

# Fountain Valley Montessori

## November 2020 Newsletter



### Important Dates:

Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

School Closed for  
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

School Closed for Veteran's  
Day

Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

Stone Soup

Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>

Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>

School Closed for  
Thanksgiving Break

Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

See's Candies  
order forms due

Happy Birthday...

Ms. Sara- 22<sup>nd</sup>

Ms. Jahaira- 29<sup>th</sup>



**Cold and Flu Season:** The Cold and Flu Season is here! Please follow our school illness policy to ensure **our** children and staff stays well. 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.
- Have green or yellow discharge.
- Please see your parent handbook for more information.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Please see the conference sign-ups near the school's front entrance. We will be offering either phone or zoom conferences. **Please note that the school is closed to children for this day.** If you are unable to make this day/time, please email your child's teacher to schedule a convenient time.

**Stone Soup:** This year all classrooms will be participating in a seasonal favorite. On Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, the classes will be reading the book "Stone Soup". They will then make their own version. They will then enjoy their soup on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> with their lunch!



Like us on Facebook and Instagram! We post updates and pictures from recent events. Visit us at [fvmontessori.com](http://fvmontessori.com) for the newsletter, calendar, etc.

**Room 1- Ms. Jahaira & Ms. Vicky:** The children had so much fun this month! They loved sharing their costumes and passing out their goodie bags to their friends. Our pizza party was a success! We listened to spooky music and audio books during lunch time. We wrapped up the month of October by reviewing North America on our classroom globe, learning about the 4 seasons and '4 seasons in a year' song. We also learned about parts of a pumpkin and its lifecycle.

This month we will be traveling locally! We will be learning about the United States of America. We will also focus on special landmarks and monuments, make our own flag of the USA, and learn about our currency. The children will be listening to our national anthem every morning as part of our morning routine.

Fall is finally here; we are excited to be making fun leaf projects and explore different types of leaves. We will be learning about parts of a leaf as part of our botany curriculum. In zoology, we will study parts of a bird and explore the different types of birds in the wild. We will be listening to Native American music and making our own rain sticks during music class. For PE we will focus on meditation and explore various yoga poses using visuals. Our artist of the month is Jackson Pollock, we will be recreating his famous splatter painting. We will be taking this art project outdoors, which will give the children plenty of space to splatter away!

I will read to them my favorite story, a book called "Stone Soup". It is an ancient folktale from Europe and the story is about two travelers encouraging the people of the village to share and care for each other. This month of thanksgiving is a perfect opportunity for the story, and we will also work on a group cooking project related to the story.

Thanks,  
Ms. Jahaira and Ms. Vicky

**Happy Birthday!** Ms. Jahaira-29<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 2- Ms. Marian:** What a Spooktacular month of October! The children enjoyed learning about the difference between living and non-living things. We also focused on understanding the life cycle of a pumpkin along with learning about the parts of a pumpkin. The children explored the continent of Australia and enjoyed learning about its unique animals.

In November, we will learn about our country, the United States of America. I look forward to introducing the unique features, our landmarks and our flora and fauna. We will learn about our flag and we will talk about the oceans that surround us. Our study of science will focus on learning about parts of a turkey. I will also introduce different kinds of fruits and vegetables. We will listen to the ever-popular music of "The Beatles" as we continue to explore the different genres of music. I am so excited to read a special story this month, the "Stone Soup". It is a folktale from Europe and the story is about two travelers encouraging the people of the village to share and care for each other. This month of thanksgiving is a perfect opportunity for the story, and we will also work on a group cooking project related to the story. Please be on the lookout for details in my weekly emails. The children will be introduced to the pop art of Andy Warhol and we will make our own pop art using fall leaves. For Spanish we will continue learning about the colors and shapes.

I am happy to see the children progress in all areas of work and I look forward to speaking with you all on Friday, November 6, for a parent teacher conference.

Have a great month ahead!

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**Room 3- Ms. Bea:** Hello Parents,

We had another great month of learning and fun! The children have adjusted well and are enjoying the work and lessons. We learned about the parts of a pumpkin and enjoyed making spooky art projects like ghosts, bats, and jack-o-lanterns! We ended the month with a Spooktacular day of Halloween celebrations, and it was so much fun to see the children dress up in their cute costumes!

