

Fountain Valley Montessori

September 2026 Newsletter

Important Dates:

Monday, September 7th

School Closed in
Observance of Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8th

First day of the Academic
School Year!

Thursday, September 24th

Back to School Night
5:00 - 6:00 pm

Monday, September 28th
- Friday, October 2nd

Scholastic Book Fair

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ms. Gloria- Sept. 6th



Welcome to

Fountain Valley Montessori

Fountain Valley Montessori is thrilled for the 2026-2027 school year! On behalf of the staff, we are privileged that you have chosen FVM 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.

Staff Emails

Room 1:

Ms. Paula-
paula@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Vivian-
vthai@fvmontessori.com

Room 2:

Ms. Marian-
marian@fvmontessori.com

Room 3:

Ms. Bea-
bea@fvmontessori.com

Room 4:

Ms. Neranja-
neranja@fvmontessori.com
Ms. Kinnari-
kinnari@fvmontessori.com

Room 5:

Ms. Gloria-
gloria@fvmontessori.com

Room 6:

Ms. Enoka-
enoka@fvmontessori.com

Room 7:

Ms. Alicia-
alicial@fvmontessori.com

Office Staff:

Director:

Ms. Sneha-
sneha@fvmontessori.com

Administration

Ms. Jahaira-
jahairab.fvm@gmail.com
Ms. Remington-
remingtonkoyl.fvm@gmail.com

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

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: Tuition is due on the 15th of every month prior to attendance (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! As of this school year please note that share day will be on your child's snack host day.

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.

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Fountain Valley
Montessori



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Room 1: Ms. Paula & Ms. Vivian

Greetings parents,

My name is Ms. Paula Le Rose and I am the Senior Lead Teacher for Room 1. I will be working with Ms. Vivian Thai who will be the Co-Lead Teacher. 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 do a project using sand to create the Earth. Children will also be introduced to 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 "all about me", as we explore our similarity and differences, as well as our five senses.

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 provide 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.

We will be communicating with you via email. Please feel free to reach out to me at paula@fvmontessori.com and vtthai@fvmontessori.com should you have any questions. We look forward to working with you and are thrilled to have your child in my class!

September Birthdays: Alex L. - September 6th
Chase D. - September 14th
Parker T. - September 15th



Welcome to Room 1

"Of all things, love is the most potent". We welcome you to Room 1 with a quote from Dr. Maria Montessori!

This year will be the best year yet! My name is Paula Le Rose, and I will be the Senior lead teacher. I have had the honor of teaching at Fountain Valley Montessori since 2002. I was born and raised in Maine and attended University of Maine. My daughter attended a Montessori program until third grade. She graduated from UCLA with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematical economics and is gainfully employed. I strongly believe in the intrinsic foundation that the Montessori method gives a child. I embrace each new day with the objective of giving your child the tremendous opportunity to build a lifelong foundation.

Ms. Vivian Thai joins me as the Co-Lead Teacher for the class. Ms. Vivian graduated from CSU Dominguez Hill with a bachelor's degree in child development and has over 15 years of experience working with children. She is a certified Montessori Teacher and has been working at FVM for over 4 years. She likes doing art and crafts, embroidery, and reading books. Together, we are looking forward to a great year with your lovely children.

Here is some important information for all parents:

- **Drop off-** Whether you're just getting back from vacation or starting school for the first time, the first day of school might be challenging for your child. This is completely normal and to be expected. As parents, it is very important to make morning drop off short but sweet. Please give your child a quick hug and kiss goodbye for a smooth transition.
- **Snack Host/Hostess-** Please sign up to bring morning snack one day a month, for the classroom, for 24 children. Your child will have the opportunity to host a snack and be the classroom helper for the day. On their Snack Host/Hostess Day, your child may also bring an item for Share to show and talk about with the class. Please find the signup sheet and snack suggestions outside the classroom door. The school will provide afternoon snacks for children enrolled in the PM daycare program.
- **Lunch-** Please provide lunch every day. Please include a main meal including carb and two sides such as fruit, veggies, or a dairy product. FVM does not refrigerate or microwave children's food. You may send lunch from home or sign up for the hot lunch program at thelunchmob.com using the school code FVMONT.
- **Pizza Friday-** Every Friday your child has the option to bring lunch from home or sign-up for pizza and sides. It costs \$5.00 per Friday. Please pay cash or check made out to "FVM PTU" to the office.
- **Extra Clothes-** Please keep two extra pairs of shirts, pants, underwear, and socks in your child's cubby. Label all items with your child's name and place them in a zip-lock bag. (Be mindful of the weather changes.)
- **Bedding-** If your child naps at school please bring a fitted crib sheet and a blanket in a large pillowcase labeled with your child's name. Pillows are allowed, but please only small sized. One small sleeping item (stuffed animal) is also optional. These items go home with you on Friday to be washed and brought back to school when your child returns the following week.
- **Spanish-** Spanish lessons on Wednesdays. The children will learn numbers, colors, animals, parts of the body and more! As well as fun songs in Spanish!
- **Physical Education-** Your children will participate in PE on Fridays. We will be actively working on gross motor skills including running, jumping, throwing balls, balancing, and relaxation methods like stretching and yoga. Therefore, make sure your children are wearing comfortable clothes and shoes on this day.
- **Music-** We will be teaching the children fun songs and introduce them to some musical instruments throughout the year. We have a music corner in our class where children can listen to audio books and get acquainted with musical instruments.
- **Parent/Teacher Communication-** Keeping open communication is key to your child's success! Please note you can always email me at paula@fvmontessori.com or Ms. Vivian at ythai@fvmontessori.com with any questions. I will respond as soon as possible or give you a call during my prep time. Please also make sure to check your emails for important announcements and weekly updates on Fridays! Please note class starts promptly at 9:00am. Our half day program ends at 12:00pm and our full day program ends at 3:00pm. We offer AM daycare between 7:00 am - 8:45 am and PM daycare between 3:15 pm - 6:00 pm. We are very excited for the year ahead and I am looking forward to working with your child! We have plenty of fun activities and learning ahead!

