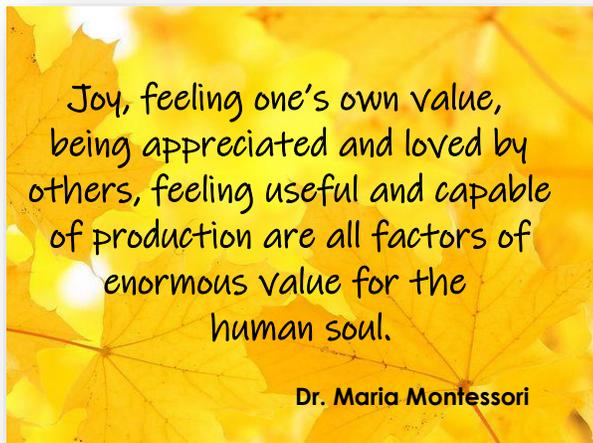




MONTESSORI of LADERA RANCH

November 2021 Newsletter



Important Dates for November



CLOSED - Fri 11/5 for Parent Teacher Conferences

CLOSED - Thurs 11/11 for Veterans Day

CLOSED - Wed 11/24 to Fri 11/26 for Thanksgiving Recess

See's Candy Fundraiser – Monday, November 8th – Tuesday, November 30th! Candy orders placed during this time will be received at school in mid-December before Winter Break.

Laguna Food Pantry food drive – Monday, November 8th – Friday, November 19th

News from the Office

Happy November, Montessori! Before we say good-bye to October, we just wanted to say thank you to all who made it to our traditional annual Halloween Parade! The children had so much fun collecting candy and going with their class from store to store in our plaza. We have such a wonderful community here in Ladera Ranch, so a huge thank you also goes out to all of the shops in our plaza who helped make this fun event possible.

Thank you so much to all who donated candy and goodies! You made this Halloween special for all those who might not be able to go trick-or-treating this year. Big shout-out to all the costumes we saw this year; we have a great group of students who were super happy to show off their Halloween spirit. The performances done by Ms. Melissa's Wednesday dance class were amazing!! We hope everyone had a spooky and ghoulishly fun time!

November is now upon us! Can you believe it? We have a few closed school holidays occurring in November, a few fundraising events, and all-around lots of holiday fun. Please read on and see our special fundraising section for notes on when you and your family can help raise money for our school, help our community, and enjoy some awesome family fun! 😊

Don't forget to plan ahead for December. We have included a few items of note for your planning purposes. Please be sure to read this newsletter in full for all the important information and upcoming events!



Upcoming Events this November

📍 **Parent Teacher Conferences** will be held on Friday, November 5th. School will be closed. This will be an opportunity for parents to ask questions about your child's progress and review the materials in the classroom. Please sign up via our website for a phone or in-person conference at <https://montessoriofladeraranch.com/parentteacher-conferences/>. We will be closed for teaching on this day. You may bring your children, but they may not enter the classroom during the conference. We will provide daycare during your 20-minute conference time only.

📍 **Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11th**, the school will also be closed.

📍 During **Thanksgiving Recess**, MOLR will be closed from Wednesday, November 24th through Friday, November 26th. Please put these dates on your calendar! This week we will only be open Monday 11/22 and Tuesday 11/23 – it will be a short week!

Laguna Food Pantry Food Drive

Please bring in your food drive items from Monday, November 8th through Friday, November 19th!

Laguna Food Pantry is responding to the COVID-19 outbreak and is one of only a few staying open to serve our neighbors in need. This facility offers free, fresh, nutritious groceries to families and individuals in need who live, work, and attend school in or around Laguna Beach.

Laguna Food Pantry serves 500 families each week and collect/give away about 4,000 lbs. of food every weekday. Help us help our community by bringing in items for those who need it most, especially during this difficult year.

The most requested items the Laguna Food Pantry needs are:

- Canned proteins (salmon, tuna, chicken, beans)
- Breakfast cereals
- Peanut butter / nut butters
- Pasta and pasta sauces
- Rice
- Dried beans
- Soup

We will have boxes outside our school ready for all your items! Thank you for supporting our community!

See's Candies Fundraiser

Look out for order forms and turn them in anytime from November 8th through November 30th! All orders placed will be received at school later in mid-December before we go out for Winter Recess on December 20th. Ms. Megan will send out an email when the candy orders arrive and are ready to be picked up 😊

A Few Reminders...

Brrr! Cold weather is around the corner – please make sure your child comes to school with a jacket or sweater daily. Also, please label all items with your child's name!

The flu season is here! Please **DO NOT** send your child to school if he/she has a fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or colored mucus. In addition, he/she must be free of these symptoms for a *complete* 24 hours before returning to school. Please notify the school of any illnesses, and if your child will be absent. Your child must be picked up in a timely manner should he/she become ill at school. We understand that this can pose a problem for working parents; however, we don't have a separate facility where a sick child can stay for an extended period of time. Now is the time to make alternative pick-up arrangements if you are prevented from leaving work.

