

Fountain Valley Montessori

January 2020 Newsletter

Important Dates:

Monday, December 23rd

Friday, January 3rd

Winter Recess

Monday, January 20th -

School Closed in honor of
Martin Luther King Jr Day

Wednesday, January 22nd -

Yearbook Dedication Boxes
Due

Friday, January 31st -

Progress Reports Out

Happy Birthday...

Ms. Neranja- 8th

Ms. Jennylyn- 26th

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 Sandra Hekimian for helping Ms. Sara place the orders!

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 fvmontessori.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 of Ms. Vicky and I during the holiday season. We really appreciate all your kindness, love and generosity.

This month, we will be traveling to the continent of Asia. We will be visiting landmarks like the Great Wall of China and learning about the beautiful historic architecture, popular landmarks, and talk about the people, plants and animals of the continent. In Botany we will be learning about the parts of a leaf and in Zoology, we will have the opportunity of exploring the various types of fish.

In Spanish, we will learn about the animals from our Lunar Calendar. For our art project, the children will be able to draw their own Koi fish using pastels and watercolors! 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 and work on a fun art project! In keeping with our emphasis on health and hygiene, we will be starting our P.E activities focusing on gross motor activities. Please be on the lookout for a warmup session followed by a PE lesson every alternate Friday.

We look forward to a great 2020 year ahead!

Reminders:

- Please make sure to send 2 sets of weather appropriate clothing to replenish extra clothes.
- Please make sure all jackets and belongings are labeled.
- Please remember class starts at 9.00am. It is important that children don't miss out

Happy Birthday: Gia L.- 8th Peral F.- 26th Amara A.- 29th

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Room 2- Ms. Marian & Ms. Josie: Hello Parents,

We wish you a Very Happy New Year! We hope you and your family had an enjoyable and relaxing vacation. Thank you so much for participating in our International Potluck. The children enjoyed tasting the different dishes that were shared. A big thank you for coming to see our holiday program. Your presence was a morale booster and their performance were fantastic! We ended our month with a fun filled day in our pajamas watching a movie and eating popcorn. Ms. Josie and I appreciate all the presents we received. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness!

I am excited to begin the month of January as we will be learning about the continent of Asia. We will be traveling to the largest continent learning about the countries, the beautiful historic architecture, popular landmarks, and talk about the people and animals of the continent. I have no doubt the children will be fascinated! We will also learn about the parts of a tree and the parts of a fish.

Our lessons in Spanish will focus on learning about the animals from the lunar calendar. The month of January also reminds us of the life and work of the great Dr. Martin Luther King. We will read about his work and his message and incorporate it in an art project. We will also listen to traditional music from Asia. Please let me know if you have any traditional music you can share with us. I am sure the children will enjoy listening to it! Be on the look out for some winter weather art for our bulletin board.

A few reminders for all:

- I highly encourage you to bring the children to school by 8:45 am daily. This helps maintain the structure and routine for the children and minimizes disruption to the class.
- Please replenish your child's extra clothes with weather appropriate attire.
- Please label all jackets and belongings.

Thank you,

Ms. Marian
Ms. Josie

Happy Birthday: Riley S.- 28th

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Room 3- Ms. Christine & Ms. Bea: Hello Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful winter break and a nice time with your family and friends. Thank you so much for your generous gifts and for thinking of us this holiday season. We had such a busy and fun month of December and the children really outdid themselves with this holiday performance. We are so proud of them! We also hope you enjoyed their snowmen ornaments and fingerprint Christmas tree cards and photos!

In January we will be learning about the continent of Asia. We have so much to talk about... the countries, their people, their food, their languages, the breathtaking landmarks and the unique animals that reside there! We will also be learning about volcanos! I'm so excited to present an experiment that will mimic a real volcano since the children will get to observe the explosion and eruption process!