Ms. Paula & Ms. Vivian

Room 2: Ms. Marian & Ms. Veronica

Dear Parents,

My name is Marian Fahim, and I am delighted to serve as the Lead Teacher for Room 2. I am pleased to be working alongside Ms. Veronica Monroy, who will be assisting and helping me with your little ones! We are both very excited to welcome you and your children and look forward to beginning a wonderful and enriching 2026-2027 school year together!

The warm days of summer are behind us, and the crisp excitement of fall is ahead. A new school year is always a wonderful time for new beginnings, and we look forward to creating a joyful year filled with learning, growth, and discovery.

During the first few weeks of school, our focus will be on "normalizing" the classroom—helping children become comfortable with classroom expectations, routines, and their new environment. Children will receive lessons on self-care and caring for their environment, classroom rules and safety, such as walking in a line, using quiet voices, and walking feet indoors, as well as playground safety.

We will also introduce practical life skills, including pushing in a chair, carrying a tray correctly, and cleaning up after work and lunch. Our returning students will be wonderful mentors and role models for our new friends as everyone settles into the classroom community. We will spend plenty of time building relationships, making connections, and exploring our classroom together.

We will begin the year by learning about ourselves and our bodies, including nutrition and healthy habits that help us grow strong. We will celebrate what makes each child unique by observing features such as hair and eye color. To conclude the unit, the children will create a fun self-portrait. Then, we will board the Room 2 airplane and begin our adventure around the world! We will explore the Western and Eastern Hemispheres while learning about the land and water formations of our beautiful planet, including the continents and oceans.

Our science studies will include:

- Botany: The parts of an apple
- Zoology: The parts of a turtle

We will learn vocabulary for the parts of the face for Spanish class.

Our Artist of the Month will be Paul Cézanne, and our Musician of the Month will be Michael Bublé. We will also prepare a delicious signature fruit salad together for our cooking project—yum!

Our shelves will be filled with exciting new materials and hands-on work that complement our studies, along with many creative projects and activities designed to encourage curiosity, independence, and a love of learning.

I am truly looking forward to the year ahead and cannot wait to get to know and work with all your little ones! I will be communicating with you primarily via email, so please feel free to reach out to me at marian@fvmontessori.com if you have any questions or concerns.

We are so excited for a wonderful year together!



September Birthdays:

Tyler M. -	September 1st
Clara T. -	September 2nd
Maxwell C. -	September 20th
Arden N.-	September 23rd



Welcome to Room 2



Dear Room 2 Parents,

It is my pleasure to welcome you and your children to Room 2! I want to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Marian Fahim, and I will serve as our classroom's Lead Teacher this year. I have dedicated the past 18 years to the educational field, working with preschool and elementary-aged children in Egypt and the United States. I hold a bachelor's degree in mass communication and television from Ain Shams University in Egypt and an International Montessori Teaching Diploma from the North American Montessori Center. I am also currently pursuing a master's degree in clinical Mental health counseling to further support children and families.

For the past nine years, I have been proud to be part of the FVM community, collaborating with a team of talented and dedicated educators. On a personal note, I am married and the mother of two wonderful daughters, one in eighth grade and the other in third grade. Outside the classroom, I enjoy coding, traveling, and spending quality time with my family.

I am also excited to introduce Ms. Veronica Monroy, who will be working alongside me as an Assistant Teacher in Room 2 this year. Ms. Veronica has been part of the FVM community for over five years. She has completed her Early Childhood Education (ECE) units at Fullerton College and is currently enrolled in the Montessori Teacher Training Program. She is also a proud mother to a two-year-old who is enrolled in the FVM Toddler class.

We look forward to a wonderful school year filled with growth, discovery, and joyful learning experiences. Thank you for entrusting us with your children. We are excited to partner with you and support your children's journey.

- **Getting Started:** Whether you are just getting back from vacation or starting school for the first time, the first day of school might be challenging for your child. This is completely normal and to be expected. As parents, it is important to make morning drop-off short but sweet. Please give your child a quick hug and kiss goodbye.
- **Morning Drop-Off:** Please plan to drop off your child between 8:45 and 8:55 AM. This allows us to begin our morning circle on time and gives the children the opportunity to give the morning circle their full attention without interruptions. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in helping us create a calm and focused start to the day.
- **Parent/Teacher Communication:** Open communication is key to your child's success! Please note that you can always email me or the office staff with any questions.
- **Extra Clothes:** Please keep two extra pairs of shirts, pants, underwear, and socks in your child's cubby. Label all items with your child's name and place them in a Ziplock bag. Please be mindful of weather changes.
- **Bedding:** If your child naps, please bring a fitted crib sheet and a blanket in a large pillowcase labeled with your child's name. Pillows are allowed, but please only small-sized ones. One small sleeping item, such as a small stuffed animal, is also optional. These items will go home with you on Friday to be washed and brought back to school when your child returns the following week.
- **Sunscreen:** If you have already filled out the sunscreen permission slip and have chosen for us to apply sunscreen, please make sure to give the sunscreen directly to the office or to the teacher. It may not be left in the child's cubby or lunchbox.
- **Birthdays:** We celebrate your child's birthday with "Walk Around the Sun," the Montessori way of celebrating. On your child's birthday, please provide 4-5 photos of your child, which will be displayed throughout the month.
- **Spanish Lessons:** Spanish lessons will be held every Thursday.
- **Snack Host/Hostess:** Please sign up to bring morning snack one day a month for the classroom, which has 24 children. Your child will have the opportunity to host snack and be the classroom helper for the day. Please find the sign-up sheet and snack suggestions outside the classroom door. The school will provide afternoon snacks for children enrolled in the PM daycare program.
- **Pizza Friday:** Every Friday, your child has the option to bring lunch from home or sign up for pizza. It costs \$5.00 per Friday. Please pay cash or check made out to "FVM PTU" to the office.

