Fountain Valley Montessori

September 2024 Newsletter



Important Dates:

<u>Monday,</u> <u>September 2nd School</u> Closed in Observance of Labor Day

<u>Tuesday,</u>
<u>September 3rd First Day</u>
of the Academic
School Year

Thursday,

September 19th

Back to School Night 5:30 pm-6:30 pm

Monday, September

16th – Friday,

September 20th

Scholastic Book Fair

Happy Birthday... Ms. Gloria- 6th Ms. Yasmin- 28th Fountain Valley Montessori is thrilled for the 2024-2025 school year! On behalf of the staff, we are privileged that you have chosen Fountain Valley Montessori to be the place where your child spends their days learning, growing, and making childhood memories that will last them a lifetime!

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 enter their 4-digit code that has been assigned to them. 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 an 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.

Morning Drop-Off and 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, beginning at 8:45, 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.

Parent/ School Communication: Good communication between school and home truly enhances your child's learning experience. Each child has a file folder on top of the cubbies in their classroom. Please check these folders daily. This is where parents will find information regarding activities, newsletters, and any other pertinent information. In addition, please routinely check your email for classroom and school updates. Please note each classroom also has a parent board with recent letters, reminders, and daily information.

Teachers' Lounge/Work Room: Gentle reminder, there is a designated lounge for our teachers (**not a shortcut**). Please refrain from passing through this area unless it is an emergency.

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

Like us on Facebook and Instagram! We post updates and pictures from recent events. Visit us at www.fvmontessori.com for the newsletter, calendar, etc.

Staff Emails

Room 1:

Ms. Gassia – gkailajian@fvmontessori.co m

Room 2:

Ms. Kinnari – kinnari@fvmontessori.com

Room 3:

Ms. Bea – bea@fvmontessori.com

Room 4:

Ms. Neranjaneranja@fvmontessori.com Ms. Yasminyasmin@fvmontessori.com

Room 5:

Ms. Gloriagloria@fvmontessori.com

Room 6:

Ms. Enokaenoka@fvmontessori.com

Room 7:

Ms. Aliciaalicial@fvmontessori.com

Director:

Ms. Snehasneha@fvmontessori.com

Office Staff:

Ms. Jahaira – jahaira@fvmontessori.com Ms. Madelynmadelyn@fvmontessori.com

PTU:

Ashley – fvmptu714@gmail.com



A Reminder about Our Illness Policy: Children may not attend school with a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, discolored mucus, or any other infectious illness. If a child is sent home from school, he/she must be symptom free for a complete 24 hours before returning to school. For example, if a child is sent home at 1:30pm, their 24hour period would end at 1:30pm the following day. FVM reserves the right to request a doctor's note for any child who is sent home. For us to administer medication that is prescribed by a physician, you must complete the Medicine Log and give all medications to the front office. The medication must have the doctor's prescription sticker on it.

A Note about Tuition: <u>Tuition is due on the 15th of every month prior to attendance</u> (i.e., October tuition is due on September 15th, November tuition is due on October 15th, etc.). All Tuition Express accounts will be debited on the 15th of each month. If tuition is not received by the 20th of the month, a \$50.00 late charge will automatically be applied to your account.

Parking Lot: Please remember to drive slowly in the parking lot. There are a lot of children crossing the parking lot and getting in and out of cars during drop-off and pick-up. For your safety, we also encourage parents to always keep their purses or other valuables with them. Refrain from using your cell phones while inside or directly outside the FVM doors as this is cause for distractions. The children are our number one concern, as they are yours. Please help keep our children safe!

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!

Morning Snack: Lessons in Grace and Courtesy are an integral part of the Montessori philosophy. Each classroom has a monthly snack host/hostess sign-up calendar. We highly encourage parents to sign up to bring snacks once a month for the class. This will allow the children to experience the full process of creating a meal: shopping, preparing, and serving. Being a snack host is an activity all children look forward to! Please see the snack sign-up sheets located outside each classroom door. Feel free to pick snacks your child would like to eat and serve to their friends. Please plan on serving 24 children and adhere to our low sugar policy. Remember when signing up for a classroom snack to bring at least two food groups. If a child doesn't care for the snack provided by the host/hostess, the school will provide an alternative option.