Please also be advised of our illness policies listed in the COVID Re-Opening statement :

"Children who are sick, or anyone in the household is sick, with respiratory symptoms, a fever or persistent cough must remain home. Children may not return to school until all symptoms have been GONE without using fever reducing medication for a minimum of 72 hours. A Doctor's note may be requested and required to return to school."

Please keep in mind that late arrivals to school are not only difficult for the late child arriving to a class that has already

begun, but it is also a distraction to the children who are already participating in circle time. Also, please keep in mind that the teachers have prepared lessons and activities for all the children. When there are constant disruptions after class has started, it makes it difficult for all the children to settle into their school day. An "on time" drop-off will help eliminate confusion, tears, and sad good-byes.

9:00 AM - Toddler and Preschool classrooms begin.

8:45 AM – Elementary classrooms begin.

Heads up for your December planning

School will be closed for **Winter Recess** from Monday, December 20th through Friday, December 31st. Daycare will be provided to those who sign up ahead of time. Please fill out the sign-up sheet and return it to the office no later than **Friday, December 10th** with payment if you are interested in childcare. We will have sign-up sheets available in the office and we will also email them out to you.

***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 any particular month. There are no reductions for holidays, illness, and family vacations.



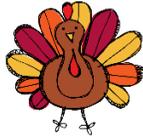
Music News from Ms. Karen

It is with some regret that we leave behind all the songs that define October. Our little black cat named Halloween shall be packed away until next year. It's been fun researching new songs to engage the children in our school. My background is theatre, so I always try to sneak in a show tune or two. Also, I'm ancient, so I appreciate a snappy mid-century tune.

In November, I'm dusting off the pumpkin pie hat and turkey headband as we pay homage to Thanksgiving and the concept of family and sharing. I will never forget the day my three-year-old daughter Rebecca belted out "I'm Glad I'm Not a Turkey" at our holiday dinner. May you all be blessed with an equally amusing experience.

Music classes are taught on Monday (Rooms 2 and 4), Wednesday (Rooms 1, 3, and 5), and Friday (Rooms 6 and 7) at 9:00 AM. Make sure your child is on time so the full spectrum of fun and silliness can be enjoyed.

Have a great Thanksgiving Break. I'm thankful I get to spend time with all your delightful children.



Room 1

Ms. Jocelyn
Ms. Yoko
Ms. Lidija
Ms. Zayra

Goodbye October, and hello November! The festivities continue for the special month of November. There is so much to be grateful for, and I just have to say that we are truly grateful to have such an amazing group of toddlers as well as wonderful parents.

In the month of November, children will enjoy turkey tweezing, a Pilgrim nesting doll, and one of our favorite stories for the Book of the Month: Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle. This beloved story will be read aloud (by teachers and children alike) and is also presented as a felt story. The Color of the Month is brown. We have a number of festive art projects and other activities throughout the classroom.

Our Song of the Month is an 1844 classic. Children will be learning the song "Over the River and Through the Woods" written by Lydia Maria Child. The song will be introduced in circle and then a basket of objects will be placed on the shelf for self-singing.

Our cooking project for November is based on the folktale, Stone Soup. Two hungry travelers arrive in a small town with nothing to their name but a "magic" stone. The travelers convince the townspeople that the "magic" stone will make a delicious soup if a few ingredients are added. The townspeople combine their resources and enjoy a hearty meal. Toddlers will come together and help make a delicious soup just like the story.

Thank you for your continued support of our program and do take the time to enjoy your family and friends this Thanksgiving Recess.



Room 2

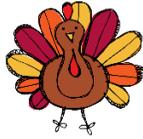
Ms. Emma
Ms. Vivian

Happy fall, Room 2! Fall is my favorite season, and I am so excited that it is finally starting to feel like fall both inside and outside of our classroom! This month is going to be full of so many exciting things. We are so excited to be thankful for every little thing all month long.

This month we will be reading the book Stone Soup. It is a story of how great we can be when we share what we can individually give. Alongside this story, we will be making for our cooking project our own stone soup! Keep an eye out for an email with a sign-up for what you can share with the class and contribute to our soup.

We will be naming fruits and vegetables for botany this month which will also be a fun parallel to the book. For science, we will be learning about the food pyramid. In zoology, we will be learning the parts of the bird... by learning about the parts of the turkey! We will be having so much fun this month exploring with paint and leaves, origami, and of course the return of the pumpkin artwork. This month in class we will be listening to folk music to give us even more of that fall cozy feeling. This is going to be a full month leading up to our holiday break.

I would like to formally welcome a couple new classmates to Room 2: Delaney, and Liam O.!
Happy birthdays go out to Liam Z., Asher, Jake, Kyle, Antonia, and Liam O.!
I hope everyone is safe and well and I believe we are off to a great start to this holiday season!