Please note that class starts promptly at 9:00 AM. Our half-day program ends at 12:00 PM, and our full-day program ends at 3:00 PM. We offer AM daycare between 7:00-8:45 AM and PM daycare between 3:15-6:00 PM.

We will be communicating with you via email. Please feel free to contact me at marian@fvmontessori.com should you have any questions.

We look forward to an amazing year ahead!

Warmly,
Marian Fahim



Room 3: Ms. Bea & Ms. Sara

Parents,

I would like to give a warm welcome to all our new and returning families. Ms. Sara and I are very excited to have the opportunity to be your children's teachers! It's 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 along with pulling and pushing our chair, carrying a tray and being respectful of the environment are a few we will focus on. We will be setting a solid foundation with lessons on grace and courtesy.

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 apples and types of apples.

We will practice apple slicing as apples will be the fruit of the month. The children will help to peel, slice and sprinkle the apples with cinnamon and get them ready to make baked apples for our cooking project.

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 Ludwig Van Beethoven. "Hola ,Adios , Como estas, Como te llamas.... we will focus on greetings 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 closets have limited space.
- The linen will be taken home every Friday for washing and returned on Monday to start another week
- Please bring a regular-sized lunch box for your child's lunch and a water bottle.
- bag pack is not necessary. We look forward to a great and Successful year

We look forward to a great and Successful year!
For questions, please email at bea@fvmontessori.com

Welcome to Room 3



My name is Beatriz Tapia (lovingly called Ms. Bea). I am so happy to welcome you to Room 3. I have been working with preschool children for the past 16 years and have had the privilege of working with Fountain Valley Montessori for the past 18 years. I am excited to continue as a Lead Teacher in Room 3 this year! I earned my Diploma in Early Childhood Training from the North American Academy Center and my Early Childhood Units from Santa Ana College. I enjoy music and singing and have been a part of my local church choir for the past 20 years. I am married and have an 18-year-old son who graduated high school this year. Working with children has been my passion. I enjoy giving lessons, guiding, redirecting the children, and watching them grow to their full potential.

I am so happy to be working with Ms. Sara McDonough this year as she will be assisting me in Room 3. She has been working at FVM for the past year. She is kind and patient and loves children! Ms. Sara holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Sociology. She also has a Montessori diploma from NAMC. She has over 5 years' experience working with school-age children and is also a mom to a 3-year-old who is enrolled at FVM! She is happily married and loves to spend time exploring California and traveling to new places with her family. She loves to read and her favorite sport is baseball. Ms. Sara and I are excited about working together with your children and we look forward to a wonderful school year!! Here is some important information:

- **Drop off-** Whether you're just getting back from vacation or starting school for the first time, the first day of school might be challenging for your child. This is completely normal and to be expected. As parents, it is very important to make morning drop off short but sweet. Please give your child a quick hug and kiss goodbye for a smooth transition.
- **Snack Host/Hostess-** Please sign up to bring morning snack one day a month, for the classroom, for 24 children. Your child will have the opportunity to host a snack and be the classroom helper for the day. Please find the signup sheet and snack suggestions outside the classroom door. The school will provide afternoon snacks for children enrolled in the PM daycare program.
- **Lunch-** Please provide lunch every day. Please include a main meal including a carb and two sides such as fruit, veggies, or a dairy product. FVM does not refrigerate or microwave children's food. You may send lunch from home or sign up for the hot lunch program at thelunchmob.com using the school code FVMONT.
- **Pizza Friday-** Every Friday your child has the option to bring lunch from home or sign-up for pizza and sides. It costs \$4.00 per Friday. Please pay cash or check made out to "FVM PTU" to the office.
- **Extra Clothes-** Please keep two extra pairs of shirts, pants, underwear, and socks in your child's cubby. Label all items with your child's name and place them in a Ziplock bag. (Be mindful of the weather changes).
- **Bedding-** If your child naps at school please bring a fitted crib sheet and a blanket in a large pillowcase labeled with your child's name. Pillows are allowed, but please only small sized. One small sleeping item (stuffed animal) is also optional. These items go home with you on Friday to be washed and brought back to school when your child returns the following week. Your child will have an assigned cubby to his/her bedding to avoid touching other children's belongings.
- **Music-** We will be teaching the children fun songs and introduce them to some musical instruments throughout the year. We have a music corner in our class where children can listen to audio books and get acquainted with musical instruments.
- **Spanish-** I will teach Spanish on Wednesdays. The children will learn numbers, colors, animals, parts of the body and more! As well as fun songs in Spanish!
- **Physical Education-** Your children will participate in PE on Fridays. We will be actively working on gross motor skills including running, jumping, throwing balls, balancing, and relaxation methods like stretching and yoga. Therefore, make sure your children are wearing comfortable clothes and shoes on this day.
- **Share Day-** Share Day is every Friday, so please refrain from having your child bring items to school throughout the week as these are cause for distractions and will be sent home. Every Friday we will have a class share day. Your child may bring in one share from home whether it's their favorite stuffed animal, a photo from a trip you took or a weekend adventure, or a CD they love to listen to in the car. During the 2nd circle we will sit in small groups and talk about what that share means to them and walk around to show his/her friends. Please refrain from bringing large items and toys.

