



MONTESSORI OF LADERA RANCH JANUARY 2018

Office Notes

Welcome Back! We hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. Thank you to all of the parents who lavished us with all of the wonderful gifts and cards. We truly appreciate all of your generosity and thoughtfulness.

EMAIL! If you have not already done so, please make sure we have a proper email address from you so that you are able to receive updates from the office and your child's teacher.

Progress reports will be sent home at the end of January. Please remember, if you have any questions, you may set up a conference with your child's teacher.

If your child will be **out sick**, please call us so we don't worry!



With the cold weather here, please make sure your child has a **warm sweater or jacket** for the playground. Also, please make sure all clothing is labeled and taken home daily. Check the hooks on the playground for any jackets, sweaters or lunch pails that belong to your child. We have quite a collection out there.

School will be closed in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 15th.

Tuition is due on the 15th of each month. A late charge of \$50 will be assessed on all payments received 10 days after the 15th. If you have not done so already, please consider signing up for Tuition Express. Tuition

payments are processed on the 15th of each month and there is no charge if you sign up with a checking account. You may cancel this service at anytime.

Room 1

Ms. Karen,
Ms. Perla, Ms. Isabelle,
and Ms. Jocelyn

I trust you all had a pleasant holiday, replete with a little over eating and lots of time with family and friends. It's truly good to be back in the routine of our day, even though we have some changes afoot. First, we bid farewell to Aubrey, Henry, Tallulah, and Sareen as they embark on their new adventures in preschool. New children joining us this month include Eden Miller, Nixon Lynch, and Mirabella Russo.

We will return to our regular curriculum

focusing on a color, a song, and a book of the month. And some treasures awaiting us in the January workbook include chubby snowmen, cheerful penguins and one of our favorite choices for Book of the Month – It Looked Like Spilt Milk by Charles Shaw. The bold white images on a blue background make it a perfect choice for our young listeners and encourages cloud gazing as an added extra playground activity! Children will have the opportunity to do the felt story of It Looked Like Split Milk during work time – what a great opportunity to turn abstract concepts into language development! The *Color of the Month* (in January, it is white) will be reinforced in art projects, songs, and felt stories. The children will be invited to work with a small flannel board and a selection of white felt pieces (including a snowman, a polar bear, a white rabbit, a house and a snowflake) to create felt stories of their own. The nesting igloo is a big hit, too! In honor of the season, our *Song of the*

Month is “The Colors of Winter”.

As a quick reminder, please take a moment to sign up to provide morning snack for our classroom one day a month. If no one brings snack, we raid the kitchen. But, frankly folks, you guys always have a much better selection than we do! Fresh fruit (pre-washed and cut up, please) and any type of carbohydrate (crackers, bread, pretzels, etc.) would be perfect choices. Yogurt and cheese sticks are real crowd pleasers as well. And, as always, thanks for providing such delicious and nutritious snacks for our toddler group.

Remember to label those new jackets and sweaters your child received as holiday gifts.

Keep your eyes peeled for progress reports which will be sent home at the end of January.

Room 2
Ms. Zyerie and
Ms. Jade

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you had

a relaxing time off and enjoyed the holiday season. Thank you for joining us for the Holiday Show and for making the International Potluck possible! The Heritage Projects were wonderful and thank you for taking the time to complete this project with your child. And now we blast off on to January!

Our unit will be the Solar System and we will become familiar with the planets and learn special characteristics of each one. We will also discuss the layers of planet Earth.

In Botany, we will become familiar with the Parts of a Tree. The children will also explore popular monuments and animals from the continent of Europe. The artist of the month is Joan Miro. During worktime we will be listening to The Beatles.

January brings some cold weather, so please remember to label your child’s outerwear to avoid any lost jackets and prevent any confusion.

Room 3
Ms. Nataly and
Ms. Linda

Welcome 2018! What a fantastic first half of the school year it has been. I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break. We are getting right back into the swing of things and have many fascinating new things to learn this month. We will be traveling down under to Australia. I look forward to introducing the famous cities and landmarks of the continent, as well as exploring the Great Barrier Reef and the species which habitat it. In correlation, we will be studying the Parts of a Fish in Zoology.

A second unit of study this month is the study of Land and Water Forms. This unit will teach all the differences in formations, yet an understanding that they are exact opposites; such as: lake/island, cape/bay, peninsula/gulf, Isthmus/straight, and archipelago/system of lakes. We will be using our senses to practice creating different formations with sand, water, and clay.

Our art of the month will be explored through our Australia Unit as we create our own Aboriginal art using dot art technique.

We will be listening to Tropical music throughout worktime, and tune into the different instruments used.

School will be closed Monday, January 15th, as we observe Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. Progress Reports will be sent home Friday, January 26th, so please keep an eye out for those in your child's cubby.

Happy Birthday to Hudson and welcome to Aubrey!

Many thanks for all the constant support and encouragement of your child and their hard work. We look forward to a magnificent 2018!

