

# FOUNTAIN VALLEY MONTESSORI

January 2025 Newsletter

## Important Dates:

Monday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>

Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>

*Winter Recess*

Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

*School Closed in honor of  
Martin Luther King Jr Day*

Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>-

*Progress Reports Out*

Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>

*Open House  
(8:00 – 9:30 am)*

Happy Birthday...

*Ms. Neranja - Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>*

**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! We'd like to send a special thank you to Niveen A. in room 3, Ryan C. in room 2 and Logan C. in room 4 Upper Elementary for selling the most candy this year!

**Holiday Shows:** Thank you to everyone who attended our Holiday Shows. The children had so much fun, and we hope you enjoyed watching your children perform! The international potluck was also a hit, and it was all thanks to everyone who participated! It was wonderful sharing the holiday season with everyone.

**Open House:** All parents are welcome to attend our open house that is coming up on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 - 9:30 am. You will have the opportunity to see what your child has been working on in class!

**Morning Drop Off/Afternoon Pick up:** If you require AM/PM daycare for your child, this must be pre-arranged with the office. **We do offer occasional daycare at the rate of \$20.00/hr., which will automatically be billed to your account if your child is dropped off before 8:45 or 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:** Make sure your child has enough extra clothing in case of accidents. Thank you!

**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. Keep all sick children home. **Children must be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.**

Visit us at [fvmontessori.com](http://fvmontessori.com)

for the newsletter, calendar, etc.



## **Room 1- Happy New Year to all!**

Welcome back! We hope everyone enjoyed their holiday break. It was so nice to see the children perform and sing for our holiday show. They were excited to perform for you and I think they outdid themselves! Thank you all for coming. A big thank you for all the cards, presents and gifts Ms. Vivian and I received. We really appreciate all your kindness, love, and generosity!

The holidays are behind us, and we can't wait to dive into January! We will be traveling to the continent of Asia and celebrating Lunar New Year! We will be traveling to India, China and Japan! Did you know that the name Japan means "sun's origin"? It is also known as the "Land of the Rising Sun"! That is interesting! We will also be watching a short video about the Great Wall of China. The children will learn about the culture, landmarks, animals, and discover interesting facts through our journey.

We will have the opportunity of exploring the various types of fish as we learn about parts of the fish for our zoology lesson. We will dive into physics with the sink and float experiment. In Spanish, children will learn the names of the animals represented in the Lunar Year Calendar.

On Wednesday, January 29th, our class will be watching the Elementary Lunar New Year parade. School will be providing lunch on this day. Please feel free to dress your child in traditional clothing on this day if you would like to do so.

For Art, we will create beautiful cherry blossom trees inspired by the very famous Japanese artist, Katsushika Hokusai. For cooking, we will make kappa maki (cucumber rolls made with rice, cucumbers and seaweed)! Yumm!

I will read a story based on the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King as we celebrate his birthday on January 20th.

Thank you and have a great month ahead!

Birthdays- Carter Mc Vay- January 8<sup>th</sup>, Albert Nguyen- January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Ms, Gassia & Ms. Vivian



Welcome Back Parents!

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone had a relaxing and safe time off! Let the new year begin!!!

I would like to begin by thanking you all for the warm wishes, cards and presents bestowed on us last month. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity. It was so much fun to hear the children sing their hearts out at the holiday show and your presence made it even more special!

The excitement of the holidays is behind us as we look forward to a new month. January will be filled with exciting information about the continent of Asia. We will be traveling to the biggest continent learning about the countries, the famous landmarks, the people and their culture and the animals unique to the continent. Popular landmarks such as the Great Wall of China, mount Fuji, the Taj Mahal and the Himalaya mountains are a few of the landmarks we will focus on. Animals such as the Bengal tiger, the elephant and the panda bear are sure to fascinate the children. Being a native from India, I will give children a presentation on India and bring some hands-on sensorial artifacts, clothing and jewelries of India for them to explore.