Parent/Teacher Communication- Keeping open communication is key to your child's success! Please note you can always email me at bea@fvmontessori.com, with any questions. I will respond as soon as possible or give you a call during my prep time. Please also make sure to check your emails for important announcements and weekly updates on Fridays! Please note class starts promptly at 9:00am. Our half day program ends at 12:00pm and our full day program ends at 3:00pm. We offer AM daycare between 7:00 am - 8:45 am and PM daycare between 3:15 pm - 6:00 pm.

We are very excited for the year ahead and I am looking forward to working with your child! We have plenty of fun activities and learning ahead!

Ms. Bea & Ms. Sara

Room 4L: Ms. Kinnari & Ms. Kaitlyn

Hello Parents

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer! We are very excited to welcome our new and returning students to the Lower Elementary classroom. We look forward to being part of their academic, social, and developmental journey this year. Our goal is to help each child reach their highest potential at their own pace. As Maria Montessori said, "Follow the child. They will show you what they need to do, what they need to develop in themselves, and where they need to be challenged."

This month, the children will become familiar with their classroom environment, daily routines, classroom procedures, and playground expectations. As they get to know one another, they will practice social skills and learn to communicate politely and respectfully through our Grace and Courtesy lessons.

Throughout the year, we will travel around the world and discover fascinating facts about the continents and oceans. This month, we will begin by exploring the Land and Water Globe, Continent Globe, and Continent Puzzles. We will learn about the Parts of the Earth and explore the Cardinal Directions—North, South, East, and West—using a compass to deepen our understanding. We will also explore different modes of transportation and learn about animals that travel on land, in the air, and in water.

Our science unit will focus on Living and Non-Living Things. In Zoology, the children will learn about Vertebrates and Invertebrates. In Botany, we will explore the parts of an apple, its life cycle, and different varieties of apples. The children will have the opportunity to slice and taste different types of apples as part of their learning experience.

Each month, the children will explore different artists and art techniques. This month, they will create Autumn Apple-inspired artwork using oil pastels and explore color mixing by combining primary colors to create secondary colors for their paintings. Our featured musician for October will be Aretha Franklin, "The Queen of Soul." Our Spanish lessons will focus on colors and shapes.

We strongly encourage all children to participate in Share Day every Friday. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to share pictures, books, trophies, medals, or a special story with their classmates. Please do not send toys, as they can be distracting. Share Day items should be placed in the Share Box outside the classroom in the picnic area. Please label all items with your child's name.

P.E. sessions will be held every Friday. Please make sure your child wears closed-toe shoes for safety. Please label all clothing, lunch bags, water bottles, jackets, and other belongings brought to school. Students may keep their water bottles at their desks. Lunch pails should be placed on the hooks directly outside the classroom. We encourage students to put their belongings away before entering the classroom.

Please bring your child to school by 8:45 AM. Our structured individual reading time in the morning helps create a calm learning environment and allows children to settle into their daily routine. If you arrive late, please drop your child off outside the classroom door on the Lower Elementary side of Room 4. We will welcome them and guide them to their work. Pick-up is between 3:00–3:15 PM. If you need to pick up your child early, please notify the office.

For birthday celebrations hosted by parents, please email us 1–2 weeks in advance so we can coordinate and accommodate multiple celebrations.

This year, we will continue to build upon the strong work habits developed in the Montessori environment. The children are at an exciting stage of development, and we look forward to watching their social, emotional, and academic growth throughout the year.

Thank you for trusting us with your children. We are excited for a wonderful year together! If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at Kinnari.fvm@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing everyone on the first day of school!

Warmly, Ms. Kinnari & Ms. Kaitlyn

September Birthdays:

Taj E. - September 28th Avalyn N. - 20th

Welcome to Room 4 Lower Elementary

"The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind." — Maria Montessori

Welcome to a new school year in Room 4, our Lower and Upper Elementary classroom at Fountain Valley Montessori!

The Elementary years are a remarkable time when children begin to discover not only what they can learn, but who they are as learners. In Room 4, we strive to create an environment that is academically rich, nurturing, joyful, and responsive to each individual child. Through the Montessori philosophy of following the child, we meet students where they are, provide support when needed, and challenge them when they are ready: while fostering independence, confidence, curiosity, responsibility, and a genuine love of learning.

We are excited to partner with you and look forward to a wonderful year of learning and growth together.

Meet Our Teachers

Ms. Kinnari Bhatta Lead Teacher

I was born and raised in Mumbai, India, and have lived in the United States since 2006. I hold a bachelor's degree in accounting and business management from the University of Mumbai, a degree in Travel and Tourism, and completed my Primary Montessori training at Columbus Montessori Education Center in Ohio. With more than 16 years of Montessori experience, I am passionate about nurturing confident, independent learners and fostering intrinsic motivation, self-discipline, and a lifelong love of learning.

Outside of school, I am a proud mom of two sons and one daughter and have been happily married for 21 years. I am happy to share that my children graduated from FVM last year after completing third grade. I speak English, Hindi, and Gujarati and enjoy traveling, cooking, badminton, and art.

Being both a mom and a teacher brings me great joy, and I look forward to making this a happy and meaningful year for your children.

Ms. Kaitlyn Cracchiolo Junior Teacher

I hold an Associate degree in Child Development and Montessori credentials from the North American Montessori Society. I have worked with children for more than 7 years and am passionate about creating a warm and engaging environment where they can learn, grow, and thrive. I recently transferred to Fountain Valley Montessori from our sister school, Montessori of Ladera Ranch, and I am excited to become part of the Room 4 community.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends and creating meaningful memories together. I look forward to getting to know each of our children and families and to a wonderful year ahead!

