

# MONTESSORI of LADERA RANCH

September 2020 Newsletter



He does it with his hands, by experience, first in play and then through work. The hands are the instruments of man's intelligence.

Maria Montessori

## Important Dates for September

Tuesday, September 8th :  
First Day of School!

Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> :  
First Day of Autumn!

Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and  
Thursday, October 1st :  
Picture Days!

## News from the Office

Welcome everyone to our 2020-2021 school year. Our mission at Montessori of Ladera Ranch is to "create an environment where academic excellence is in harmony with young lives." We are honored that you have chosen us to instill a love for learning in your children and, with your help, guide them to the path that will lead them to discover their full potential.

One of the vital keys to a successful school year is good communication. We will distribute a newsletter at the beginning of every month via email informing you of upcoming events and the goings on here at school. Please feel free to email your child's teacher or office staff and we will get back to you promptly. Your child's teacher, Ms. Melissa, and Ms. Megan will be communicating with you frequently via email.

Please also check out our website :

[www.montessoriofladeraranch.com](http://www.montessoriofladeraranch.com)

Instagram : @montessoriofladeraranch

Facebook : @montessoriofladeraranch

### **Our school hours are as follows:**

#### Toddlers and Preschool Rooms 1-5 :

A full day- 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

A half day- 9:00 AM to 12:00

#### Elementary classrooms Rooms 6 & 7 :

A full day is 8:45 AM to 2:45 PM

Please note there is no half day program for  
Elementary

We offer morning daycare from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and afternoon daycare from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM for an additional charge. In order to properly staff, we need to know in advance if you need daycare for your child. We do offer occasional daycare at a rate of \$15 per hour.

**Please make every effort to have your children to school on time.** It is very difficult for children to walk into the classroom late. It is also disruptive to the students who have already started their school day.

### **Tuition**

Tuition is due on the 15th of every month prior to attendance (i.e., the first payment is due on the date of enrollment, the second payment is due on September 15th for October, the third payment is due October 15th for November, and so forth). We will debit the accounts of those families who have signed up for Tuition Express on the 15th of every month. It takes two days to process and credit to our account. If tuition is not received by the 20th of the month, a \$50 late charge will be applied. If tuition is not received by the first of the month, the child will be dropped from the program.

### **Emergency Procedures**

Each class will be practicing Fire/Earth-quake Drills. Once a month, we will be going into each classroom unannounced to practice with the children and staff. In addition to Fire/ Earthquake Preparedness, we are also preparing our staff and facility in the event of a biological or chemical threat. Additionally, we have upgraded our security systems and have had staff training on how to respond to an intruder or emergency situation. In the event of an emergency evacuation, our school would meet at The Trinity Catholic Church on Corporate Drive. If this location was not possible, a note would be posted on our front door listing our location. We carry an emergency book with all the children's emergency information with us while practicing our drills. In order to be adequately prepared for an emergency, we require that each parent purchase an Econo Kit for \$25 for your child. These kits will be stored in the children's classrooms.

### **Drop Off and Pick Up Policies**

We would like to remind new and returning parents about our ongoing drop-off and pick-up procedures. We will be taking each child's temperature before they can go back to the playground or to their classrooms. If your child's temperature is above 100 degrees, they will not be able to come to school on this day. If your child is feeling sick, under the weather, or shows any signs of illness (see Illness Policy), please do not come to school this day and only return when they are feeling better and fever-free for 24 hours.

Please, DO NOT come into the building. This is not just our policy; this is a Licensing policy. Please also wear a mask when dropping off your child. This is also a Licensing policy that allows us to remain open. If there is a line forming, please keep others in mind and keep 6 feet away from other families. There will be marks on the ground to assist with this.

It is a State requirement that each child's daily arrival and departure be logged into our computerized sign in/out keypad. This is a legal document and must be treated as such.

If you have not already, please check your emails for an email from Procure Connect to sign up via the Procure Connect app. You will be able to sign in and out virtually after passing through the geo-fence that surrounds the school. *Only parents/guardians have access to the geo-fence.* All other authorized pickups including aunts, uncles, grandparents, nannies, au pairs, etc.) that are on our Authorized Pickup List will be able to use the tablets at the front door to sign in and out with their finger. The sign in and out books will be going away, and we will go live with the contactless system on the first day of fall.

#### **Reminder of our Illness Policy**

Children may not be sent to 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. Please notify the school if your child will be out.

#### **Reminder about Nap Policy**

It is a State Requirement that we, as a school, do not deny or force any child to nap. This year, we will have every child in our preschool program "rest", on a mat while listening to a story or music for 30 minutes. At the end of the 30-minute rest period, those children who have not fallen asleep will be taken out to the playground for an additional playtime and back into the classroom for an additional work time.