We will also be learning about the parts of a horse and the parts of a tree for our zoology and botany lessons. Our Spanish lesson will be based on learning about clothing items. I am excited to work with the children on a painting with Cherry Blossoms inspired by the famous artist, Katsushika Hokusai. We will recreate one of his beautiful paintings. We will listen to musicians from Asia such as Ravi Shankar playing Sitar and Yo Yo Ma playing Cello. Along with listening to Asian music we will also be working on art projects to celebrate Lunar New Year! I will be reading a story based on the life and work of the great philosopher, Dr. Martin Luther King. As always, we will work on art projects and story writing through the month.

Your child's extra clothes were sent home in December so you may please replenish with weather appropriate clothes.

Thank you so much for entrusting your child's education with us. We look forward to a great 2025 year ahead!

Birthdays: Dylan-1/8 and Brandon-1/26

Warm Regards,

Ms. Kinnari & Ms. Juliana



### **Room 3- Ms. Bea and Ms. Michelle**

Welcome back! Happy 2025! We hope you had a nice winter break and enjoyed this time off with your family. December was a busy a fun month for all. The children enjoyed the festive month as they worked on holiday inspired art and practiced for the holiday show. We learned about Antarctica and the Arctic and the animals that inhabit the coldest regions of the world! For our Spanish class we learned the names of shapes. The children enjoyed practicing and singing for the holiday performance. Thank you for coming! They also enjoyed all the yummy food from international potluck.

Thank you for coming! Ms. Michelle and I would also like to thank you all for showering us with gifts and gift cards. Thank you for thinking of us and for your kindness and generosity.

January will be another exciting month as we will be traveling to Asia, learning about the different countries, the people and about the breathtaking landmarks of this beautiful continent. We will make noodles in class for our cooking project. We will learn about the parts of a fish for our zoology unit. I will introduce the concept of living and non-living things. I would like to have the children work on a special project related to the topic and I request you to please send some pictures/magazine cut outs for the children to make their own living and non-living charts. About 5 to 6 pictures of each in a labeled ziplock bag should suffice.

We will watch a special documentary on the Panda bear which is native to the continent of Asia. We will also recreate a beautiful masterpiece by the Japanese artist Katsushika Hokusai, representing cherry blossoms. For Spanish class we will learn names of winter clothing articles. We will be listening to sounds of beautiful guitar and instrumental music from Japan. This month also gives us an opportunity to learn about life of Martin Luther King and his very important message. I will be reading an age-appropriate biography on his life.

On Wednesday, January 29th, our class will be watching the Elementary Lunar New Year parade. School will be providing lunch on this day. Please feel free to dress your child in traditional clothing on this day if you would like to do so.

Happy New Year!

Room 4 Upper Elementary

Ms. Neranja and Ms. Marian

Welcome to the new year! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to a bright and successful 2025.

We are excited to continue providing your children with a world-class Montessori education. We believe that every child is unique and has the potential to reach their full potential. Our goal is to create a nurturing and supportive learning environment where children can learn at their own pace and develop their natural love of learning.

The Units for January will be:

### **Science**

- Penguin Studies/ Study of Snowflakes
- Part of a seed: Types/ Experiments for Botany Impressionistic charts
- Biology: Human Body/ Circulatory System
- Electricity: Circuits and Conductors
- Natural light and how we see things
- Astronomy: Stars
- Physics: Simple Machines

### **History**

- Story of Writing
- Inuit Study; Culture, traditions, and history
- Martin Luther King's research and projects

### **Social Studies**

- Polar Regions/ How is climate change affecting polar regions?
- Arctic/Antarctic: Physical/political maps, Places & regions

**Art:** Catching a snowflake

**Performing Arts:** Telling Jokes

**P.E:** Brain gym exercises

### **Peace Education**

- Goal setting
- Non-Violent Communication
- Ways to show respect

We are pleased to let you know that we will be thoughtfully adjusting our schedule to help children transition smoothly back into school after their delightful vacations. Additionally, we sincerely appreciate your thoughtful and generous holiday wishes. We are excited to collaborate with you in supporting your children's success. Wishing you a fantastic January!