Afternoon Snack: Will be provided by the school. Please continue to send snacks from home if your child has food allergies or specific dietary restrictions.

thank you

Room 1- Ms. Gassia & Ms. Vivian

Greetings parents,

We are very excited to welcome you all to this new academic year! We hope everyone had a fun and relaxing summer. A new beginning is always a time for adjusting and getting into the routine of school. Our goal is to have a safe and joyful year filled with learning and fun! Our priority is to give children the independence of exploring our class with consistent lessons in grace and courtesy and care of self.

We will begin the month of September with getting to know each other and our classroom environment. We will learn how to respect our classroom rules and materials, our friends as well as teachers. We will begin our cultural lessons by exploring our planet Earth. We will learn about the land masses that make up the continents and the water bodies that make up the oceans. The children will be given lessons with the land and water globe, the continent map puzzle, the landform and water form trays and other such Montessori materials. We will make a project using sand to create the Earth. Children will also be introduced to the cardinal directions (North, South, East and West).

What is the month of September if not devouring a tasty and crunchy apple? We will learn to peel, cut, and taste various types of apples. Please feel free to send an apple in your child's lunch pail. The children will be introduced to the parts of an apple. They will also work on an art project inspired by the artist of the month Paul Cézanne. As a cooking activity, we will make cinnamon/ sugar baked apple slices. We will listen to the music of the famous Austrian composer, Mozart and get acquainted with some of his very famous work, such as symphony No. 40 and "The Marriage De Figaro". We will learn about the parts of a mammal as we learn about the human body and the parts of a horse.

Every Friday is pizza day and share day in our class! Please encourage your child to bring something that has an educational value (books, photos, trophies...) to share with their friends during circle time. If your child forgets to bring a share, he/she may opt to talk about their experience or share a story.

Please furnish us with two sets of extra clothes to be placed in your child's cubby.

We will also have P.E. exercises every Friday. Please make sure your children wear comfortable shoes for the day.

Please sign up for our snack host program. The sign-up sheet will be located outside our classroom door. Some snack suggestions are also displayed.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by email at gkailajian@fvmontessori.com. I look forward to working with you and I am thrilled to have your child in my class!

Birthdays for the month: Michael Tran. September 5th, 2024

BOOK FAIR: SEPTEMBER 16^{TH} - 20^{TH} BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT- THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19^{th} 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM.



Room 3 Ms. Bea and Ms. Michelle

I would like to give a warm welcome to all our new and returning families. Ms. Michelle and I are very excited to have the opportunity to be your children's teachers! Its going to be a wonderful year full of fun, learning and growth.

I would like to start the month by focusing on normalizing the children and enabling a smooth transition into the school year. The children will be given lessons on taking care of themselves and the environment (Walking in line, quiet walking feet while indoors and practical life lessons and pushing our chair in after work time and carrying a tray. We will be setting a solid foundation with lessons on grace and courtesy.

We will be learning "All about me" and about parts of the body. We will be doing a class project based on this topic. We will also learn about parts of an apple and the life cycle of an apple. Our cooking project of the month will be making apple sauce. The children will help to peel and slice the apples and get them ready to make apple sauce.

We will be traveling around the globe, and I will introduce the seven continents and their location on the globe. We will also learn about the western and eastern hemispheres along with the five major oceans that make up our continent.

Through the year the children will be learning about a different artist each month and we will be recreating their work. This month we will be learning about the great artist Paul Cezanne. We will also listen to the music by a composer/ musician each month. This month we will be listening to the symphonies by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. "Los Ojos, "La nariz", "La boca"....... we will focus on Partes del Cuerpo (Parts of the body) for Spanish class.

Just a few reminders to ensure a successful school year.

- School starts promptly at 9 AM. I encourage all children to be dropped off by 8:45 AM at the playground to have a smoother transition.
- Please make sure that you send your child extra clothing. Please include underwear, socks, pants, shorts, shirts and blouses.
- Please also remember to send your child nap linen if they nap linen if they nap with us. For the
 nap linen please bring a small, fitted sheet, small pillow and blanket in a pillowcase bag. If
 possible, please do not bring a sleeping bag they can be a bit bulky and linen closet has
 limited space. The linen will be taken home every Friday for washing and returned on Monday
 to start another week.
- Please bring a regular size lunch box for your child's lunch and a water bottle. A bag pack is not necessary.

We look forward to a great and successful school year! Please email me with any questions at bea@fvmontessori.com.