Our Montessori Elementary Program

The Montessori Elementary years are filled with curiosity, imagination, exploration, and tremendous intellectual growth. Children begin asking bigger questions: how, why, when, and what if? —and our role is to give them the tools and opportunities to discover the answers.

Our curriculum encompasses language, mathematics, geometry, geography, history, botany, zoology, science, culture, and practical life, using hands-on Montessori materials that gradually lead children toward abstraction and deeper understanding.

Most importantly, Montessori allows us to follow the individual child. Students receive support where needed while those ready for greater challenges are encouraged to move forward. As children progress through Elementary, we guide them toward intellectual independence, learning to question, research, collaborate, problem-solve, manage their time, and take ownership of their learning.

Our goal is not simply to teach children what to learn, but to inspire them to understand how to learn.

Classroom Reminders

Healthy Lunches

Please send a balanced, nutritious lunch and keep high-sugar foods and treats to a minimum.

• **Snack Host:** Each student will have the opportunity to be the Snack Host/Hostess each month. Families may sign up to bring the assigned snack on the snack calendar located outside the classroom. The Snack Host will also serve as the line leader, calendar helper, weather reporter, and teacher helper for the day. They may bring an item of educational value to share during Circle Time, such as a book, photographs, a trophy, or something to talk about from a special event or experience. Please do not bring toys.

Arrival & Punctuality

Our school day begins promptly at 8:45 a.m., with attendance and the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 a.m. Consistent attendance and punctuality help children settle peacefully and begin their workday successfully. A detailed daily schedule will be posted outside the classroom.

Staying Connected

A strong partnership between home and school is an important part of your child's success. Please feel comfortable reaching out whenever you have a question or concern. You may contact the school at (714) 593-8333 or reach us by email at kinnari@fvmontessori.com. Thank you for entrusting us with your children. We look forward to a joyful and productive year filled with learning, discovery, friendship, independence, growth, and accomplishment.

We are excited to watch each child grow, discover their strengths, and realize just how much they are capable of achieving. Here's to a wonderful year together in Room 4!

Warmly, Ms. Kinnari & Ms. Kaitlyn



Room 4U: Ms. Neranja & Ms. Erika

Welcome to the 2026–2027 academic year! We are so excited to welcome new and returning students into our Room 4 Montessori community. September is an important month as the children settle into their classroom routines, strengthen independence, practice Grace & Courtesy, and become reacquainted with the Montessori work cycle.

We will begin our year with one of the most inspiring parts of the Montessori Elementary curriculum—Cosmic Education and the First Great Lesson: The Story of the Universe. Through stories, demonstrations, experiments, research, and hands-on Montessori materials, the children will begin making connections between history, geography, science, and the natural world. Alongside our cultural studies, students will continue progressing in Mathematics, Language Arts, Reading Comprehension, Grammar, Writing, and Geometry, with lessons and materials presented according to each child's individual readiness and ability. As always, students who are ready will be encouraged to move forward into more advanced and challenging work.

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

History & Cultural Studies

- The First Great Lesson – The Story of the Universe
- Introduction and review of Cosmic Education
- The Black Strip & Clock of Eras
- Fundamental Needs of Humans
- Timelines & the development of human civilizations
- Ancient Egypt & Mayan Civilization
- Types of Fossils & Earth's History

Science

- - Astronomy, Planets & the Solar System
- Living & non-living
- Rocks, Fossils & Geology
- States of Matter
- Chemical Reactions
- Forces & Introductory Physics
- Hands-on scientific experiments and investigations

Geography

- Continents, Oceans & World Geography
- Parts of the Earth
- Location of the Equator & Cardinal Directions
- Land & Water Forms
- South America Studies
- World and Continent Map Work
- Earth's physical features and geographical exploration

Botany & Zoology

- Parts of a Plant & Root
- Plant Kingdom
- Types of Trees
- Vertebrate & Animal Classification
- Parts & Types of Fish
- Food Chains
- Six Kingdom Classification
- Advanced Plant & Animal Research
- Scientific Classification & Taxonomy

Art, Music, STEM & P.E.

Students will continue to enjoy opportunities for creativity and exploration through Art, Music, STEM, and hands-on projects integrated throughout our curriculum. Our older Elementary students will also begin developing stronger research, engineering, problem-solving, and leadership skills. We are especially excited to incorporate our expanded STEM program and Upper Elementary P.E. program this academic year.

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 very important for your child's academic success and allows each student to benefit fully from our uninterrupted Montessori work cycle. We kindly ask that you ensure your child arrives and is picked up on time.

Thank you, as always, for your continued trust, cooperation, and support. Ms. Erika and I are looking forward to a wonderful September and an exciting year of learning, discovery, and growth together! If you have any questions, please email me at neranja.fvm@gmail.com.

September Birthdays:

Vanhi P-Ng - 22nd

Welcome to Room 4 Upper Elementary

"The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind." — Maria Montessori

Welcome to a new school year in Room 4, our Lower and Upper Elementary classroom at Fountain Valley Montessori!

The Elementary years are a remarkable time when children begin to discover not only what they can learn, but who they are as learners. In Room 4, we strive to create an environment that is academically rich, nurturing, joyful, and responsive to each individual child. Through the Montessori philosophy of following the child, we meet students where they are, provide support when needed, and challenge them when they are ready: while fostering independence, confidence, curiosity, responsibility, and a genuine love of learning.

We are excited to partner with you and look forward to a wonderful year of learning and growth together.

Meet Our Teachers

Ms. Neranja Warawitage Master Teacher

I hold a Bachelor of Science in Science Education with a focus on Child Psychology from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, along with AMI Montessori credentials, certification in Teaching Children with Learning Disabilities and ADHD, and Elementary Montessori credentials from the North American Montessori Center.