Hello Parents,

Happy New Year to all! We hope everyone had a good holiday season with friends and family. Last month was fun and festive for us as the children worked hard for their holiday show. They had a blast putting this together and we felt like true stars! Thank you all for coming. I would also like to thank you for the generous gifts, holiday wishes, cards, and the gift cards we received. Thank you!

As the new year begins, we look forward to giving lessons and introducing new work. This month we will be touring through the chilly areas of Antarctica and the Arctic. We will focus on the location and physical features of the north and south poles. I have no doubt the children will be fascinated by the penguins in the Antarctic, the polar bears, and the life of the people in the Arctic, their habitat, and other unique features exclusive to these regions. We will also learn about the life cycle of a penguin.

For Biology we will focus on vertebrates and invertebrates and will explore the difference between carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores. I am excited to present the life cycle of a snowflake which will be followed by a science experiment. I know they will enjoy it! We will also talk about objects that sink and float and discover why they do so. In addition, the children will be learning about animals in Spanish class. I am also excited to incorporate a Yoga space in the classroom with mini-Yoga poses children can practice.

Our musician for the month will be Richard Wagner and his extraordinary Opera compositions. We will spark the children's interest in art by introducing them to the famous French artist Henri Matisse. They will recreate his art by making their own with paper cutouts. We will also make fruit popsicles for our cooking project.

On Wednesday, January 29th, our class will be participating in the Lunar New Year parade. School will be providing lunch on this day. Please feel free to dress your child in traditional clothing on this day if you would like to do so.

I encourage all children to bring an item to share on Fridays. Please do not send toys as they are a distraction for all. I would also like to remind all parents to please send a labeled jacket this winter season.

Please feel free to email me at [yasminc.fvm@gmail.com](mailto:yasminc.fvm@gmail.com) if you have any questions or would like to share information regarding your child.

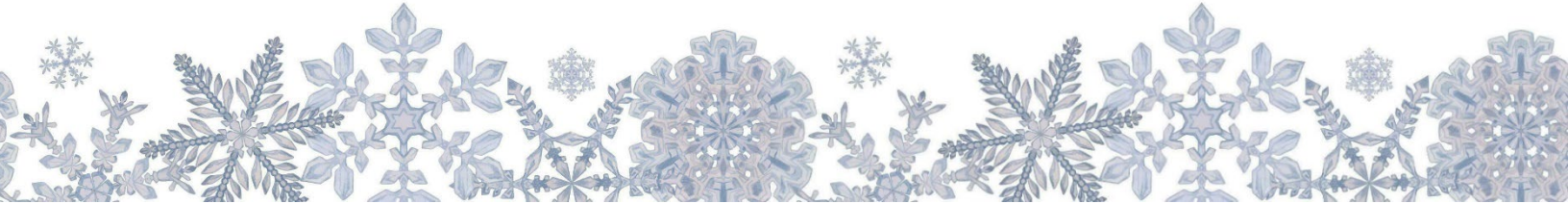
January Birthdays: Claire Emler- 1/1, Ansh Bhardwaj-1/23,

Martin Luther King Jr. Day January 20, 2024

Progress Reports: January 31<sup>st</sup>

We look forward to yet another great year ahead!

Thankyou  
Ms. Yasmin





Welcome back! I hope that everyone had a restful and joyous time during the holidays! Can you believe that 2025 is here!! I would like to wish everyone at FVM a happy and prosperous New Year! May the year 2024 be filled with joy, love, and peace throughout the year!

I would like to start the year by being thankful to everyone for all the gifts and gift cards I was showered with during the holidays. I am very appreciative of your love and generosity!

