

# MONTESSORI of LADERA RANCH

September 2021 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 7th :  
First Day of School!

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

Week of September 27<sup>th</sup> to October 1st:  
Scholastic Book Fair!

## News from the Office

Welcome everyone to our 2021-2022 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.

Additionally, we have a Parent's Page on our website. This page is filled with our monthly newsletters, information about our after-school classes and has our monthly events calendar.

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 \$20 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. Please take your 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.

All parents must wear a mask upon entering the building. This will be a continued effort to reduce and minimize COVID in our building and among our Montessori families and community.

It is a State requirement that each child's daily arrival and departure be logged into our computerized sign in/out system. 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.

#### **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) )

Assistants : Ms. Yoko, Ms. Lidija and Ms. Zayra

It's wonderful to be back in Room 1. I hope you all had a fun and healthy summer! Ms. Yoko, Ms. Zayra, Ms. Lidija, 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 Sloane Collings, Noah Bunger, Mackenzie McCullom, and James Oh!

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 allows 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, our music teacher. We will have 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 Piper, Brooks, Mariella, Mackenzie, and me!



## Room 2

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

Assistant : Ms. Vivian

Welcome Room 2 to the 2021-2022 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 where we will learn everything from the seeds to the 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. This month in the classroom we will be listening to classical music, classical piano as well as a full orchestra.

This month will be doing a cooking project that will include apple as an ingredient. We also will be doing a project for each of our units of study.

I am so excited to start this year out with you all.  
Happy Birthday to Genevieve and Eliana!



## Room 3

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

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 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. 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 disposable 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 9:00am. At this time, we have started circle time and lessons are taking place. If you are late, please have your child enter the room quietly on their own to prevent distraction.

Happy Birthday to Luca, Dean, and Nolan!



## Room 4

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

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! During the month of September, I will introduce the children to the different areas of the classroom so they can get familiar with our work and materials to expand their learning. We will be learning about parts of an apple, have a unit on "All About Me", and we will learn about our seven continents and the concept of the globe.

We will also have a cooking project every month throughout the school year. Every Wednesday we will have music class with Ms. Karen! Our Share Day will be on Tuesdays! We will have P.E every Thursday.

During our lessons on parts of the apple, I will need each child to bring their own apple as the children will learn to cut their own in the classroom as part of our practical life unit.

I am looking forward to a great school year 2021-2022 working with your children. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me via email.

Happy birthday to Zinnia!



## Room 5

Lead : Ms. Abby ( [arossi@molrschool.com](mailto:arossi@molrschool.com) )  
Assistant : Ms. Veronica

Welcome to Room 5! I hope you all had a wonderful summer. I am so excited for a great year!

This month, our unit of study will be "All About Me." We will be focusing on naming our body parts and learning self-care and doing a self-portrait art project! We will also be learning about grace and courtesy in the classroom and how to treat the classroom and materials.

Our focus in cultural studies will be introducing the globe. We will have different types of work and activities for the children to explore our fascinating globe in detail.

For botany, we will be learning the parts of an apple. In addition to a lesson on naming the different parts of the apple, we will also be doing an "Apple Pizza" cooking project! The children will have a great time making themselves a snack during our work time.

As a reminder, please have your child bring nap items that are small enough to fit into their cubby! Also, please don't forget to bring your child's extra clothes in a Ziploc bag to store in their cubbies. This includes extra underwear, socks, pants, and shirts.

Our Share Day will be every Tuesday! We encourage the children to bring something that is special to them that they would like to share with their friends- a book, a trophy, a picture, etc. Sharing toys tend to be a distraction for the children throughout the day, so please leave those at home instead!

On Thursdays, Room 5 will have a weekly Spanish session with Ms. Veronica! This will take place during our morning circle time- so don't be late, your child won't want to miss this!

It is going to be a wonderful school year! I cannot wait to watch your children shine and grow!

Happy birthday to Dean, Nolan, and Luca!



## 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 of 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 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 our core subjects. They will include 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.

Have a wonderful September!



## Room 7

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

Assistant : Ms. Elissa

Welcome to the new school year! We are so excited to be back and get this year started. This month we are focusing on normalizing the children and getting them used to the daily routine.

The month of September is "all about me", the children will be learning about manners, cleanliness, parts of the body, and the five senses. We are also going to be learning about parts of an apple and the life cycle of an apple tree. Please bring a plant for your child to water and take of throughout the school year.

We have so many birthdays to celebrate this year and we would like to remind you that we now do have a strict low sugar policy. Please bring small treats for the children to enjoy such as mini muffins or mini cupcakes, prepackages items will be accepted. Thank you for your understanding.

We are excited to start the new school year and see all the children grow throughout the year. I highly recommend students to come early to school. We will be beginning morning circle promptly at 8:45 am and would love all students to be on time to minimize any interruptions. Ms. Elissa or I will stand at the classroom door to help guide any students who arrive late.

We are excited to get to know your child and prepare an environment where they will flourish emotionally, socially, and academically.

Happy birthday to Aria, JJ, Shane, and Charlotte!