

# Fountain Valley Montessori

## December 2023 Newsletter



### Important Dates:

#### Holiday Gift Shop:

12/4 – Rm 4 (all)  
12/5 – Rm 6 & 7  
12/6 – Rm 1 & 2  
12/7 – Rm 3 & 5  
12/8- Absent Children

#### Holiday Show/International Potluck:

12/13 – RM 1, 2, 3, 5, & 6  
12/14 – Room 4

#### Spirit Week:

December 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Book Exchange

Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Winter Recess

Monday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>  
(School Closed)

### Happy Birthday...

Ms. Paula – 17<sup>th</sup>  
Ms. Remington – 20<sup>th</sup>  
Ms. Lisa- 24<sup>th</sup>

**Holiday Program & International Potluck:** As part of our curriculum, the children learn about holidays from around the world. In December, the children also learn songs about the winter season along with holiday songs! **We have planned a Holiday Show for all FVM families. Please see the dates and times mentioned below.** The holiday show will be followed by our International Potluck. Please sign up for a food item to bring for the potluck. All families are welcome to stay after the show and join the potluck! Please note Room 7 will not be participating in the potluck.

**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**All Preschool Rooms-**  
**Rooms-1, 2,3,5, 6 @ 10:45am**

**Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Elementary-**  
**RM4@10:45 am**

**Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Toddlers-RM7@9:15 am**

**Holiday Gift Shop:** Every year, Ms. Neranja and her class set up a Holiday Shop for the school. This gives all children the opportunity to shop for siblings, family members, and parents! If you'd like your child to participate, we suggest bringing in \$15 for your child to spend on their scheduled day.

**Book Exchange:** Each classroom will also be participating in a Book Exchange. Have your child bring a wrapped book (\$5.00-\$7.00) to school on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Also, please make sure that the gift has a tag that says, "To my Friend" and "From (your child's name)" Thank you!

**Spirit Week:** FVM will get into the holiday spirit the week of December 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> as we celebrate Spirit Week! We will have a special theme each day for the children to follow. We will conclude the week with Pajama Day along with the book exchange!

Please keep in mind that tuition is due between the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> for the following month. For example, the tuition for November is due between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of October. A late fee will be assessed to all payments received after the 20<sup>th</sup>.

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





Room 1- Ms. Gassia and Ms. Vivian

Hello Parents,

Wow! I can't believe we are a month away from New Year! November was such an exciting month for the children. We learned about the wonderful country we live in as we explored the United States! We learned about the famous landmarks, our flag and about the animals unique to our country. We also learned about parts of a turkey and parts of a tree. Our harvest feast and the Stone Soup were delicious!

This month we will be learning about the coldest regions of the world, the Arctic, and the Antarctic. The children are sure to be fascinated by the climate and the unique animals that inhabit these lands. We will learn about the penguin and the various types of penguins as we journey through the frozen tundra. The children will learn about the parts of an Emperor Penguin. We will also talk about the Polar bear and the famous igloos of the arctic region. Children will watch a short documentary about penguins and igloos. We will listen to Michael Bublé holiday songs and rehearse for our holiday performance. For art, we will create poinsettia flowers using the sponge painting art technique and for our cooking project, we will bake banana bread. For our Spanish lesson, we will learn the shapes. December promises to be a busy month as we will be busy making holiday gifts and practicing our holiday songs for our upcoming show! Please note, our Holiday show will be held on Wednesday, December 13, at 10:45 am, followed by the international potluck in our classroom. Please make sure to arrive on time so that you don't miss your child's performance!

Important dates:

**Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>- Holiday Gift Shop** organized by the elementary classes. Kindly send \$5 to \$10 dollars in a Ziploc bag with your child's name on it.

**Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>- Holiday Show Performance** at 10:45 AM followed by the international potluck.

**Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>- Pajama Day.**

**Birthdays-** December 13<sup>th</sup>- Gillian Hinh








Hello Parents,

What a wonderful month November has been! It was full of fun and good food and things to be thankful for. We learned about parts of turkey and traveled across the USA. The children worked on many art projects, including the leaf pop art inspired by Andy Warhol that was displayed on our hallway board. We ended our month with a friendship feast, and we also enjoyed making Stone Soup together!

For December, we will hop aboard our plane and visit Antarctica to learn about the animals and the extreme habitat. For Spanish we will learn shapes. We will learn about parts of a horse and a reindeer. We will also work on a writing project where we will make a holiday wish list. Parents, be prepared to fill your shopping carts! Along with making fun holiday crafts and projects, the children will be practicing their songs for the upcoming holiday show on Wednesday, December 13th at 10:45 am. I request you to be on time since we will be starting our show as scheduled.

Please remember class starts promptly at 9 am so have your children here at 8:45 to give them that much needed transition time. The weather is starting to get colder in the mornings and evenings so please check their supply of extra clothes to make sure they have appropriate extra clothing. Please label all jackets. We look forward to seeing you all at the show!