All aboard! We will be visiting Asia discovering the magnificent Taj Mahal in India, humongous Sigiriya Rock Fortress in Sri Lanka, Great Wall of China, and the beautiful Japanese 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, animals, food, clothes, language, art, elephant orphanage and other interesting facts the country has to offer. It is amazing to watch the beautiful giants line up behind each other with the sound of clapping hands, just like our Montessori children! We will also make a dish from Sri Lanka called milk rice for our cooking project. I invite all parents from other countries in Asia to come in for a presentation and share information with the children. You are welcome to bring in posters, pictures, books, artifacts.... etc. Please let me know if you would be interested.

I am excited to work with the children on a painting with cherry blossoms inspired by Katsushika Hokusai. Our zoology curriculum for the month includes learning about the parts of a bird. Historically, they have enjoyed making mini booklets and I am hoping that this year is no exception. The unit of study for the month being Ocean Life, we will explore life under water. For Spanish class, the children will learn about parts of the body.

During January, we will listen to musicians from Asia, Ravi Shankar on Sitar, and Yo Yo Ma on Cello. The children will also learn about the philosopher, Dr. Martin Luther King. They will listen to a book about him and make a bookmark. A perfect use during story time at home when you read to your child each night!

Your child's extra clothes were sent home in December so that you may replenish with weather-appropriate, size-fitting clothes.

On Wednesday, January 29th, our class will be watching the Elementary Lunar New Year parade. School will be providing lunch on this day. Please feel free to dress your child in traditional clothing on this day if you would like to do so. We will adorn our room with creative art representing the animal of the year, the snake.

Birthdays: Jasmine – 2<sup>nd</sup>; Caynan – 5<sup>th</sup>; Reese – 6<sup>th</sup>

Hello Parents,

Welcome back!!! I wish you all a very Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a lovely holiday with family and friends. I thank you all for the presents and gifts Ms. Lindsay and I received. We appreciate your kindness and generosity.

In the month of January, the children are going to tour the largest continent of Asia. I will be introducing the Asia continent puzzle and naming all the countries in this vast continent. Children will be given lessons about the animals, the people and their food habits and the unique landmarks found on this continent. They will be making crafts to celebrate Lunar New Year as well. On Wednesday, January 29th, our class will be watching the Elementary Lunar New Year parade. School will be providing lunch on this day. Please feel free to dress your child in traditional clothing on this day if you would like to do so.

I will read a story based on the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King as we celebrate his birthday on January 20th.

For our zoology lesson, I will be introducing parts of the fish and their food and adaptation to life in water. Our botany lesson will be based on learning parts of a seed. We will dissect a seed to observe what is inside.

Since we are learning about the continent of Asia, children will be listening to music by two famous musicians from the continent, Yo Yo Ma and Ravi Shanker. For Art, we will create beautiful cherry blossom trees inspired by the very famous Japanese artist, Katsushika Hokusai.

As we are in these cold winter months, I will be introducing all about snow, snowflakes and how to make a snowman.

Your child's extra clothes were sent home in December so you may please replenish with weather appropriate clothes.

Thank you so much for entrusting your child's education with us. We look forward to a great 2025 year ahead!

Have a wonderful January!

Thank you.

Mrs. Enoka





Hello Room 7 families,

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

We welcome all new families to Room 7! Welcome to our beautiful classroom! I would like to remind all returning families that coming back to school after spending time with loved ones is sometimes unsettling for 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 a.m. 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 2025 year ahead!!

We are so excited to begin the New Year with lots of fun projects and activities. The Winter Wonderland theme leads us into learning about snow and ice, making snowmen and penguins. The children will be exploring with the color white. They will sponge paint, dot art and paint with a paint brush on the easel. Our book will be "Five Little Penguins Slipping on Ice." How cute!!! Our shape of the month will be a diamond. "I'm A Little Penguin and "Five Little Snowmen" will be our songs of the month. I will continue to give lessons from all 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.

Reminders:

1. Please make sure your child has the proper weather appropriate extra clothes in their cubby.
2. Please make sure to label all your child's belongings with your child's name.

Thank you,

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