

Fountain Valley Montessori

December 2024 Newsletter



Important Dates:

Holiday Gift Shop:

12/2 – Rm 4
12/3 – Rm 1 & 7
12/4 – Rm 2 & 3
12/5 – Rm 5 & 6
12/6- Absent Children

Holiday Show/International Potluck:

12/11 – RM 1, & 2
12/12 – RM 3, 5 & 6
12/13 – RM 4 & RM 7

Spirit Week:

December 16th – 20th

Winter Recess

Monday, Dec. 23rd -
Friday, January 3rd
(School Closed)

Happy Birthday...

Ms. Paula – 17th
Ms. Remington – 20th
Ms. Lisa- 24th



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 11th

Room 1 @ 10:00 am
Room 2 @ 10:30 am

Thursday, December 12th

Room 3 9:30 am
Room 5 10:00 am
Room 6 10:30 am

Friday, December 13th

Toddlers-RM7 @ 9:15 am
Room 4 @ 10:30 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.

Spirit Week: FVM will get into the holiday spirit the week of December 16th – 20th as we celebrate Spirit Week! We will have a special theme each day for the children to follow. Keep an eye out as we get closer!

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

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Visit us at 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 a gingerbread house using different art materials which will be displayed outside our classroom. For our cooking project, we will make chocolate barks topped with peppermint and M & Ms to be taken and eaten at home. For our Spanish lesson, we will review the colors and numbers.

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 11, at 10:00 AM, followed by the international potluck at 11:15 AM in our classroom. Please make sure to arrive on time so that you don't miss your child's performance!

Happy December and Happy Holidays to all!

Ms. Gassia and Ms. Vivian



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 a turkey and traveled all over the USA. The children worked on many art projects, including birch tree art using the yarn resist technique that was displayed on our hallway board. We ended our month with a friendship feast, and we also enjoyed making Stone Soup together! Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving break.

For December, we will hop aboard our plane and visit Antarctica and the cold Arctic region in the north! We will discover some of the most fascinating animals of the Polar regions, one of them being the penguin. We will learn about the parts of a penguin, its lifecycle and the different types of penguins that inhabit that continent. We will also learn about the parts of a Reindeer. For Botany we will continue with our study of leaves. We will put our dancing shoes on as we work on our “Moon Walk” while listening to some popular music by Michael Jackson. For art, we will be working on a mixed media Christmas tree art.

Along with making fun holiday crafts and projects, 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 Upper Elementary children in Room 4.

Please mark your calendar to watch your child participate in our annual holiday show on Wednesday, December 11th, at 10:30 am. Please send your child to school in their holiday best. We have been practicing for the show and your children will be excited to see you! The event will be held outside in the picnic area. 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.

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!

December birthdays: Amara-12/23

Important dates:

Holiday show performance: Wednesday, December 11th from 10.30- 11.00 followed by the international potluck.

Winter Break: School will be completely closed for winter break from 12/23/2024 to 1/3/25.

Ms. Kinnari & Ms. Juliana





Room 3 -Ms. Bea and Ms. Michelle

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 transportation and all the different ways to travel from place to place. They were surprised to find out that some animals such as horses, camels or elephants 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 of 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 some 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 show on Thursday, December 12, at 9:30 am.** For our Spanish lesson we will be learning numbers 1 through 20.

Looking forward to a fun festive month and warm wishes as we begin the holiday season!

Ms. Bea and Ms. Michelle

December Birthdays: Thomas Dec 3rd, Emilia Dec 13th, Addison Dec 15th Jaxson & Nolan Dec 22nd

Holiday Program for Room 3 Thursday December 13th @ 9:30. This will be followed by the International Potluck at 11:15 am.



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.

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 Friday, December 13th, at 10:30 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!

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. Yasmin & Ms. Marlene



Ms. Neranja and Ms. Marian,



Welcome to the delightful month of December! It's truly amazing how quickly November has passed, and now the festive season is upon us. With our winter vacation approaching, December will be a brief yet exciting month as we delve into a few engaging topics.

We are thrilled to share that the students of our Upper Elementary Program will be hosting the tenth Annual "Room 4's Holiday Gift Shop" for the students of Fountain Valley Montessori. Our students are eager to stock, organize, and manage their very own shop, providing a wonderful opportunity for their schoolmates to find special gifts for their loved ones this holiday season. This experience will allow our Elementary students to apply their math skills and demonstrate their grace and courtesy, while other students enjoy shopping independently for their family and friends.