We will continue the learning as we move into November. Our unit of study will be Living and Non-Living things. We will also be studying the continent of Europe. I cannot wait to introduce the ancient landmarks, talk about the people, their culture and the multitude of languages spoken on this unique continent. We will learn the names of some of the countries as well. Our study of botany will focus on learning about the parts of a turkey.

This is the perfect month to talk about the values of sharing and giving thanks. We will focus on the tradition of thanksgiving and make some fun fall art projects through the month. I will read to them my favorite story, a book called "Stone Soup". It is an ancient folktale from Europe and the story is about two travelers encouraging the people of the village to share and care for each other. This month of thanksgiving is a perfect opportunity for the story, and we will also work on a group project related to the story. Please be on the lookout for details in my weekly emails. Our artist of the month will be Vincent Van Gogh. I will introduce the children to his unique art by showing them pictures of some his masterpieces and we will then recreate our own version. We will continue to explore another genre of music as we get ready to jive to the music of "The Beatles" all through this month! Our lessons in Spanish will be based on colors.

As the weather turns the corner, I request you to replenish your child's extra clothes with full sleeve shirts and long pants. I will send the summery extra clothes back home.

I look forward to speaking with you all on Friday, November 6, for a parent teacher conference. Have a great month ahead!

Ms. Bea

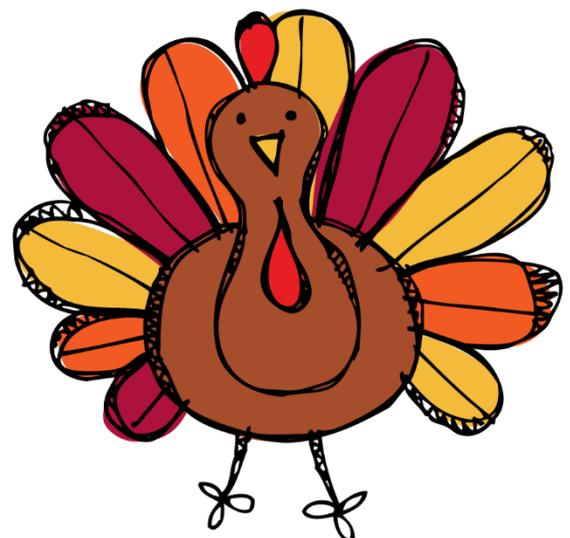
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**Room 4 Lower- Ms. Paula & Ms. Yasmin:** Dear Parents,

We so enjoyed October and the fun of costumes along with the fun of Halloween. The class accomplished many successful lessons in math, language, writing, zoology, botany, history, and art.

In November, our cultural unit will be The United States of America. The class will learn about the thirteen colonies and some important landmarks of our country. We will also learn about the history behind the Thanksgiving tradition. For physical geography, we will cover the major mountains ranges and lakes. We will do a state report on our famous state of California. Our report will include locating the state on the map and we will talk about the state flag, the state bird, and the state flower. In zoology, we will cover Parts of the Bird along with learning about the Parts of Turkey. In botany, the life cycle of the pumpkin will be covered, leaving us all craving pumpkin pie. Our artist of the month will be Alma Thomas, a modern-day painter with a unique style. We will listen to the music of Michael Jackson, another American great.

Our writing project will cover all the traditions you enjoy with your family on Thanksgiving. I will read to them my favorite story, a book called "Stone Soup". It is an ancient folktale from Europe and the story is about two travelers encouraging the people of the village to share and care for each other. This month of thanksgiving is a perfect opportunity for the story, and we will also work on a group cooking project related to the story.

Please sign-up for Parent/Teacher conferences on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The sign-up sheet is placed on the table by the school entrance. The school will be closed that day and you have the option to choose a telephone conference or a zoom conference. I look forward to speaking with you all.

We are so grateful to have the honor to educate your child. My heartfelt thanks!

Well wishes,

Ms. Paula

**Happy Birthday!** Avery V.- 6<sup>th</sup> Ethan E.- 18<sup>th</sup> Brooke N.- 21<sup>st</sup> Emmalyn P.- 22<sup>nd</sup> Zoe F.- 26<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 4 Upper- Ms. Neranja & Ms. Yasmin:** Welcome to the wonderful month of Turkeys and pumpkin pies!!