Back-to-School night on Thursday September 19th, 2024

September Birthdays- Kyle 20th, Natalie 22nd

Room 4 Lower Elementary- Ms. Yasmin and Ms. Odalis

Welcome to Lower Elementary Room 4! We hope everyone had a great summer! We are very excited to welcome all new students to the Lower Elementary classroom and we look forward to being a part of their academic, social, and developmental journey ahead!

Ready, set, let's blast off into September! We begin our Cultural study for the year by focusing on the land and water bodies present. We will be exploring the Parts of the Earth including the Land and Water globe and Continent Maps. We will focus on the Location of the Equator and Cardinal Directions (N S E W). We will use maps and other instruments to better understand the concept. For Zoology, we will talk about Vertebrates and Invertebrates.

We will also focus on learning about parts of a fish. Our study of Botany will be based on learning about parts of a plant. In addition, we will be exploring shapes and colors in Spanish. Some other interesting activities for this month will be our introduction to the artist and composer of the month! The children will learn about the American visual artist Andy Warhol. We will introduce his vibrant color pop art and will listen to the mesmerizing voice of Aretha Franklin "The Queen of Soul".

We highly encourage all children to participate in share day every Friday. This is a great opportunity for your child to share pictures, trophies, medals, books, or tell a story to their classmates. The act of being able to speak in front of an audience helps build confidence. Please <u>do not</u> send <u>toys</u> as they are a distraction for the children. All share day items will be placed in the share box outside the classroom. Please label all items.

P.E sessions will be hosted every Friday, so please encourage children to wear closed toed shoes to ensure safety. Please label all clothes, lunch bags, water bottles, jackets, and belongings that are brought to school. Students may keep water bottles at their desk. All lunch pails should be placed on hooks directly outside our classroom. We highly encourage all students to place they belongings outside before entering our classroom.

Please make sure to bring your child to school by 8:45 am. The structured individual reading time in the morning provides a conducive learning environment and helps them acclimate to the routine. If you arrive late, please drop off your child outside the classroom door on the Lower Elementary side of Room 4. We will welcome them and guide them to their work/desk. Pick up time is between 3:00 pm- 3:15 pm. Please wait for us to open the classroom door for the children to be picked up. If you need to pick up your child early, please inform the office.

No ebooks and all other school supplies will be provided by FVM and will be distributed during the first day of school. These materials will be placed in your child's desk, and we will replenish them as needed. In addition, for any students birthday's hosted by parents, we highly recommend emailing 1-2 weeks in advance for us to accommodate multiple birthday celebrations.

This year will further accentuate all the work habits that a Montessori environment has established within your child. They are at a turning point in their development where you will begin to see their social and academic growth soar exponentially over the course of this year. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with your child.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at: yasminc.fvm@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing all of you on the first day of school!

September birthdays: Ms. Yasmin 28th

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT- THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM.

Book fair- September 16th - September 20th

Room 4 Upper Elementary: Ms. Neranja, Ms. Erika, Ms. Marian

"Clearly, we have a social duty towards this future man, this man who exists as a silhouette around the child, a duty towards this man of tomorrow. Perhaps a great future leader or a great genius is with us, and his power will come from the power of the child he is today. This is the vision which we must have."-Maria Montessori The 1946 London Lectures, p. 140

Welcome to Upper Elementary! I am thrilled to embark on a new academic year with both familiar faces and new students. I trust you all enjoyed a wonderful summer!

This year, we've designed a comprehensive curriculum filled with engaging activities and field trips that will enhance our educational journey. Our students will extensively use Montessori materials, which will not only deepen their understanding of the subjects but also help them identify and adapt to their individual learning styles. This approach will facilitate their progression to more abstract concepts, encouraging the use of books and various resources to solidify their knowledge and comprehension.

We are excited to explore Montessori Cosmic Education and the Five Great Lessons. This educational philosophy teaches the interconnectedness and interdependence of all things in the universe, fostering a sense of belonging and responsibility in our students. Our curriculum is robust, incorporating Math, Language Arts, Reading Comprehension, Journal and Creative Writing, Earth and Physical Science, Cultural Studies, Economic and Physical Geography, History, Zoology, and Botany, among other areas.

We look forward to a year of growth, discovery, and learning.