Ms. Marian & Ms. Veronica





Room 3 -Ms. Bea and Ms. Cynthia

Hello Parents,

Hope you had a restful and enjoyable Thanksgiving break! We had a great month of November with our Harvest feast and Stone soup, while we also focused on what we were thankful for. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to the children innocently talk about what they appreciate the most. They were excited to visit some important landmarks of the United States. We also learned the names of the 50 states, and they enjoyed singing the 50 states song. We talked about modes of transportation and all the different ways to travel from place to place. They were surprised to find out that even today, some animals such as a horse, a camel or elephant, are used as a means of transportation!

December will be a fun busy month. We will visit the continent of Antarctica and the cold Arctic region in the north! We will discover some of the most beautiful animals native to the coldest places on earth, one of them being the penguin. We will learn about the parts of a penguin and about the different kinds of penguins that inhabit that continent. We will be making fun holiday art to make our room look festive and beautiful for the season! We will learn about instruments and the different instrumental families. We will enjoy listening to the beautiful sounds of Ludwig Van Beethoven as he will be our composer of the month. The children will also listen to holiday songs and practice for the Holiday Program. They are very excited and are looking forward to the Holiday Program! For our Spanish lesson we will be learning "Uno, dos tres ", numbers 1 through 20. Looking forward to a fun festive month!

Warm wishes to all as we begin the Holiday Seasons!

Ms. Bea and Ms. Cynthia

December Birthdays: Jaxson Nguyen and Nolan Loiacono December 22<sup>Nd</sup>







Hello Parents,

Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving break. We had a great time at our Harvest Feast and the children had an enjoyable and delicious meal. It is wonderful to see the children working well and learning as we approach the end of the year.

For the month of December, we will continue exploring parts of a leaf for botany and learn about Living/ Non- Living things for science. We will be learning about mammals for our zoology unit and learn about parts of a reindeer. We will continue to explore the continents as we travel to Europe and tour countries such as Sweden, Greece, Iceland and Portugal. We will learn about the ancient and unique landmarks that make Europe a must see for all! The palaces, museums and other centers of art and culture are sure to pique the children's interest. Our study of the land and water forms will focus on a peninsula and island.

December is also a great month to focus on holidays and festivals from around the world! We will be learning about the various holidays' families celebrate, along with the diverse cultures prevalent in the world. We will introduce the children to various celebrations through books and educational documentaries. Our lessons in Spanish will be based on greetings and introductions. For our special art project this month, we will work on a holiday masterpiece! We will listen to the musical compositions of The Nutcracker, an 1892 two-act ballet originally choreographed by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov with a score by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky.

Your children have been working hard for the Holiday show and they can't wait to perform for you! Our Holiday show will be held on Thursday, December 14th, at 10:45 am. Please make sure to arrive and be seated on time since we will begin the show as scheduled. We hope that everyone can attend!

Happy Birthday to:

Austin 12/2, Lyon 12/2, Octavia 12/11, Daxon 12/15, Jonathan 12/21, & Faith 12/29

Reminders:

As the weather gets cooler, please remember to send your child a labeled sweater or jacket. Thank you for all your support and we look forward to a fun-filled December! Have a great holiday break!

Sincerely,

Ms. Kinnari & Ms. Yasmin





Ms. Neranja and Ms. Erika

Welcome to the frosty month of December! It is so hard to believe that November is over, and the holidays are already approaching. December promises to be an exciting month for all!

We are also excited to announce that the students of our Upper Elementary Program will be holding their ninth Annual "Room 4's Holiday Gift Shop" for the students of Fountain Valley Montessori. The students are excited to stock, organize and run their very own shop to help their schoolmates shop for their loved ones during this holiday season! This will be a great opportunity for our Elementary students to put their math skills to use, as well as their grace and courtesy skills. While doing so, our other students will have an opportunity to shop on their own for moms, dads, siblings, and anyone else on their holiday list!

This month the children will learn the many ways to celebrate the seasons and holidays in our community and in other countries. The children really enjoy discovering the diversity of people around the world. This appreciation of culture fosters respect and acceptance of those who may have different beliefs.

The Units for the month of December will be:

Cultural Units:

**World holidays:** This would be a great opportunity for them to explore together how holidays are celebrated in other countries and how they have incorporated some of those traditions into their own family celebrations. In this way, children realize that all cultures can offer positive experiences.

**Elementary Heritage Project:**

The Elementary heritage project is set up for students to discover their heritage while learning why the United States is called the "melting pot" of the world. The goal of this project is for each student to research and reflect on their individual backgrounds and share their knowledge with their peers through their posters.

**Winter and December Writing Prompts:** 'Does falling snow have a sound?', 'If I owned a toy store', '" The best gifts are gifts from the heart." What does this phrase mean to you?' and more!

**Science:** *Parts of a Moose*, **Art:** *A Mural inspired by Los Angeles born street artist "ThankyouX"*, **Music:** *Nutcracker music/ story/craft*

**Holiday Show** - Thursday, December 14 at 10:45 am in the back picnic area. Please arrive on time as we will begin the show as scheduled.