We are venturing to the season of thankfulness, and it is a great month to step back and count our blessings. The children will be given writing prompts, which will focus on these and other topics to highlight special days throughout the month.

Cultural Units for the month of November are as follows:

### **Biology Activities**

- Parts of a Bird/ Different types of Birds
- Anatomy of a Flower/ Wildflower illustration
- Plant Kingdom Nomenclature/ Plant Research

### **Social Studies**

- Study of Europe: Map/ Animals/ Plants/ Flags/ Landmarks
- Study of Europe Level 2: name countries
- The 13 Colonies
- Life in the Plymouth Colony

### **History**

- The First Americans
- The giant mammal hunters/food gatherers/early farmers

### **Art**

- Students will create a piece of iconic American artwork like the famed *Edward Hopper's Lighthouse*.



Please note that school will be closed for Parent/Teacher conferences on Friday, November 6th. This will be an opportunity to discuss goals and objectives for your children to reach their maximum potential, both in the classroom and outside of the classroom.

We are thankful for the opportunity you have given us to be a part of your child's journey. Have a fabulous November!!

**Happy Birthday!** Thomas C.-14<sup>th</sup>      Chloe C.-19<sup>th</sup>      Natalie H.- 30<sup>th</sup>

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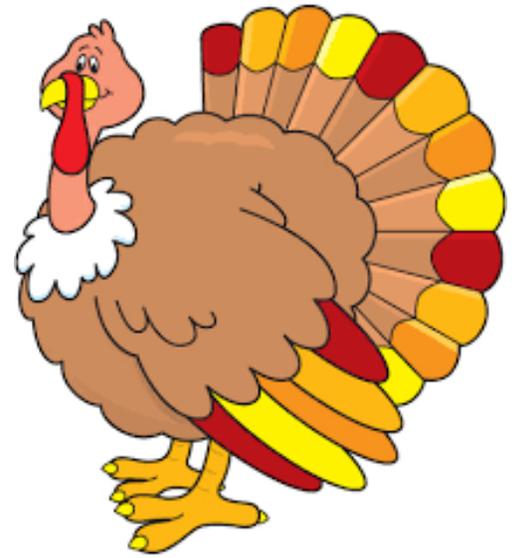
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**Room 5- Ms. Gloria & Ms. Jocelyn:** Let the season of giving thanks begin! We will celebrate this festive month by talking about all the wonderful things we are thankful for. We will also fondly remember the veterans for their invaluable service.

Our unit of study for the month is Transportation and we will learn about modes of transportation. The children will learn about the parts of a tree and plant. We will continue our world travels and learn more about the wonderful country we live in, the USA. The children will explore the 50 States and learn about our flag, some popular landmarks, our currency and about the beautiful flora and fauna of our country. We will also learn the 50 States song and talk about some Native American tribes and their art. They will watch an educational documentary about North America which will include places of interest and the animals of the continent.



Did you hear your child sing any of "The Beatles" songs during October? They are learning about various musicians/composers, different genres of music and types and names of instruments. The children will listen to the great music of Aretha Franklin through the month of November and I have no doubt they will enjoy her inimitable style! In Art, we will learn about the great artist, Pablo Picasso, and use the method of "Cubism" to make portraits. Harvest-themed art projects will be made and displayed during this month. In Spanish, the children will learn about shapes.

We have a unique tradition of celebrating birthdays here at FVM. We will celebrate his/her birthday the Montessori way, with a "Walk Around the Sun". You may send pictures of your child during his/her birthday month. The pictures (one at birth, 1 year, 2 years and so on) will be displayed on the birthday wall for the children to enjoy. The parents are welcome to join virtually. Please let me know ahead of time to arrange a video call for the day and time.

We will be reading the book "Stone Soup", based on a simple story about sharing and giving. It is a European folk story in which hungry strangers convince the people of a small village to each share a small amount of their food to make a meal that everyone enjoys.

I am thankful to all the wonderful families of FVM for sharing your prized possession with us. Happy Thanksgiving!

Please sign-up for Parent/Teacher conferences on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The sign-up sheet is placed on the table by the school entrance. The school will be closed that day and you have the option to choose a telephone conference or a zoom conference. I look forward to speaking with you all.