Our composer of the month will be the Wallflowers and for our art of the month we will be making a 3-dimensional snowman out of glue and shaving cream complete with a hat and scarf, buttons and sticks. For Spanish, we will learn the names of everyday objects and things we see inside our very own classroom. Look out for an art project about Martin Luther King Jr., as we will be discussing his importance and his accomplishments.

We are excited for a great 2020 and we look forward to working with all the beautiful children in our class!

Happy New Year!

Ms. Christine and Ms. Bea

Happy Birthday: Tyler N.- 7th

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

Hello Parents,

Happy New Year! With the New Year brings reflection on the past, looking forward to the best to come. I feel so honored to have your children in my classroom. They have blossomed and grown so much since September. I want to thank you all of you for all your participation and work with all of the potlucks and festivities we had in 2019 –whew! They were all successful because of you. The children absolutely loved having all of you as they performed that amazing holiday show.

In January we will continue our study of our wonderful world by learning about Eastern Asia. We will study the map, flags, landmarks and major countries. We learn about the animals of Asia and their habitats and will talk about the Lunar New Year, this year being the year of the rat. We will paint Mount Fuji and cherry blossoms as we learn about the paintings of Katsushika Hokusai. We will also listen to the mellifluous music of the sitar, a musical instrument from India. The children will be introduced to the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and we will also work on a writing project based on this great personality. In Zoology we will cover parts of the turtle and learn about body functions of vertebrates.

Looking forward to the new year with lots of opportunities to learn. Finally, we would like to thank you for all those thoughtful and generous holiday gifts.

Our heartfelt thanks,

Ms. Paula and Ms. Yasmin

Happy Birthday: Adelene D.- 21st Weston G.- 24th
Ethan L.- 26th Kadence P.- 26th Ally C.- 31st

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

Welcome to 2020! 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 were fantastic!

January is the beginning of the school year and the workdays will resume back to normal! 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 weekly Spelling quiz will resume on the week of January 6th. The word lists will go up on Monday for the quiz on Thursday. We encourage the students to practice their spelling words daily in 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)
- Parts of an Eye
- Types of seeds/ Experiments for Botany Impressionistic charts

Social Studies:

- Earth’s Atmosphere
- South/East Asia Country research, Maps, Flags etc.
- Fundamental Needs: Social Acceptance

Science:

- Electricity
- Circuits and Conductors
- Natural light and how we see things

Art:

- The children will explore Op art, short for optical art, is a style of visual art that uses optical illusions. Op art works are abstract, with many better-known pieces created in black and white. Typically, they give the viewer the impression of movement, hidden images, flashing and vibrating patterns, or of swelling or warping.

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- 8th

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Room 5- Ms. Gloria & Ms. Jennylyn: Welcome back! We hope that everyone had a restful and joyous time during the holidays. Ms. Jennylyn and I would like to wish everyone at FVM a happy and prosperous New Year! May the year 2020 be filled with joy, love and peace throughout the year!

We are very thankful to everyone for all the gifts and gift cards that we were showered with during the holidays. We are very appreciative of your love and generosity!

All aboard! We will be visiting Asia discovering the magnificent Taj Mahal in India, the humongous Sigiriya Rock Fortress in Sri Lanka, the Great Wall of China and the beautiful cherry blossoms in Japan. Being a native of Sri Lanka, I will give the children a presentation on Sri Lanka and watch an educational documentary about the island. This documentary has an informative section about an elephant orphanage. It is amazing to watch the beautiful giants line up behind each other, just like our Montessori children! I am excited to work with the children 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. I also encourage parent participation from all. You are welcome to present/share information from a country in Asia if you like. Please let me know ahead of time so I can plan accordingly.