My Montessori journey began in Sri Lanka, where I taught for 15 years before moving to the United States. In 2007, I joined Montessori of Ladera Ranch, our sister school, and later transferred to Fountain Valley Montessori. This year is especially meaningful to me as I begin my 12th year at Fountain Valley Montessori and celebrate 20 years within our Montessori school community, along with more than 30 years in Montessori education. My passion is creating an environment where children feel loved and supported while also being appropriately challenged. I believe deeply in following the individual child and helping each student grow academically, socially, and emotionally while developing confidence and independence.

On a personal note, I am happily married and the proud mother of a son who was married this past December. I am delighted to now have a wonderful daughter-in-law as part of our family. It is truly an honor to serve as the Master Teacher of our Elementary Program and to work alongside such a dedicated team.

Ms. Erika Mendoza Assistant Teacher

I hold Associate degrees in Child Development and Mathematics and recently completed my Montessori credentials through North American Montessori Society. I have worked with children for more than a decade and have had the wonderful opportunity to work alongside Ms. Neranja for the past five years. These experiences have strengthened my belief in nurturing each child's independence, confidence, and love of learning. I am passionate about creating a supportive environment where children feel comfortable exploring, learning, and growing.

Outside the classroom, I am the proud mom of my one-year-old daughter, Penelope, which has given me an even deeper appreciation for the joys of guiding young children.

Our Montessori Elementary Program

The Montessori Elementary years are filled with curiosity, imagination, exploration, and tremendous intellectual growth. Children begin asking bigger questions: how, why, when, and what if? —and our role is to give them the tools and opportunities to discover the answers. Our curriculum encompasses language, mathematics, geometry, geography, history, botany, zoology, science, culture, and practical life, using hands-on Montessori materials that gradually lead children toward abstraction and deeper understanding. Most importantly, Montessori allows us to follow the individual child. Students receive support where needed while those ready for greater challenges are encouraged to move forward. As children progress through Elementary, we guide them toward intellectual independence, learning to question, research, collaborate, problem-solve, manage their time, and take ownership of their learning. Our goal is not simply to teach children what to learn, but to inspire them to understand how to learn.

Classroom Reminders

Healthy Lunches

Please send a balanced, nutritious lunch and keep high-sugar foods and treats to a minimum.

• **Snack Host:** Each student will have the opportunity to be the Snack Host/Hostess each month. Families may sign up to bring the assigned snack on the snack calendar located outside the classroom. The Snack Host will also serve as the line leader, calendar helper, weather reporter, and teacher helper for the day. They may bring an item of educational value to share during Circle Time, such as a book, photographs, a trophy, or something to talk about from a special event or experience. Please do not bring toys.

Arrival & Punctuality

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Staying Connected

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We are excited to watch each child grow, discover their strengths, and realize just how much they are capable of achieving. Here's to a wonderful year together in Room 4!

Warmly, Ms. Neranja and Ms. Erika



Room 5: Ms. Gloria & Ms. Navpreet

"The education of even a small child, therefore, does not aim at preparing him for school, but for life." — Dr. Maria Montessori

Welcome back and a warm welcome to our new families in Room 5! We are excited to partner with you for a wonderful year at FVM.

September Focus & Classroom Expectations

- **Normalizing & Practical Life:** We begin by building gentle routines—indoor voices, walking feet, pushing in chairs, carrying trays, and proper handwashing. Returning students will act as helpful mentors to our new friends.
- **Geography & World Tour:** We are kicking off a year-long journey across the globe! This month, we'll explore hemispheres and continents using the Land/Water and Continent Globes, map puzzles, artwork, and our continent song.
- **Apples, Art & "All About Me":** Children will learn apple types and life cycles using Montessori three-part cards, practice peeling/cutting fruit for our fruit salad cooking project, and create art inspired by Paul Cézanne. We will also explore emotions and learn about parts of the body for Spanish class.

Important Reminders for Parents

- **Snack Host Sign-Up:** Check the counter by Room 5 door to sign up for a snack day! On their turn, your child leads the line, helps the teacher, and brings one educational item to share (no toys, please; talk-shares are always welcome).
- **Extra Clothes:** Please bring a labeled Ziploc bag with a spare outfit to keep in your child's cubby.
- **Arrival & Attendance:** Drop-off begins at 8:45 AM on the playground. Please ensure your child arrives by 9:00 M so they don't miss our morning circle time.

Our welcome email will contain a complete overview of the year. If you have any questions, reach out anytime at gloria@fvmontessori.com. Thank you for investing in your child's foundation with us!

September Birthdays:



Ms. Gloria -	September 6th
Jalen N. -	September 9th
Kaeson D. -	September 15th
Karina D. -	September 22nd
Atlas K. -	September 25th



Welcome to Room 5

Hello Parents,

I welcome you all to Room 5 and would like to begin by introducing myself. I am Ms. Gloria de Silva, and I am so excited to be your child's teacher in Room 5. I have been a Montessori trained teacher since year 2000, and this will be my 19th year in Fountain Valley Montessori as a Lead Teacher. I have taken classes on care of "Infants/Toddlers" and on "Children with Special Needs". During my leisure time, I like to travel, cook, and spend time with my two sons and husband. I have a passion for teaching children, and I look forward to a great school year with your child.

I am happy to inform you that Ms. Navpreet Kaur will be assisting me again this year. Ms. Navpreet completed her Early Childhood Education in Ontario, Canada. She has worked with children between the ages of 2 years - 6. During the last year working alongside of me, Ms. Navpreet made the flow of Room 5 go smoothly, helping each child and caring for their safety and wellbeing! She has a passion for children and has made close connections with our new children already. I am excited to have her in our class for this school year!

