



MONTESSORI OF Ladera Ranch

February 2018 Newsletter



Illness Policy Reminder

An ill child will not be permitted to enter the classroom. If a child becomes ill at school, the parent will be contacted to arrange for the child's care. The child must be picked up by the parent or authorized person within 30 minutes of notification. Any child who has been sent home with a fever, diarrhea, persistent cough, and/or discolored nasal drainage will not be allowed to return to school until the child is **symptom free for a complete 24 hours**. Also, any child who has contracted an infectious or communicable disease, will be required to submit a doctor's release in order to return to school. Please make sure we have all of your contact numbers up to date.

We really appreciate your cooperation regarding this matter. We have been experiencing higher than usual numbers of sick children and staff and we need your help in ensuring that children do not attend school when they are sick. On our end, all of the teachers are being extra vigilant in sanitizing the



classroom environment and the common areas. Together, we can curtail this trend.

Tuition Reminder

Please remember that tuition is due on the 15th of each month for the following month. All payments received after the 25th will be assessed a late fee. If you have not already done so, please consider signing up for Tuition Express. We can debit your account on the 15th of each month and you can cancel at anytime.

Medication Policy Reminder

Children who are taking prescription medication **must** have a written authorization from their doctor detailing the exact dosage to be given. Non-prescription drugs **will not** be administered at school.

The medication must be presented to our office staff in the original container and it must state the child's name and required dosage. The parent must then give the school written authorization to dispense any medication to the child. Please never allow your child



to come to school with medication in their lunch box or back pack. There is great danger in sending medications to school without our prior notification.

Valentine's Day Party

All classrooms will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Wednesday, February 14th. Please see your child's classroom notes for further details. Unlike our other class parties, this celebration will be limited to the students only. It is a wonderful opportunity for the children to develop social skills while passing out and discussing their Valentines.

School Closed

On Friday, February 16th and Monday, February 19th, school will be closed in honor of the Presidents' Day Holiday.

Check In/Out Key Pads

Please...Please... remember to check your child in and out daily at our computerized key-pad!! **Also, a reminder that school starts promptly at 8:45 AM or 9:00 AM. Please have your children here on time!!!**

Re-Enrollment 2018/2019

Please watch for the re-enrollment packages that will be coming home this month. We offer first placement for summer and fall to existing students and siblings. Re-enrollment packages are due back by February 23rd. If the re-enrollment packet is returned by February 2nd, the \$100 re-enrollment fee will be waived. We will then open enrollment to new students by February 26th. Please make sure you return your form, with payment, in order to guarantee a place for your child.

Tax Time!!

If needed for your tax records:

Tax ID #26-0043117
Montessori of Ladera Ranch
2101 Corporate Drive
Ladera Ranch, CA 92694

Room 1

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

What a fun month February is! First, we will be celebrating Valentine's Day with a pizza party on Wednesday, February 14th! No lunchbox will be needed on that day! If your child does not attend school on a Wednesday, you are invited to join us for the festivities from 9:00 AM to 12 noon. And, boy, will we be festive. You are welcome to bring Valentine's cards for your child to distribute to their classmates. At that point, we will have 28 students. Do not

address the Valentines to individual children, please, or we will be spending the morning sorting them out and not be able to enjoy the free pizza! Any questions, please let me know!



School will be closed on Friday the 16th and the following Monday for Presidents' Day.

Chinese New Year begins on February 16th and we will be celebrating the Year of the Dog with a special cooking project the following week. 2018 is the Year of the Dog. People born in the Year of the Dog possess the best traits of human nature. They are honest, friendly, faithful, loyal, smart, straightforward, venerable and have a strong sense of responsibility.

Our Color of the Month is Red, of course, and I have been furiously transforming our classroom from a winter wonderland to the land of hearts and flowers. Our Book of the Month will be the perennial favorite Freight Train by Donald Crews. This Caldecott honor book's simple and bold illustrations have enchanted children for over two decades. It's also a great way to reinforce color recognition. Our wonderful Book of the Month will be reflected in a felt story, matching work and yes, of course, in numerous readings aloud complete with *chug, chug*

sound effects and a train whistle.

Speaking of whistling, our Song of the Month is an old favorite from the musical "Guys and Dolls" called "A Bushel and a Peck". My father used to sing this song to my daughter when she was a toddler, so this tune holds a special place in my heart.

Happy Birthday wishes to Dashiell.

Hugs and kisses from all of us to all of you!

Room 2

Ms. Zyerie and Ms. Jade

We successfully made it through the first month of 2018! The children have had an amazing time learning about the planets. They also had a great time learning about popular monuments and animals of Europe. On to February we go!

Our unit will be Health and Nutrition. We will be identifying healthy versus unhealthy foods, along with the food groups. The children will be making fruit skewers on February 23rd. I will be providing strawberries and apples, but we will gladly accept any other contributions to make our skewers colorful!

We will be discussing popular animals and monuments found in Asia. We will also be discussing Chinese New Year, which is on February 16th! For Botany, we will become familiar with the Parts of a Flower. In Zoolo-

gy, we will be learning about the Parts of a Horse. The artist of the month will be Katsuchika Hokusai. During worktime, we will be listening to Asian Instrumentals.

The children will be celebrating Valentine's Day with pizza provided by MOLR! The pizza party will be only for the children, as they will celebrate the friendships that have been created. The children are more than welcome to bring Valentine's Day card/treats for their 26 classmates.



We have a few students that brought in their family pictures, but we would love for ALL the children to have their family picture on our bulletin board! Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

As a reminder, the school will be closed the 16th and 19th in honor of Presidents' Day. No child care will be provided. Also, our second Parent/Teacher conferences are fast approaching. I am thrilled to meet with you again to discuss your child's achievements!

Happy Birthday Tymour and Maya.