**Happy Birthday!** Caroline F. 20<sup>th</sup>

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**Room 6- Ms. Enoka:** Dear Room 6 Families! What an eventful year 2020 has been so far! Although we have all been inside for most of it, it has gone by so fast. I cannot believe it's already November!

We will focus on the United States of America all through this month. Children will journey through our great country and learn about the different states, learn about our beautiful landmarks, and learn about the animals that live here.

The artist of the month will be the famous Jackson Pollock, a contemporary American artist who was born in Wyoming. Children will learn about how he created his masterpieces through action painting. They will have an opportunity to create their own works of art by splattering paint.

With Thanksgiving approaching, I will introduce the harvesting of fruits and vegetables as a part of the botany lessons for this month. Since Turkeys are a big part of Thanksgiving, I will introduce the parts of a bird for our zoology lesson. Children will create and decorate a Turkey for their art project.

I will read to them my favorite story, a book called "Stone Soup". It is an ancient folktale from Europe and the story is about two travelers encouraging the people of the village to share and care for each other. This month of thanksgiving is a perfect opportunity for the story, and we will also work on a group cooking project related to the story.

We will be playing country music from America throughout the month. We will also continue our Spanish lessons as well as ongoing academic lessons.

Have a great month ahead!  
Mrs. Enoka

**Happy Birthday!** Joy M.- 3<sup>rd</sup>

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**Room 7- Ms. Alicia, Ms. Jenae, & Ms. Michelle:** Hello Parents,

October has been such a fun and spooky month from our pumpkin patch to our Halloween costume party! We learned about the parts of a pumpkin: the vine, seedling, and pumpkin seeds. The children enjoyed singing "I'm A Little Pumpkin" and had fun making their pumpkins, ghosts, and spiders.

November brings Fall leaves and lots to be thankful for. Our book of the month will be "Llama, Llama Gives Thanks" by Anna Dewdney. Our songs for the month will be "Autumn Leaves Are Falling Down" and "I'm A Little Turkey." Our color of the month will be brown. I always change practical life objects, trays, materials, paints .... etc. so I can highlight the color of the month all over the room. I have noticed the children noticing and enjoying these changes. They will also enjoy making turkeys and owls for art and our shape of the month will be a triangle.

I look forward to speaking with you by phone or through zoom for parent/teacher conference day on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Have a fun filled month ahead!

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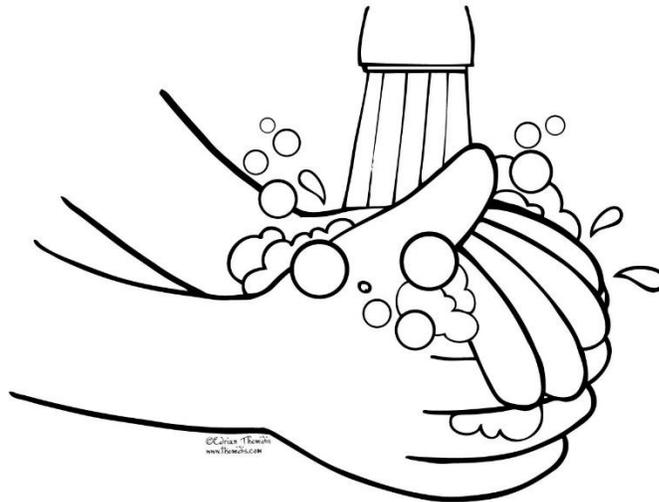


## FVM HEALTH & WELLNESS CORNER

# The Importance of Hand Washing

At FVM, we passionately believe that **Hand washing is by far the best way to keep kids from getting sick** and prevent the spread of germs. This is a message worth repeating and we have made it an essential part of our morning circle. The teachers regularly give lessons on hand washing and show the children how to scrub those germs away! They learn how to:

1. Wet their hands with clean running water
2. Use soap and lather up for 20 seconds (the Happy Birthday song is everyone's favorite)
3. Make sure to get in between the little fingers, on the backs of hands, and under the nails where germs like to hang out.
4. Rinse and dry well with a clean disposable paper towel.



**To stop the spread of germs in your family, make regular hand washing a rule for everyone. It is especially important:**

- before eating and cooking
- after using the bathroom
- after cleaning around the house
- after touching animals, including family pets
- after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing
- after being outside (playing, gardening, walking the dog, etc.)