Please be sure to enjoy these last days of the year 2023 and hope that everyone has a warm and cozy December!





# Happy Holidays

Ms. Gloria & Ms. Michelle

Phew... See how time has flown as we reach the end of the year and the year 2024 is around the corner! Thank you to all for speaking with me during the parent/teacher conferences during November.

Brrr.... Put your winter clothes on as we will be travelling to Antarctica to discover the penguins! I am certain that everyone's favorite penguin will be the Macaroni Penguin. The children will study about parts of a penguin and enjoy working on an art project.

Beat it...beat it...beat it...We will put our dancing shoes on as we work on our "Moon Walk" while listening to some popular music by Michael Jackson! I am so excited to see the walls adorned with holiday themed art. We are planning for some fun events during this holiday month such as decorating the holiday tree and visiting and buying from the "Holiday shop" conducted by Elementary children in Room 4. The children will learn a Spanish holiday song during December and review what we have learned so far.

Please mark your calendar to watch your child participate in our annual holiday show on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. On that day, please send your child to school in their holiday best. Parents are invited to watch the holiday show, that we have been practicing for all this time. The event will be held in our classroom. I highly recommend you drop off your child by 8:45 am that day, so we can accommodate one more last-minute practice session! It sure is going to be a fun event! The holiday show will be followed by our annual International Potluck. Please be on the lookout for the signup sheet.

December birthdays: Roland – 12/12; Lincoln – 12/13

We thank you for entrusting your child's education and growth with us.

Ms. Michelle and I wish you all happy and safe holidays!





My Dear Room 6 Families,

The month of November was a very busy month for our class. We celebrated four birthdays, prepared, and cooked a very special Stone Soup, and had a harvest feast. Children enjoyed participating in the many Fall activities. It also gave me the opportunity to introduce many vegetables and condiments to the class.

This month we are going to learn about the coldest continent, Antarctica. In this land of extreme cold, wind, and darkness, you can still find animals like penguins, krill, elephant seals, and whales. I will introduce the very special bird, Penguin, and its features which help this bird to survive in Antarctica. We will be watching a documentary about this continent. As we head into the season of Winter, we will learn about hibernation; how animals and trees go through a long sleep period just to survive during this time. I will be giving lessons about parts of a tree, evergreen trees, and deciduous trees. We are painting a 'Winter Wonderland' for our monthly art project. The happiest time of the year is upon us! We will be singing, crafting and storytelling all throughout! We are learning Holiday songs throughout this month, and you will hear them singing at home too.

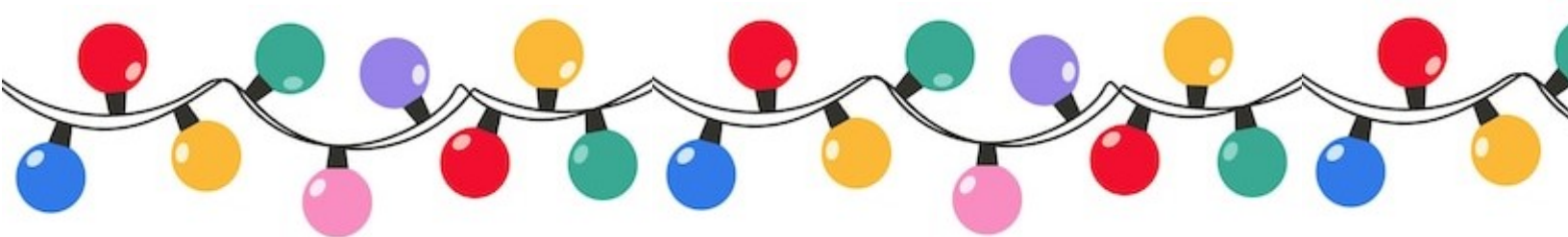
Please mark your calendar for our Holiday Show and International Potluck on Wednesday, December 13, at 10:45 am.

Thank you for all the support given to me, to Ms. Lindsay, as well as the school. Have a wonderful month!

Ms. Enoka & Ms. Lindsay

*happy holidays*





Hello Parents,

November has come and gone in the blink of an eye! What an enjoyable start to the fall season..... the children did a great job making a turkey and an owl. They also enjoyed singing the songs "I'm A Little Turkey" and "Autumn Leaves Are Falling Down." It has been a gratifying experience to watch the children learn and grow as they begin to normalize and enjoy the materials in the classroom.

December brings lots of holiday cheer! We will be getting into the holiday spirit by working on some art projects and by singing holiday songs! The children will be making a gingerbread man, a stocking, and a tree. They will also be painting with green paint which is, you guessed it, our color of the month! Our book of the month is "Bear Stays Up for Christmas." Our shape of the month will be a star. We will be singing holiday songs such as "I'm A Little Snowman," "Hello Reindeer," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." Be ready to hear your little ones come home singing happily!

Our Holiday Show will be held in our classroom on Friday, December 15, at 9:15 am. Please note that we will not have a potluck.

Thank you,

Ms. Alicia, Ms. Ana, Ms. Paula & Ms. Mariam