Have a wonderful month!

Room 3

Ms. Nataly and
Ms. Linda

What a wonderful month we just finished up. With the distribution of progress reports, we are officially in our second half of the school year!

February is upon us and love is endless in Room 3! It is no surprise we have a very busy and fun-filled month ahead.

We are continuing our worldwide adventures and heading to Asia. We will begin with an introduction of the continent's logistics (population, climate, number of countries), and venture into the countries' different foods, culture, agriculture, and animals. We will also become familiarized with the different flags that make up the second largest continent. You may receive an understanding of Asia as the "yellow continent" in reference to our Montessori globe.

This month, Chinese New Year falls on February 16th. We will discuss the differences in culture and traditions in comparison to our New Year. The children will learn the significance of the dragon and have fun creating their very own. Throughout worktime, we will be listening to Chinese Zen music and practicing meditation with a singing bowl.

Through Science, we will be focusing on the Layers of the Earth and the Parts of a

Volcano. We will be experimenting with a volcano module and watching it erupt as we combine vinegar and baking soda. This unit will prepare us for the upcoming studies of the Water Cycle and different types of weather.

Valentine's Day is a very exciting day for the children. On February 14th, we will be celebrating with a pizza party and Valentine's exchange. This is for the children only and no lunches will be needed. Further details will be forthcoming.

In relation to our month of love, our Artist of the Month will be Jim Dine. The children will create *heart-work* using pastels and water color.

School will be closed February 16th to 19th for Presidents' weekend. Prior, we will discuss our celebrated Presidents and the importance of remembering their birthdays.

Happy Birthday to Livia, Lauren, Talia, Zachary, Kareem and Grayson! Welcome to Aubrey, who transitioned in from Room 1. Our class is going to have a very fun month and we hope you and your family have a wonderful February!

Room 4

Ms. Megan
and Ms. Brittany

It has been such a joy watching our students truly blossom from September to

now. They continue to amaze us on a daily basis!

As we head into February, we will travel to our next continent of interest, Asia. The children will be learning about important monuments in Asia and land forms. We will teach them about the Great Wall of China, Mt. Fuji, and more. This will also include a general lesson on land and water forms. Furthermore, we will be learning about Asian culture, Chinese New Year, and art.

We will also be talking about different animals that live in Asia. The children are always fascinated to learn about animals around the world. I look forward to our exploration of Asia. We also plan on also making some Fried Rice, as a class, for the children to enjoy together.

Our artist of the month will be Jim Dine. He is an American Pop Artist who is known for his prints of hearts. We will also be talking about some instruments that originated from Asia and expose the children to some examples of Pop Music. We will listen to various artists who have become world famous and have fallen into the "pop" category.

February, as we all know, is also the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. In light of this, we will be incorporating the Parts of a Heart into our Science curriculum. To celebrate, we will have a pizza party on Wednesday, February 14th. We encourage you to allow your child to bring

Valentines for their classmates. This day is really fun for the children and a wonderful social gathering! Although parents are always welcome in the classroom, we try to keep our Valentine's Day party a time for the children to visit and exchange their Valentines among themselves.

Happy Birthday to Mia and Elisa.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to the rest of the school year!

Room 5

Ms. Indigo and
Ms. Veronica

Welcome to the month of February! The first month of the year flew by. We are so happy with the way the children returned to school so eager to start working again.

This month, the children will be listening to nature sounds during their work time. The children will also be learning about South America and the Life Cycle of a Butterfly. The Artist of the Month is Marc Chagall. Incorporating love, we will use hearts as our main theme of our art work this month.



We will be having our Valentine's Day party on February 14th. This event is only for the children. Everyone will have an opportunity to take turns going around the circle and dropping off Valentines to their classmates. Our school is providing bags for each child to collect their cards.

Happy Birthday to Taylor.

Room 6

Ms. Michelle and
Ms. Jasmine

What a busy month we have in store. As well as our core subjects, we will begin learning about the continent of Asia and all of its beauty.

We will be having a pizza party and Valentine card exchange for the children on Wednesday, February 14th. Please have your child bring enough cards for 30 children and have them sign their names on each card. It is not necessary to send candy or treats; however, if your child would like to include something with their cards, it is fine with me.

Since we will be celebrating Valentine's Day this month, we will be listening to the beautiful voice of Josh Groban, for cooking we will be making fruit smoothies, and our Artist of the Month is Jim Dine.

Please note that we will be closed from February 16th to 19th for the Presidents' Day Holiday.

Happy birthday wishes this month go out to Lilah, Kenton, Tucker, and Daniela.

Have a wonderful month!

Room 7

Ms. Bre and Ms. Sarah

TIME IS FLYING! The children quickly adjusted back to their school routine and have been working hard. It is going to be a short and busy month but our focus will be, as always, on the Montessori materials.

This month, we will be celebrating Valentine's Day with a pizza party for the children on Wednesday, February the 14th. (School will be closed on February 16th and 19th due to the Presidents' Day Holiday.) Each child can bring their Valentine's cards or gifts to share with their friends. Please do not label them, as the children will be distributing the Valentines themselves.

During February, we will be learning about the continent of Asia including a discussion of plants and animals of Asia. If you have any souvenirs, books, pictures, or regalia from Asia, please feel free to allow your child to bring them to share with the class on Fridays. In our History lessons, we will be introducing the concept of timelines. The children will also be learning how to tell time.

As a friendly reminder, class starts at 8:45 AM. If running late, please be sure to have your child enter the classroom **independently**. This will help maintain the order of the classroom and help not to distract children who are working. As always, please have your child bring any items they would like to share on Fridays.



Thank you so much for your support and cooperation. Please do not hesitate to drop by or contact us with any questions/concerns at any time. We hope you have a *lovely* month!