Throughout this month, the children will explore the various ways to celebrate the seasons and holidays both within our community and around the world. They truly enjoy learning about the diversity of people worldwide, which nurtures a sense of respect and acceptance for different beliefs.

Here are the Units for December:

Cultural Units:

- **World Holidays** A fantastic opportunity for students to discover how holidays are celebrated in other countries and how they can incorporate these traditions into their own family celebrations. This exploration highlights the positive experiences offered by all cultures.

- **Elementary Heritage Project** This project encourages students to delve into their heritage while understanding why the United States is known as the "melting pot" of the world. Each student will research and reflect on their backgrounds, sharing their findings with peers through creative posters.

- **Winter and December Writing Prompts**: Engaging prompts such as "Does falling snow have a sound?", "If I owned a toy store", and "The best gifts are gifts from the heart. What does this phrase mean to you?" will inspire thoughtful writing.

- **Science**: Exploring the Parts of a Moose.

- **Art** Creating a mural inspired by the theme "Peace and World Holidays".

- **Music**: Discovering the Nutcracker through music, story, and craft.

Our Holiday Show will be held on Friday, December 13, 10:30 am onwards. This will be followed by the International Holiday Potluck at 11:15 am.

We hope you thoroughly enjoy the final days of 2024, and wish you all a warm and cozy December!

December 2024 Room 5 - Ms. Gloria & Ms. Daisy

Phew... See how time has flown as we reach the end of year 2024! In November, we were thankful for many things that we are blessed with, including the children and families of FVM. Our Stone Soup and Harvest Feast Potluck were successful with your help, and we humbly thank everyone who helped us in numerous ways. Thank you all for meeting with me for parent/teacher conferences.

In December, the children of Room 5 will learn about Antarctica and the Arctic region, along with their geographic locations on the world map. In Zoology, children will study about types of penguins and about arctic animals. Our all-time favorite penguin has been the Macaroni Penguin!

For our monthly cooking project, we are planning on making Reindeer bites. We will use peanuts as we do not have any children with peanut allergies. Please let me know if you do not want your child to participate.

In Spanish, the children will learn the terms used for the family members. In Botany, the children will learn about the parts of a tree. This lesson will continue into January as well. The composer for the month is Michael Jackson as we will listen to his music. You will be surprised how the children can work while listening to MJ's Thriller album!! The children will also work on holiday themed art projects during the month of December.

The annual holiday gift shop organized by Elementary children will be held during the week of 12/2/24-12/5/24. You may send cash with your child to purchase gifts for the family and friends. Please place it in a labeled ziplock bag and bring it to the front office.

As the holidays are getting closer, the children of Room 5 are practicing for our Holiday Show, which is on Thursday, December 12th at 10:00 am. Please bring your child to school in his/her holiday attire to Room 5. **Their performance will be held in the back picnic area. Our international potluck will be held on the same day at 11:15 am.** Please look for the sign-up sheet on the door. I am excited to see what everyone will be bringing. I have some Sri Lankan delicacies I am planning to bring for everyone to taste.

While thanking you for entrusting your child's education and growth with us, Ms. Daisy and I wish you all happy and safe holidays!

Hello Parents,

November was a busy month for everyone. Children worked hard on challenging academic work, learning letters, numbers, writing and coloring. They also worked on geometric shapes and enjoyed making beautiful metal inset drawings. We learned about many vegetables, spices and fruits. They painted fruits and vegetables to make a "harvest basket" for our Thanksgiving feast. Thank you for your cooperation with the activities throughout the month.

This month we will explore the continent of Antarctica. We will learn about its weather and the animals that call this unique environment their home. Children will be learning about a very special bird, the penguin, and how they have adapted to these harsh conditions.

As we approach the season of winter, children will be learning about hibernation of plants and animals. We'll read books about hibernation throughout the month. Our monthly art project will be holiday themed artwork. I am sure children will enjoy the process.

Please mark your calendar for our **Holiday show & Potluck on Thurs., Dec. 12th.**

- **Holiday show starts at 10:30 am, at the back picnic area.**
- **International potluck starts at 11:15 am, in our classroom.**

Please note, school will be closed for Winter Recess from Mon., 12/23/2024 to Fri., 01/03/2025.

Hope you all have a wonderful month of December.

Thank you!

Mrs. Enoka & Ms. Lindsay



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.” 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 stockings 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.

Get ready for the cutest show ever....the children will be singing holiday songs for you on Friday, December 13, at 9:15 am for our Holiday Show. Be ready for “I’m A Little Snowman,” “Hello Reindeer,” and “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”

We wish you Happy Holidays! See you all in 2025!

Thank you,

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