I would like to take this opportunity to share some information about Room 5 with you.

- **Being Independent:** Fostering independence is an important part of the Montessori classroom. Children will be encouraged to take responsibility for daily routines such as taking out and putting away their lunch, cleaning up after lunch and classroom jobs, putting on and putting away their bedding, caring for themselves, toileting independently, and dressing themselves after a potty accident. We highly encourage you to support and practice these skills at home as well.

- **Lunch & Healthy Eating Habits:** Please provide a balanced lunch that includes 3-4 food groups. We encourage children to eat their protein and carbohydrates before other foods. Any uneaten food will be sent home.

- **Snack Host:** Each student will have the opportunity to be the Snack Host/Hostess each month. Families may sign up to bring the assigned snack on the snack calendar located outside the classroom. The Snack Host will also serve as the line leader, calendar helper, weather reporter, and teacher helper for the day. They may bring an item of educational value to share during Circle Time, such as a book, photographs, a trophy, or something to talk about from a special event or experience. Please do not bring toys.

- **Daily Routine, Newsletter & Emails:** A typical preschool daily routine is attached separately for your reference. I will also send a weekly class email to Room 5 families with an overview of the children's learning and activities. We value your involvement in your child's learning and encourage you to stay connected with the classroom. FVM's monthly newsletter is available on the school website at www.fvmontessori.com. Please read the Room 5 section to learn about upcoming topics and activities.

- **Drop-Off, Pick-Up & Attendance:** School begins at 9:00 a.m. Please ensure that your child arrives by this time. A 15-minute grace period may be used to allow for a smoother morning transition. Punctuality is important because arriving on time allows children to begin their day calmly and participate fully in the Montessori work cycle. If your child is having a difficult transition, we will do our best to support them. If you need to speak with me, please contact me by email at gloria@fvmontessori.com or by phone. I may not always be able to speak with you immediately during the school day, so you may also leave a message with the front office. I will return your message as soon as possible.

- **Naptime:** Each child who naps at school should have an extra-long fitted crib sheet and a blanket, placed inside a labeled pillowcase. A small child-sized pillow and/or mini stuffed animal may also be brought to help your child feel comfortable and relaxed during naptime. Please take all bedding home every Friday to be washed and return it the following Monday.

- **Birthdays:** We celebrate birthdays through the Montessori tradition of "Walk Around the Sun." At the beginning of your child's birthday month, please provide 4-5 photographs of your child. These will be displayed throughout the month as we celebrate their journey around the sun. More information about the birthday celebration will be provided as your child's birthday approaches.

- **Sunscreen:** Please provide sunscreen for your child. Apply sunscreen at home each morning. For children who remain for afternoon daycare, we will reapply sunscreen after naptime, according to the school's sunscreen authorization procedures.

- **Jackets & Extra Clothing:** Jackets may be kept in your child's cubby. Please label all clothing and personal items brought to school. Each child should also have an extra set of clothing and two pairs of underwear/panties in a labeled Ziplock bag in their cubby. Having these items readily available allows children to independently retrieve their clothing and change themselves when needed due to a potty accident or spill.

- **Spanish, Music, P.E., Library & Cooking:** Each week, the children will participate in Spanish, Music, and P.E. lessons. The children will also visit the library and check out a book every other week. Monthly Cooking lessons will be presented as part of our practical life and cultural experiences. With the children's help, we will prepare our "Dish of the Month," giving them opportunities to practice independence, coordination, following a sequence, and working together.

If you have any questions about the overview, please feel free to email me. You may leave a message at the front office, and I will get back to you during my prep time. I look forward to an exciting year ahead!



Room 6: Ms. Enoka & Ms. Lindsay

Dear Parents,

My name is Ms. Enoka Weerasuriya and I am the lead teacher for Room 6. I welcome all new and returning children and parents to our classroom! I am so excited to start this new school year with you all and I look forward to sharing the many lessons and activities I have planned.

As always, our focus will be on helping the children settle into routines, especially through the first few weeks of September. They will practice caring for themselves and their environment, following classroom and playground rules, and learning important practical life skills such as pushing in chairs, carrying trays properly, and using quiet walking feet indoors. Returning students will serve as wonderful mentors to help guide their new friends. We will also reinforce healthy habits with frequent and proper handwashing. Children will be given lessons on classroom etiquette, courtesy, and hygiene. We'll also review classroom and playground safety rules.

I will be introducing planet Earth along with the land and water globe 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 an apple to see the parts of an apple. For our practical life lessons, I will introduce apple slicing/cutting. And of course, children will have a chance to taste what they cut! We are learning 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 "ourselves", and naming parts of the body.

For our special birthday celebrations, I will be coordinating with you to put together the celebration of life poster for your child.

Every Friday we will have Physical Education (PE) lessons. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately in comfortable clothing and shoes. Please check the snack sign up calendar posted outside the classroom and sign up to bring snacks one day a month for 24 children. This will be a special day for your child since they will be able to bring something from home to share with their friends. For example, a leaf they found, a book, clothing, rocks, seashells, pictures etc. (no toys please). They will also have the privilege to host snacks, serve their friends, be the flag bearer and the teachers helper for the day!

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

September Birthdays:

Wynn timer H. - September 7th

Penelope M. - September 17th



Welcome to Room 6



Welcome to Room 6! My name is Mrs. Enoka Weerasuriya and I'm excited to be your child's teacher this school year. I was born and raised on the beautiful island of Sri-Lanka and had my primary, secondary, high school, and college education there. I began my teaching career many years ago as an assistance lecturer in the subjects of botany and zoology and later made the transition to early childhood development and Montessori. I gained my Montessori teaching diploma from Woodlands Training Institute in Sri Lanka. Soon after, I also pursued Human Development education at the Santiago college to further my knowledge. Overall, I have had over 3 decades of teaching experience, of which 2 decades have been working as a Montessori teacher for children 2-6 years of age. In my personal life I have had the pleasure of raising two daughters and one son and have been happily married for 36 years. Teaching has always been my passion, and I am happy to get the opportunity to guide many young minds this school year!

