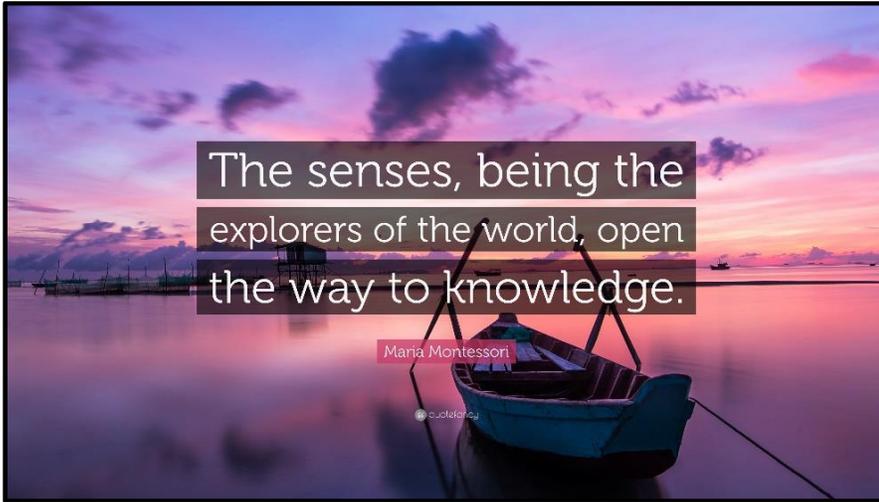


# MONTESSORI of LADERA RANCH

January 2019 Newsletter



The senses, being the explorers of the world, open the way to knowledge.

Maria Montessori

## Important Dates for January

Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup> :  
Elementary Field Trip to the  
Heritage Museum!  
(Rooms 6 and 7 only)

Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup> : **CLOSED**  
in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Day

Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> :  
Progress Reports will be available 😊

## News from the Office

Happy New Year and wishing you a wonderful January! Welcome Back! We hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. Thank you to all the parents who lavished us with all the wonderful gifts and cards. We truly appreciate all your generosity and thought-fulness.

Also, thank you so much for all of your generous donations to Spark of Love! We definitely felt the love here at MOLR with the overflowing boxes in the office. The firefighter was happy to be here, and the children loved seeing him load the presents into his big truck. Thank you for making it possible for so many children to receive presents this holiday season.

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 on the 25<sup>th</sup>. 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

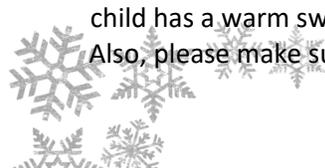
home daily. Check the hooks on the playground for any jackets, sweaters or lunch pails that belong to your child. We have quite a collection out there.

An update on our weekly Music Class: Music Days will now be occurring on Tuesday mornings. Mr. Semitsu will be back to join us every other week and we welcome him and thank him for his time. Having his musical input is always deeply appreciated.

**School will be closed in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>.**

The field trip to the Heritage Museum on Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup> will be for elementary classrooms 6 and 7. Please provide a packed lunch in a Ziploc bag with your child's name. The bus will be leaving from MOLR at 9:30 and returning at 1. Please ensure that you have filled out the permission form. Payments can be made to MOLR and given to the teachers, Ms. Michelle and Ms. Megan H. If you have any questions, please email your child's teacher 😊

**\*Tuition Reminder:** The yearly tuition is divided into 10 equal monthly payments for your convenience. Payments are equal regardless of the number of days school is held during a particular month. There are no reductions for holidays, illness, and family vacations.



Congratulations to ....  
Michelle Eckel and Aysun Kilic  
for winning Teachers of the Month for January!

*Ms. Michelle* has been with us for the past 14 years.

She has worked with the toddlers, preschool, and elementary. If we gave awards for the most organized classroom, she would win every month! Not only is she a wonderful teacher, she has mentored and trained many of the teachers we have leading classrooms today. Some of the comments from her coworkers were, "she is very helpful", "her classroom is a wonderful environment to be in", "she is a hard worker and takes pride in how she teaches the children". It is a pleasure to recognize the hard work and dedication Ms. Michelle has given to MOLR.

*Ms. Aysun* has only been with us for 5 months and already is being recognized by her coworkers for her hard work and dedication to MOLR. We are certainly blessed to have had her join our team. Some of the comments her coworkers made were, "she is hard working and knows how to care for the children", "positive attitude, always smiling, kind to everyone".

Ms. Aysun helps in all the preschool classrooms, the office, and afternoon daycare. She is always busy and is determined to find things to do to improve the environment and the children's happiness, comfort, and safety. She is certainly deserving of this honor.