Room 4
Ms. Megan and
Ms. Brittany

Welcome back, and welcome to the New Year! We hope that you all had a wonderful holiday break! Thank you

so much for coming to the Holiday Show and participating in our International Potluck. I know that the children really enjoyed all of our festivities! Ms. Brittany and I cannot thank you all enough for your incredible generosity. You absolutely made us feel so loved and appreciated this holiday season, and we are so thankful.

As we head into a new year, we will continue to explore and to learn new things. Our exploration of the seven continents will continue by introducing Europe. We will take a look at different notable monuments such as the Eiffel Tower, the Colosseum, the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Big Ben, the Louvre and more. We will also talk about the diversity of the people who live in Europe and the foods that they eat. Our Artist for the Month will be Seurat. The children will learn all about sculpture and have the chance to create their very own.

Since we will be learning all about Europe throughout January, we thought it appropriate to

expose the children to musicians who came from Europe. So throughout the month, we will be listening to music from the Beatles. My hope is to expose the children to all kinds of music so that they are able to recognize various similarities and differences.

For Zoology and Science, we will be talking about the Life Cycle of a Chicken. We have so much work on our shelf to illustrate the life cycle and the growth inside the egg.

We would like to welcome Tallulah and Henry to our classroom. Happy Birthday to Ashden and Lois!

I look forward to a new year filled with more learning and growth! Thank you for your continued support!

Room 5
Ms. Indigo and
Ms. Veronica

Happy New Year! I can't believe it's already a new year. I want to start off by thanking everyone who attended our Holiday Show and who came to our International Potluck.

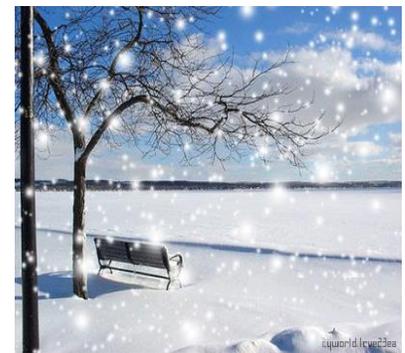
The food was so delicious and it was wonderful to taste foods from different cultures. I also want to thank you for taking the time to do the Heritage Report with your child. The reports were so well done and we really enjoyed having the children tell us where their family comes from. They all did a wonderful job presenting their heritage to the classroom and hearing where they come from, in their own words, was priceless.

I hope all of you had a great holiday break and enjoyed your holiday celebrations. We are finally going to be able to get back to the daily routine. Please remember that our Share Day is on Monday and our Music Class is on Friday.

This month we will be discussing the continent of Asia. We will also be discussing the Life Cycle of a Hen, the Water Cycle, and Clouds. We will discuss facts about Martin Luther King, Jr. For art, the children will be working on a piece by Katsushika Hokusai and listening to Ravi Shankar during work time.

A few reminders to start off the New Year: please remember to bring a labeled sweater or jacket with your child every day. Due to limited storage, make sure all nap bags are small enough to fit in the cubby. If it doesn't, please accommodate accordingly.

Room 6
Ms. Michelle and
Ms. Jasmine



Welcome back!! We hope that you all had a very restful and enjoyable holiday. Thank you so much to all of the parents who attended our Holiday Show and Potluck. The children were so excited to have you all there and perform for you. They also had a wonderful time sharing their cultures and traditions with all of their friends. It was indeed a very fun month!

And now for 2018 ~ We are going to be traveling through Asia this month, as well as continuing our daily core subjects of Math, Language, and Handwriting plus daily reading from our Lady Bird Books. We will also continue our daily lessons in Grammar as well as beginning SRA (comprehension) work.

For anyone interested in reading with the children for an hour each day, I will be posting a sign-up sheet on the front door. Also, if you are interested in coming in to do a project with the class, (art, music, crafts, cooking, etc.) let me know and I will put it on the calendar.

For their listening enjoyment, smooth jazz will be playing in our room and for art we will be learning about the artist Michelangelo. Our cooking project for January will be pasta salad.

Please check to make sure your child has a set of extra clothing (including underwear) and that it is appropriate for the cooler weather. Remember that we will be closed on Monday, January 15th to

observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Birthday wishes for the new year go out to Max, Carter, Allison, Nora, and Piper.



Room 7 Ms. Bre and Ms. Sarah

Welcome to the New Year. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. Your children did a wonderful job during their holiday performance. They practiced very hard and put on a great show! Thank you so much to all the parents who prepared food for our International Potluck; everything was perfect. December was a blast for the children, as they enjoyed spending the month learning about international holidays, writing journal entries, making art projects, and socializing with their friends.

January is considered our academic push of the school year and the workday will resume back to normal. This month, the children are going to

be extremely busy, working on all of their Math, Reading, Language, and Albanese work. We are going to start simple timed addition tests on Friday this month. The children will be practicing new sight words daily. They will also continue working on proper letter formations and parts of speech.

This month we will be covering Asia in Cultural and Physical Geography. The children will be exploring famous sites in Asia. The children will be introduced to timelines and different time zones. In Zoology, the children will continue their study of invertebrates.

We are looking forward to having a wonderful month and the children are going to be learning so much. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. We hope everyone has a great start to the New Year!

Happy birthday Andrew, Hannah, Ella, Karina, Zane, and Stella