Ms. Linday Yamachika will continue to assist me in Room 6 this year. Ms. Lindsay has 8 years of experience working with children. She is loving, caring, and patient. She has an associate's degree in early childhood education. During her free time, Ms. Lindsay likes to spend time with her family friends, especially at Disneyland.

Here are some important details pertaining to our classroom:

- Snack Host:** Each student will have the opportunity to be the Snack Host/Hostess each month. Families may sign up to bring the assigned snack on the snack calendar located outside the classroom. The Snack Host will also serve as the line leader, calendar helper, weather reporter, and teacher helper for the day. They may bring an item of educational value to share during Circle Time, such as a book, photographs, a trophy, or something to talk about from a special event or experience. Please do not bring toys. Classroom snacks signup sheets will be placed outside the classroom door. If you prefer your child to opt out of the snack for the day, please provide your own snack or your child for that day.

- Lunch:** Please make sure that enough food is included in your child's lunch to provide a healthy balance of 3-4 food groups. We encourage the children to eat their main course (proteins and carbohydrates) first. On Fridays, we will have pizza and sides available to children for \$4.

- Spanish lessons:** Spanish lessons will be held on Wednesdays.

- Extra Clothes:** Please provide change of clothes in a zip lock bag with their name marked on the bag. Please include a change of socks, underwear, a shirt and pants or shorts, and an extra pair of shoes. Please make sure to change your child's extra clothing according to the season.

- Sunscreen:** Sunscreen will be applied to children who stay for afternoon daycare. However, if your child is in need of sunscreen, we will be applying it upon your request. Please make sure to fill out the sunscreen application form.

- Naptime:** For the children who nap, each child must have an extra-long fitted crib sheet and a blanket to be placed inside a pillowcase with their name written clearly on all items. A small child size pillow and comfort items (stuffed animal or favorite blanket) are also welcomed to ensure your child a calm and relaxing experience, as long as the item does not distract the child from napping. Also, please remember to take the bedding home every Friday to be washed and returned the following Monday.

- Parent/ Teacher communication:** If there are questions you would like to discuss with me, the best time to talk is after 3:15 pm. This is my prep time. If this time does not work for you, please email at enoka@fvmontessori.com or leave a message at the front office and I will get back to you.

- Music and Art:** We will be learning about famous musicians and listening to their music throughout the year. I am so happy to have the opportunity to spend time with your precious children and I look forward to a fantastic year ahead!

Ms. Enoka and Ms. Lindsay

Room 7: Ms. Alicia

Ms. Ana, Ms. Maggie and Ms. Gurpreet

Welcome all new and returning families!

It is a pleasure to have your child in our class this year. We are excited to have a beautiful classroom prepared for your 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.

I 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." I change materials and activities every month to keep the classroom inviting and engaging for all.

Our unit will be based on apples. For the month of September, I will read the book "Apple Trouble." We will 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 the 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.

Just 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 8:45 am. It is important for 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 snacks and lunch items.)

- Please make sure your child has two extra pairs of clothes, a pair of shoes and socks in a labeled Ziploc bag.

- Please provide a crib sheet and blanket in a labeled pillowcase, in case your child is napping with us.

- Please no backpacks, there is limited space in their cubbies. **Please label everything.**

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

Thank you for your support and cooperation.
Please email me at alicial@fvmontessori.com if you have any questions.

Welcome to the Toddler Room

Room 7

Welcome Room 7 Families!

My name is Alicia Lenhart, I am the Lead Teacher of the Toddler Program. I was born and raised in El Paso, Tx. I have been with Fountain Valley Montessori for over 11 years! I have an associate's degree in child development: early childhood education from El Paso Community College. I graduated from North American Montessori Center where I received my infant/toddler training. I have over 30 years of experience working with Toddlers and Preschool age children. I am blessed with a daughter, a son, two cute grandsons and a beautiful granddaughter. I am so happy to have my grandchildren enrolled at FVM! I enjoy spending time with my family, reading and playing games on my iPad. Working with the young ones has not only been my career but also my passion and I love the time I get to spend with your precious children!

I am so glad to have a dedicated team of loving teachers who will be assisting me this year!

Ms. Ana Tapia has been with Fountain Valley Montessori for over 4 years. She has an associate's degree from Santa Ana College and a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal studies from California State University, Fullerton and has worked with school age and middle school children. Her favorite hobbies are going to the arcade, bowling and watching her favorite TV shows. It has been a joyful and wonderful experience for her to work with the toddlers, and she is happy to be part of the FVM team!

Ms. Magdalena Perdomo has been with Fountain Valley Montessori for almost two years. She earned her Early Childhood Education units from Santa Ana College and is currently working toward her bachelor's degree in early childhood education. She enjoys going to the beach, hiking, and spending time with her family. She has always loved working with young children, and she is so excited to begin the year with your little ones.

Ms. Gurpreet Kaur has been with Fountain Valley Montessori for 2 years. She was born and raised in India where she earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and an additional Bachelor of Education. She has taught math to elementary and middle school children but working with the toddlers is what she enjoys most! She likes to spend time tutoring math with her family and her dog. She loves to listen to classical music and she likes to dance.

Together, we look forward to getting to know you and creating a loving, caring and safe environment for your children! Let's have a fabulous year ahead!

Ms. Alicia, Ms. Ana, Ms. Magdalena & Ms. Gurpreet