Room 1

Ms. Karen  
Ms. Jocelyn  
Ms. Yoko  
Ms. Gladis

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. We would like to welcome new students to our classroom. Tyler Huffman (brother of Scarlett in Room 5), Camden Tidd (brother of Emma Belle in Room 4), Devan Bikini (brother of former student Lela), and Hudson Berger (brother of former student Addison) will all be joining us in January. It is always a joy to have siblings (some of whom I knew *in utero*) continue the

traditional of starting school in Room 1. We are sad to bid farewell to Riley Bateson who will be attending another school.

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.

Happy Birthday to Gwendolyn!



## Room 2

Ms. Jasmine  
Ms. Shafa

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday break. Thank you to everyone who attended our International Potluck and our Holiday Show. It was so wonderful seeing you all there and the food was so delicious. It was so wonderful to experience and taste foods from different cultures! I also want to thank you all for taking the time to do the heritage coat of arms with your child. The kids really enjoyed telling us about their family and they all did a wonderful job presenting their heritage to the classroom. We will be able to get back to our daily routine now that the holidays are over.

This month we will be discussing the continent of Asia for geography. We will also be discussing the parts of a turtle for zoology and discuss facts about Martin Luther king Jr. During work time, we will be listening to the composer Johannes Brahms.

Just a few reminders for the New Year:

- Please remember to bring a labeled sweater or jacket with your child every day.
- Please do not bring toys to school as they can cause a distraction to your child and the other children.
- Please no water bottles/sippy cups, fresh filtered water will be provided daily for the children.

Happy Birthday to Adelaide!!



## Room 3

Ms. Nataly  
Ms. Linda

Welcome 2019! What a fantastic first half of the school year it has been. I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break and enjoyed the holidays. 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 and exploring the Great Barrier Reef and the species that live there. In correlation with exploring the reef, we will be studying the Parts of a Fish through 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 for the month, in theme with our Australia Unit, will be to 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 21st, as we observe Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday. Progress Reports will be sent home Friday January 25<sup>th</sup>, so please keep an eye out for those in your child's cubby. Many thanks and appreciation for all your constant support and encouragement of your child and their hard work.

We look forward to a magnificent 2019!



## Room 4

Ms. Diana  
Ms. Isabelle

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a well-rested holiday! Thank you for coming to our holiday show and participating in our International Potluck. The children really enjoyed all of the festivities!

Ms. Isabelle and I cannot thank all of you enough for your incredible generosity. You absolutely made us feel so loved and appreciated this holiday season, and we are so thankful. It is nice to know how much we are valued as teachers. The true gift is being able to be a part of your child's growth and education.

As we head into a new year, we will continue to explore, and learn new things. We will continue our exploration of the seven continents 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 of the month will be Van Gogh. Since we will be learning all about Europe throughout January, we thought it appropriate to expose the children to musicians who came from Europe. Therefore, 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 similarities and differences. For zoology and science, we will be talking about parts of a fish.

We would like to welcome John to our classroom!  
Happy Birthday to Sarah!

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



## Room 5

Ms. Indigo  
Ms. Veronica

Happy New Year! I can't believe how fast 2018 went by. 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 kids 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 the kids back to their daily routine. Please remember that our share day is on Mondays and our Music days are now on Tuesdays.

This month we will be discussing the continent of Asia. We will also be discussing life cycle of a hen. We will discuss facts about Martin Luther King Jr. The kids will be working on art by Frida Kahlo and will be listening to meditation music 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. Also 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  
Ms. Jade

Welcome back!!

We hope that you all had a very restful and enjoyable holiday. Thank you so much to all of the parents that 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 2019 ~ We are going to be traveling through Europe this month as well as continuing our daily core subjects of math, language, handwriting, and reading from our Lady Bird books. We are also going to continue writing daily journal papers and learning more about capital letters, punctuation and parts of speech including nouns, adjectives, verbs and articles.

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 your child's extra clothing to make sure they have appropriate attire for the cooler weather.

Please remember that we will be closed on Monday, January 21<sup>th</sup> to observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

We will be taking our next field trip on January 17<sup>th</sup> to the Heritage Museum in Santa Ana. I will be sending more information soon so please be looking for it in your emails.

Birthday wishes for the new year go out to Mackenzie, Hudson, and Ashden.

Thank you again for everything and for allowing us to spend our days with your beautiful children.



## Room 7

Ms. Megan H

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 wonderful 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 as well. 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 to Max and Carter!