The children will learn about parts of tree and we will have a special field trip for them to observe our trees on the playground. Ms. Bea will teach them to count numbers in Spanish. I am also excited to see what fun songs Ms. Woo has in store for us! We will listen to the sitar by Ravi Shankar the cello by Yo Yo Ma, two prominent musicians from Asia. The children will also learn about the philosopher, Dr. Martin Luther King. I will read them a book based on the life and works of Dr. King and they will make a bookmark to encourage them to read. In keeping with our monthly theme of Nutrition and Hygiene, we will promote and encourage healthy eating habits and focus on physical exercise. We will work on gross motor skills and talk about the importance of being active. Please replenish your child's extra clothes with weather appropriate attire. Also, please make sure to check for size. Thank you so much for entrusting your child's education and care with us.

Happy New Year!

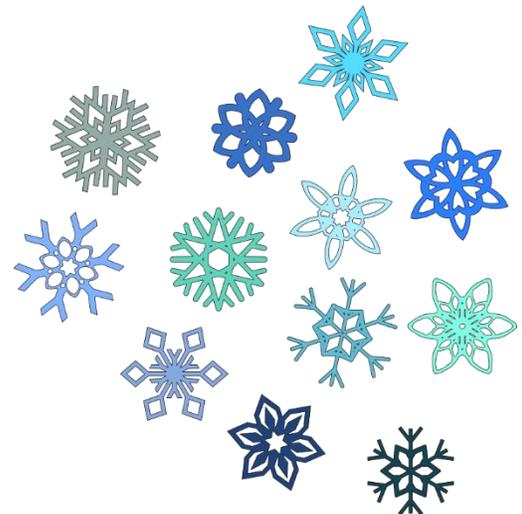
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Room 6- Ms. Enoka & Ms. Kaitlin:

Hello Parents,

Welcome back and Happy 2020 to all! I hope everyone had a nice holiday with your family and friends. The new year is here and it's time for us to get back to routine. Last month we learned about the continent of Antarctica, its weather and animals, especially about the penguins. I also reviewed parts of the tree, talked about ever green trees and hibernation of trees and animals in winter time.

This month the children will be introduced to the continent of Asia, the biggest continent with so many diverse cultures and traditions. The children will learn the names of the countries, their flags , the culture of the people and the food they eat as well as about the animals that reside there. Our countries of focus will be India and China. I am excited about the upcoming Lunar new year! We have a fun dragon dance performance by the Elementary students and we will make lanterns and fans to go along with it. We will learn about parts of a fish, its anatomy and how it survives in the water. I will also introduce the parts of a seed. As the winter weather is in progress we will make some snowflakes as well. As always, we stay focused on academics, learning numbers, letters, addition, reading and writing.

I wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year!!!

Thanks and Regards,
Mrs. Enoka & Ms. Kaitlin



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Room 7- Ms. Alicia, Ms. Stephanie, & Ms. Jocelyn:

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

We hope everyone had a wonderful winter break! Ms. Jocelyn, Ms. Stephanie and I would like to thank everyone for the gifts! We really appreciate all your love and generosity.

We are so excited to begin the new year with lots of fun projects and activities. The Winter Wonderland theme leads us in to learning about snow and ice, making snowmen and penguins accompanied by snowflakes all around! The children will be exploring with the color white. They will be sponge painting, dot art, marble painting and learn how to use a paint brush. Our book of the month will be aptly titled "The Little Snowflake"! How cute!!!! We will learn about the shape of a diamond and our song of the month will be "I'm A Little Snowman" Keep an eye out for our cute artwork which will be displayed inside and outside of our classroom. I will continue to give lessons from all the areas of work in the classroom, with special focus on pre language and pre math activities such as matching, one to one correspondence, seriation of objects and shapes and matching number to quantity. I welcome all the new families to Room 7! Welcome to our beautiful classroom!

I would also like to remind all returning families that coming back to school after spending time with loved ones is sometimes unsettling for the 2-year olds. They may face some separation anxiety initially. Please continue to maintain routine and consistency with the drop off process. Please make sure to bring them to school by 8:45 am so they can resume their morning routine at school with ease.

We are happy to be back with the little ones and look forward to a great 2020 leap year ahead!

Reminders:

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

Happy Birthday: Felina D.- 8th

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