For September, our curriculum will cover a diverse range of topics across multiple disciplines:

History

- The Black Strip
- The Clock of Eras
- Evolution of Shelter through History
- Exploration of Types of Fossils
- Study of Ancient Civilizations with a focus on Egypt
- Introduction to Cosmic Education, including the Five Great Lessons

Social Studies

- Study of Earth's Parts, Location of the Equator, & Cardinal Directions
- Analysis of Fundamental Needs through Charts
- Impressionistic Charts
- Investigation into Types of Rocks
- Detailed Planet Research

Science

- Distinction between Living and Non-Living entities
- Review and sorting of Invertebrates and Vertebrates
- Advanced research on animal and plant species
- Investigation into States of Matter and Forms of Energy
- Overview of Astronomy & the Solar System with Graphical Representations Anatomy of the Eye
- Examination of the Parts of a Plant, Root, and Fish
- Exploration of the Plant Kingdom Chart
- Introduction to Chemical Reactions and Forces
- Study of Atoms, Elements, and Molecules

Arts

- "Yayoi Kusama-inspired cylindrical paper sculptures": reflect a rich tapestry of artistic influences. Although Kusama has been linked with Abstract Expressionism due to her focus on the artist's gesture, her work also resonates with the Pop Art movement through her use of vivid colors and repetitive imagery and even touches on Art Brut. However, Kusama herself does not align exclusively with any single artistic movement. Instead, she navigates seamlessly among them, defining her unique approach simply as "Kusama art."
- "Dance of the Molecules," an interpretive exploration

Physical Education

- Rhythm Basketball, integrating musical rhythms with physical activity

These topics are designed to engage students in a comprehensive learning experience that spans historical events, scientific principles, social studies, artistic expressions, and physical education.

Our school day begins promptly at 8:30 a.m., followed by attendance and the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 a.m. Regular and punctual attendance is vital for your child's academic success. A detailed class schedule will be displayed outside the class born door Welkindly request that you ensure your child arrives and is picked up on time. Thank you for your cooperation and supp

ave any questions, please email me at neranja.fvm@gmail.com



Room 5 - Ms. Gloria & Ms. Jennifer

Welcome back and cheers to a great start! I hope that everyone had a great summer! We are excited and looking forward to a successful year ahead. We wish to welcome all the new parents and children to FVM and Room 5 community!

In September, the focus during the first weeks of school will be on normalizing the children. The children will be given lessons on taking care of themselves and environment, classroom rules (walking in the line, using quiet voices and walking feet while indoors), playground rules and practical life lessons such as pushing chair in after work/lunch, carrying a tray properly. The children who have been in our class for a year will be great mentors guiding the new children. Additionally, the children will be shown how to practice healthy and hygienic habits with frequent, proper hand washing.

During the year, we are going to travel the world, learning fascinating facts about it, cruising from continent to continent, swimming in the oceans worldwide! This month we will learn about the hemispheres and the names of continents and identify them on the world map. The Land and Water Globe and the Continent Globe will be used for these lessons. The children will work on art projects, work sheets and puzzles while discovering the geographic location of each continent, as well as learn the continent song.

Apples. Apples and more apples will be seen in Room 5 during September. The children will get lessons on peeling and cutting an apple, types of apples, life cycle of an apple, etc. Our cooking project for the month will be apple juice with less sugar! The great artist Paul Cezanne's apple paintings and apple collage art will adorn the walls. The basic lesson on "All about me" will be presented. We will discuss the parts of the body and emotions. Spanish lesson for the month will be numbers.

Every Friday is Share day in Room 5. Please send an article of educational value (book, picture, photo, trophy) to share with your child's friends during circle time. Toys, however, are NOT accepted. If your child forgets to bring in a share, he/she may opt for a talk share. Please furnish us with a set of extra clothes for your child in case an accident or a spill happens.

Each parent will receive an overview of our year ahead in a welcome email. Please read it and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me by email on gloria@fvmontessori.com

I recommend all children be dropped off on the playground at 8:45 am. This ensures an easier and smooth transition to the classroom. Thank you for investing in your child's foundation for learning and growth with us. We look forward to a great year with your child!

Happy birthday: Ms. Gloria - 6th; Luke - 17th; Vanhi - 22nd; Audrey - 30th

Back-to-School night on Thursday September 19th, 2024

Book Fair: September 16th - September 20th.

Room 6- Ms. Enoka and Ms. Lindsay

I am so excited to start this new school year with you all and share the many lessons and activities I have planned.