#### **Medication Policy**

We can administer any medication that is prescribed by a physician for your child. You must complete the Medicine Log and place all medication in the locked box located in the refrigerator. We only give medication at 12 noon or 4:00 PM.

#### **No Toy Policy**

In keeping with our "No Toy" Policy, we are asking you to help us by making sure your children leave all toys at home. Please encourage them to bring things like books, photographs, collectibles, etc., to share with their class. Please contact your teacher regarding what day is share day in your child's classroom.

#### **Children's Water Bottles**

Especially with the persistent hot weather, we all know the importance of keeping hydrated. However, it is against licensing regulations for loose water bottles to sit in or on cubbies. Especially with COVID-19 precautions, we cannot have the children's personal water bottles come into the building. We have options for your child to drink water throughout the day. Water fountains in the classroom and on the playgrounds are always available; the children are discouraged drinking straight from them and we have cups available for them to fill up. In addition, pitchers of filtered water and cups will be available in each classroom and the children can serve themselves whenever they please. I'm sure you'll all agree this is a much more sanitary option for your child.



## Room 1

Lead : Ms. Jocelyn ( [jocelyn@molrschool.com](mailto:jocelyn@molrschool.com) )

Assistant : Ms. Yoko

It is wonderful to be back in Room 1. I hope you all had a fun and healthy summer! Ms. Yoko and I worked especially hard getting our classroom ready for the new school year and hope our toddlers enjoy the changes! We will have lots of new arrivals over the next few weeks. I would like to give a warm welcome to Brayden Bader, Everett Soss, Dean Wunderlich, Lyla Amador, and Patrick Breber. Our Book of the Month for September is one of the most beloved stories in children's literature, Where the Wild Things Are written by Maurice Sendak. Both children and adults can relate to the story of Max, a young boy whose "wild" behavior and vivid imagination transport him to a kingdom of his own making.....only to return home where "someone loves him best of all."

Our Color of the Month is black, and the children will have the opportunity to explore wild critter practical life activities, puzzles, and sorting. The art projects will be focused on the color of the month which allow the children to experiment with various mediums, help develop fine motor skills, and reinforce color recognition.

Our Songs of the Month is a MOLR classic, "My Favorite Things". The tune is from "The Sound of Music", but was tweaked by the phenomenal, Ms. Karen, who was once our toddler and music teacher. We will have our Spanish class on a weekly basis, as well as a monthly cooking project. In September, we will be making homemade applesauce!

If you have any questions, please contact me via email 😊

Happy Birthday to Dean, Nolan, and me!



## Room 2

Lead : Ms. Emma ( [emma@molrschool.com](mailto:emma@molrschool.com) )

Assistant : Ms. Vivian

Welcome Room 2 to the 2020-2021 school year! I am so excited about what this year holds for us! This month is full of getting to know each student introducing our classroom and classroom rules and letting these children experience the amazing learning philosophy that is the Montessori method!

This month of September we will be focusing on several things specifically including, the parts of the apple for botany learning everything from seeds to skin. This month in geography we are introducing the globe and will be learning the names of the continents. We also will be learning "All about you" the parts of our bodies and the layers that make us up. We will be listening to classical music, classical piano as well as full orchestra. We will also be doing a cooking project that will include apple (from our parts of the apple!). We will be doing a project for each of our units of study. I am so excited to start this year out with you all.



## Room 3

Lead : Ms. Jasmine ( [jasmine@molrschool.com](mailto:jasmine@molrschool.com) )  
Assistant : Ms. Leyla

Welcome to Room 3! I hope you all had an amazing summer. We are excited to begin the new school year and are looking forward to seeing your children learn and grow this year.

Our unit for September will be "All About Me". The students will be naming their body parts, discussing proper hygiene, and learning to identify their emotions. Our outside wall will display the children's self-portraits, inspired by Pablo Picasso.

In Botany, we will be learning about the parts of an apple along with its lifecycle. To further explore apples, we will be making mini apple pies as a cooking project.

During worktime, we will be listening to classical music.

Please **NO WATER BOTTLES**. We will be providing fresh filtered water and cups daily for the children. We have a designated lunch box area that you can find next to the cubbies. The cubbies will be used to hold bedding and extra clothing for accidents. Please provide extra clothing for your child. They should have an extra shirt, underwear, socks, and bottoms. Also, we are asking that your child's bedding be able to fit in their cubby. They should have a thin blanket and a fitted crib sheet placed inside of a pillowcase or bag. Please keep bedding minimal.

Share day will be every Monday. Your child can bring in an object that they made, pictures, or something that they found to share with their peers. Please refrain from bringing toys as they can become a distraction to the children. Tuesdays will be gardening days. We will also be having P.E. every Wednesday, so please have your child dress appropriately.

