Day which will be held on Friday, April 12th. This is a special day when people throughout the United States select a poem, carry it with them, and share it with others throughout the day. More details to follow!



Cultural Units:

- Botany: Life Cycle of a Bean Plant/Exploring the properties of different soils.
- Physical Geography: The Water Cycle/Earth's Hydrosphere/Studying oceans as a part of the Water Cycle.
- Geography: Africa country study
- Biology: Investigating the Respiratory System
- History: Timeline of Life/ The age of the mammals/ Earth's changing Continents.
- Art: Portraits inspired the great Mexican artist" Frida Kahlo".
- Creative Writing: Daily poetry reading and writing

Please be on the lookout for the calendar events for the month of April and have a wonderful Spring Recess!

Happy Birthday: Sarah S.- 9th

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Room 5- Ms. Gloria & Ms. Karla:

Hello Parents,

The month of March has been a fabulous month as we discussed Shamrocks and Leprechauns for St. Patrick's Day. We also made a "Cat in the Hat" hat to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and discussed the importance of reading. Thank you to all the parents who met/spoke with me for parent teacher conferences.

It is time to get off the backs of the camels and climb upstairs on a "Double Decker". Yes, we are travelling to Europe! First stop is The Big Ben while sightseeing in the London bus, moving along The London Bridge across The River Thames while on its way to the Royal family at Buckingham Palace. Watching the changing of guards will be so much fun! Did you know that they change every two hours and cannot move their bodies during that time at all? We will then hop on to the ferry or travel through the Channel Tunnel and travel to the magnificent city of Paris in France. We hope to climb to the top of the Eiffel Tower and bring home pictures and memories! While discovering the beauty and the world-renowned architecture of The Coliseum and The Leaning Tower of Pisa, we will sure remember to send you postcards from Italy. What an exciting, fun filled journey it will be! We can hardly wait! We will create masterpieces of the Leaning Tower of Pisa using George Seurat's Pointillism method, while listening to the music of Vivaldi. Towards the end of the study, we will watch a documentary on Europe, reviewing the places of interest and animals. Please give me your feedback on your child's dream European summer vacation!

As spring has sprung, we will learn about insects in detail. The parts, life cycle and the habitat of butterflies will be discussed, and we will observe our own larvae transforming into butterflies in Room 5!

This year the spring recess falls between April 15th and 19th. On April 12th, we will go on a spring egg hunt, looking for the eggs the spring bunny has hidden! It will be a fun-filled activity.

In observance of Earth Day, on April 22nd we will discuss the importance of recycling. Plastic bottles will be recycled in our room, which you may practice at home! We will be planting grass seeds in biodegradable pots that will be kept in the classroom for observation. Ms. Karla will begin her lesson on insects in Spanish during the month of April.

As we are looking forward to a month full of fun, excitement and learning. Ms. Karla and I wish you all a fabulous Spring Recess!

Happy Birthday: Blake T.- 5th Aubrey N. – 12th Romy T.- 20th

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Room 6- Ms. Enoka & Ms. Josie:

Hello Parents,

Last month the children were busy learning all about seeds, germination, and planting Green Beans. They did a scientific observation of the germination process and observed vegetables and flowers. They learned the importance of seeds, flowers, butterflies and bees in providing our food!!! Children were fascinated with lava and how its flows out of the Earth's crust!! I demonstrated a 'volcanic eruption' in the class. The children enjoyed making "Leprechauns," and eating green eggs with soda bread to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We continued our journey through Asia, learning about Kimonos, sarees, spices and many other fun facts.

This month we are touring the continent of Africa, starting with the Pyramids of Egypt, walking through the great Sahara Desert on a camel's back while eating dates from the trees!!! We will try to camouflage while walking through the grass lands to see lions, zebras, impalas, wild buffaloes and other amazing animals. We are planning to go to the Congo rain forest, finding gorillas, chimpanzees, and colorful birds We will end our tour in South Africa along with tasting some food.

The children will explore the work of the famous African artist, Tingatinga while listening to music from the continent. As spring is in full swing, we are going to learn about the life cycle of the hen and the frog. The older children will continue to work on addition, formation of higher numbers, understanding of place value with quantity, reading and practicing writing. The younger group will focus on sensorial and practical life work alongside pre math and pre language work.

Happy Birthday: Xander R.- 4th Emiko H.-6th Olivia R.- 18th

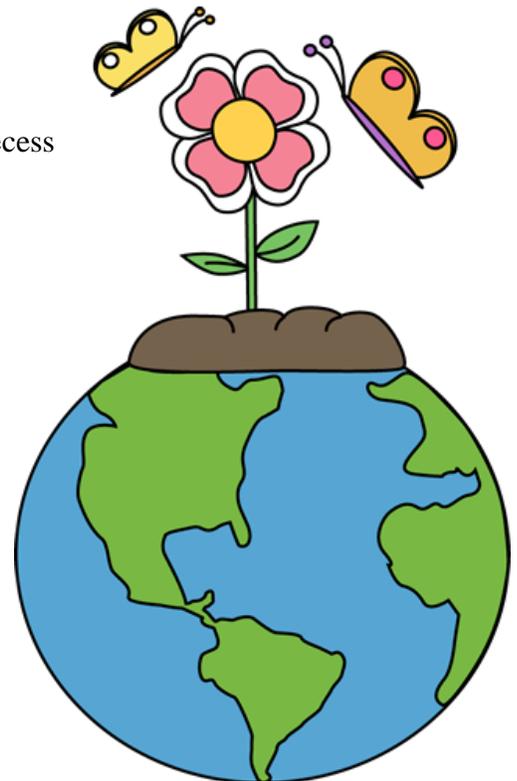
Thank you for your cooperation and support and have a great Spring Break!

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Room 7- Ms. Britney, Ms. Alicia, & Ms. Nicole:

Hello Parents,

March has been a bright month of chasing leprechauns, learning about primary colors, and making our pot of gold! The children have been immersed in the color green and can spot it a mile away! They enjoyed making squares for our shape of the month and displaying them in our class! We had so much fun meeting Doug the dog from WAGS this month. He was so friendly, and the children enjoyed petting him. I am so happy to be back and am feeling much better. I missed the children and am amazed to see their progress!

In April we will be fluttering with the butterflies. We will learn how a hungry caterpillar turns into a wonderful butterfly from the larva stage to the joyous butterfly release. We will be visiting the preschool classrooms to keep an eye on the butterflies as they grow. "The Hungry Caterpillar" will be our book of the month. We will be singing the "Spring Song" all month as we enjoy the sunshine. The naughty bunny will spread purple all over the class for our color of the month and will hide eggs on the playground too! The children will be making tissue paper butterflies for our art wall along with beautiful cracked eggs! Be on the lookout for triangles on our masterpiece board as our shape of the month. The children will also have the opportunity to make their own felt piece butterflies and I cannot wait to take a picture of their creation and display it in the classroom!

Thank you for keeping our snack calendar filled up. The children love bringing snack and boy have we had some yummy snacks brought to us!

Have a great Spring Recess!

Happy Birthday: Ares L.- 11th Savannah S. 16th

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