During September, the focus during the first weeks of school will be on normalizing the children. The children will be given lessons on taking care of themselves and environment, classroom rules (walking in the line, using quiet voices and walking feet while indoors), playground rules and practical life lessons such as pushing chair in after work/lunch, carrying a tray properly. The children who have been in our class for a year will be great mentors guiding the new children. Additionally, the children will be shown how to practice healthy and hygienic habits with frequent, proper hand washing.

As always, we begin the school year with an introduction and/or review of the ground rules for our classroom. Children will be given lessons on classroom etiquette, courtesy, and hygiene. We'll also review playground rules.

I will be introducing planet Earth and the seven continents this month. Children will learn about the Earth's rotation around the sun and its impact on weather. Perfect timing with the season changing! We will look at the colors associated with fall, and the science behind the changing of leaves.

For our first botany lesson, we will learn all about apples! Children will learn about the different varieties and dissect apples to see the parts of an apple. For our practical life lessons, I will introduce how to cut an apple. And of course, children will have a chance to taste what they cut, and we will make a delicious apple cobbler! We will also learn how to draw apples and create art projects as well.

For our first Zoology lesson, we will focus on differentiating between living and non-living things, learning about "our self", and naming parts of the body.

We will create our own masterpieces based on Paul Cezanne's famous artwork. Our musician of the month will be Beethoven. The children will enjoy listening to his symphonies all through the month.

For our special birthday celebrations, I will be coordinating with you to put together a beautiful poster with your child's pictures. They are welcome to share with the class on their special day.

Every Friday we will have Physical Education (PE) lessons. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately with comfortable clothing and covered shoes.

Once again, I'd like to warmly welcome all our old and new families to room 6. Miss Lindsay will be assisting me in the classroom, and we are looking forward to a great year! Please don't hesitate to reach out at enoka@fvmontessori.com if you have any questions.

Happy Birthday: Avalyn Nguyen 20th and Ella D. 25th

Upcoming Events:

Back-to-School night on Thursday September 19th, 2024

Book Fair: September16th – September 20th



Room 7. Ms. Alicia, Ms. Paula, Ms. Ana, Ms. Paula

It is a pleasure to have your child in our class this year. We are excited to have a beautiful classroom prepared for the little ones and we look forward to an exciting year, full of fun, learning and growth!

I would like to begin by saying that our primary objective will be to make every child feel safe and loved in their new environment. We will make every effort to bond with them and provide structure and routine to help them feel safe. We will focus on normalizing the children by giving them basic and age-appropriate lessons such as lining up, walking around the circle, pulling out and pushing in chairs, washing hands, and holding a tray of work.

We have a lineup of enjoyable and fun activities for the toddlers to enjoy! Our curriculum includes a "Book of the Month," a "Color of the Month," a "Shape of the Month' and a "Song of the Month." We change materials and activities every month to keep the classroom inviting and engaging for all!

be learning about the parts of an apple, and we will work on some apple art projects. Our song of the month will be "The Apple Tree" and our color of the month will be Red. I will be lining the work trays with red felt changing our practical life objects to reflect red and providing plenty of materials for the children to experiment with various mediums to reinforce color recognition. The shape of the month will be a circle.

<mark>Just</mark> a few reminders to ensure a successful year:

- School starts promptly at 9:00. I request all families to utilize the grace period and drop off all children
 at 8:45am. It is important for the children to be on time as this helps with an easier transition. Please
 keep your goodbyes short and sweet.
- Please provide a lunch box and water bottle. (For the first few days pack your child's favorite snack & lunch items).
- Please provide a pack of diapers and a pack of baby wipes. These will be placed in your child's bathroom cubby.
 - Please make sure your child has two extra pairs of clothes and a pair of shoes and socks in a labeled zip loc bag.
 - Please provide a crib sheet and blanket in a labeled pillowcase, in case your child is napping with
 us.
- No backpacks please. We have limited space in their cubbies.
- Please label **everything**.

Lunderstand that dropping your child off in a new environment with new teachers is most difficult for parents, assure you all our love, care and compassion for all the children in our care. On your end, I request you to adhere to the schedule, maintain routine and consistency and that you drop off your child on the playground at 8:45 am.

We are excited to begin the school year, and we look forward to an amazing year ahead.

Please email me if you have any questions at alicial@fvmontessori.com

Thank you,

Ms. Alicia, Ms. Ana, Ms. Paula and Ms. Daisy