**Friendly Reminders:** Class begins PROMPTLY at 9 A.M. At this time, we have started circle time and lessons are taking place.



## Room 4

Lead : Ms. Isabelle ( [ijackson@molrschool.com](mailto:ijackson@molrschool.com) )  
Assistant : Ms. Kaitlyn

Welcome to Room 4!!!! I hope everyone had a good summer! We are excited to welcome all our new and returning students. We look forward to a great school year. September will be filled with introduction and learning the activities around the classroom.

Our unit this month be "All About Me", where will learn about the parts of the body, personal characteristics, and understanding self-care. We will be focus on internal body parts as well as emotions.

In Botany, we will be learning "The Parts of an Apple" as well as its life cycle, and we will also be cooking apple croissants. One of the pieces of work will be apple cutting. Please have your child bring an apple if they would like to do this work.

Our artist of the month will be Paul Cezanne. And the children will be creating an art piece based on his artwork. This month we will be listening to 80s music during our work time.

Class begins at 9 AM. It is especially important that the children are here on time as daily lessons are given during that time. Please remember to label everything your child brings to school as well as the extra set of clothes in a zip-loc bag. Regardless whether your child is napping or not, please bring a crib sheet, light blanket, and make sure to put everything inside a pillowcase with his or her name on it. The children will all have a rest time of at least 30 minutes. The napping items will need to be taken home every Friday to be washed and brought back the following school day.

Please do not send your child with a bottle of water or sippy cup to school. We provide water in the classroom as well as outside on the playground.

Our Share Day will be every Wednesday. This is the chance for the children to share something special to them and practice their public speaking. Please, do not bring toys for Share Day.

Happy birthday to...  
Charlotte 9/12 and Shane 9/19 !



## Room 5

Lead : Ms. Shafa ( [sabilova@molrschool.com](mailto:sabilova@molrschool.com) )

Assistant : Ms. Veronica

Welcome back to Room 5 for the 2020-2021 school year! Ms. Veronica and I are thrilled to have you in our classroom. We are glad to welcome all our returning families and all our new families that will be joining us. We can't wait to start another great year with all your children. The first day of school is September 8th.

This school year, the children will get information about the projects focusing on botany, geography, zoology, and science. Music will also play a big role in their education.

This month, the geography lessons will be about the globe, the solar system, and the Earth. Botany lessons will focus on parts of an apple tree, and science lessons will include parts of the face. We will also have a cooking project where we will make a fruit salad.

Please, no water bottles. Share Day will be every Monday.

Happy Birthday to Hudson Berger, Chloe McFadzean, Isaiah Michaud, Jackson Cardey!

Ms. Veronica and I look forward to all our students' growth and development this year!



## Room 6

Lead : Ms. Michelle ( [michelle@molrschool.com](mailto:michelle@molrschool.com) )

Assistant : Ms. Jade

Hello and welcome to Room 6! We are so excited to have all your beautiful children in our class this year.

Our day will begin promptly at 8:45 am and will be ending at 2:45 pm. Please make every effort to have your child at school on time as we will be doing a lesson every day in circle starting at 9:00 am.

Their lunches and jackets may be placed in a small backpack and hung on the hooks along the wall on the big playground. Please make sure to label them clearly with their names as several children may have the same item.

For the month of September, we will begin working on language, math, handwriting and reading. For our Cultural Subjects, we will be learning about the seven continents, the care of animals and plants, living/non-living, and about the care of our own bodies both inside and out. For our cooking project this month, we will be making homemade applesauce and while the children are working, they will be enjoying the beautiful music of Beethoven.

We would like to wish Landon and Sydney a very happy birthday!



## Room 7

Lead : Ms. Indigo ( [indigo@molrschool.com](mailto:indigo@molrschool.com) )

Assistant : Ms. Elissa

Welcome back Room 7 Parents!

I would like to start of saying how excited Ms. Elissa and I are to have your child in our class. I cannot believe how fast summer has come and gone. We would like to get the ball rolling as quickly as possible. Please review our weekly emails for updates and important dates to look out for throughout the year.

This month we will be focusing on normalizing the classroom and adjusting to the new schedule, guidelines, and expectations of Room 7! Students will be learning all about self-reflection and what makes them so unique. They will also be getting to know their peers.

Throughout this month students will be collaborating on various projects. In Room 7, our expectations change from our preschool curriculum to elementary program. A friendly reminder :School session starts promptly at 8:45 am. I highly recommend coming 10-15 minutes early every day to avoid congestion of morning drop off. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns. I

check my emails three times a day to provide consistent communication. I cannot wait to see you first day of school!

Happy birthday to Aria!