Room 3

Ms. Jasmine
Ms. Sofia

We made it through the month of October! We learned about the seasons and how the weather changes. In science, we studied the life cycle of a pumpkin. The children had fun making pumpkin pancakes and decorating their pumpkins! Halloween was a blast!

The unit for November will be becoming familiar with the names of fruits and vegetables. The children will be exploring the parts of a bird for science. Our music category for the month will be jazz. Our cooking project this month will be Stone Soup. In geography, we will be talking about the United States of America and the children will become more familiar with the country that they live in. Some things that we will touch base on are some United States landmarks, monuments, and culture.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates! Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on November 5th, you should have received an email to sign-up. Phone conferences or in-person conferences will be available, but school will be closed that day. Daycare will be provided on the playground during your conference time, if needed.

There will be no school on November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day.

This year, Thanksgiving Recess will be Wednesday, November 24th – Friday, November 26th.

Friendly Reminders:

- Class begins PROMPTLY at 9 A.M.
- Please no water bottles or sippy cups. Fresh filtered water is provided daily. If you would like to provide milk or water for your child, please do so in a disposable bottle/container.
- No toys at school as it may cause distraction to your child and the other children in the classroom.



Room 4

Ms. Isabelle
Ms. Kaitlyn

I can't believe we are starting our third month of school! Time sure flies! The children learned so much during the month of October. We talked about a new aspect of the United States each week, including where we live, our state of California, and famous monuments. The children also learned about the life cycle of a pumpkin, practiced naming fruits and vegetables, and learned about the parts of a bat.

During the month of November, the children will be learning about North America and the parts of a turkey, which is fitting given the upcoming holiday weekend. We will make our own Stone Soup and we will read the story throughout the month. This story is special to our hearts and is a MOLR classic that teaches the value of sharing. Our musician of the month will be Frederic Chopin and his music will be playing during our work time. For our outside wall this month, we will create a turkey using fall leaves and we will make our own turkey hats. Our cooking project will be inspired by the book [10 Fat Turkeys](#) where we will make our own turkey cookies.

Happy Birthday to Riley, Lyla, and Jordan!

Upcoming Events:

- Friday, November 5th - Parent Teacher Conferences
- Thursday, November 11th - Closed for Veterans Day
- Wednesday, November 24th to Friday, November 26th - Closed for Thanksgiving weekend



Room 5

Ms. Abby
Ms. Veronica

I can't believe October is already over! We learned about the life cycle of a pumpkin in botany and learned how to draw a pumpkin as well! For geography, we learned all about North America. I know the children will miss all the Halloween-themed books and work, but we are so excited to welcome November!

For the month of November, we will be learning about the parts of a turkey for our zoology subject! We will also be doing a Thanksgiving-themed art project, which will be hung outside our classroom! In science, we will be focusing on magnetism and seeing what objects will stick to a magnet. We also will be learning more about the United States in geography. We will be focusing on the culture, monuments, and landmarks of the country that we live in!

As a friendly reminder, class starts at 9am! If you happen to be running late, please allow your child to walk in alone so as to not distract our morning circle time. Thank you!

I am looking forward to another wonderful month with a wonderful class!

Happy Birthday to Valentine!



Room 6

Ms. Michelle
Ms. Jade

Welcome to November! I can't believe October is already behind us. We had such a wonderful time on our field trip to the pumpkin patch. The kids loved picking out their pumpkins, riding on the train and spending the day with their friends. Trick-or-treating was also a huge hit. Thank you all so much for your donations and help. It was greatly appreciated.

We will be having our first Parent/Teacher Conferences on Friday, November 5th. We will not have school on this day; however, we will be providing daycare for your child during the conference time only. We will also be closed on Thursday, November 11th to observe Veteran's Day, as well as November 24th – 26th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

For our cultural subjects this month we will continue our journey through North America. We will be learning about Thanksgiving and what it means to be thankful for the things in our lives. We will also be reading the story "Stone Soup" and then making our own stone soup to share in class. All of the children will be able to bring in their favorite vegetable for this fun cooking project.

Happy birthday wishes go out this month to Reese, Savvy, and Jameson.

Happy Thanksgiving! Ms. Jade and I hope you have a wonderful holiday!



Room 7

Ms. Indigo
Ms. Elissa

The month of November is here, and we sadly say goodbye to the spooky month of October.

November is going to be full of exciting lessons. We will be learning about North America, its famous landmarks, and North American animals, how Thanksgiving came about, and learn about all 50 states of the United States of America. This month the children will be listening to country music with an emphasis on stringed instruments to help them during work time and provide a rhythmic environment. To go with the Thanksgiving theme, we will be making our own Stone Soup for just our classroom. Each of the students will help create this special soup by providing a different ingredient to add. I will be sending home a slip with the ingredient that the child chose for the Stone Soup a week prior. The Stone Soup is only for the students in our class.

As a reminder, I would also like to ask our parents to please label all jackets, sweaters, and vests brought with your child to school. During the fall and winter season, children lose their jackets, and it is very difficult to find them without their names printed inside. Lastly, I wanted to remind everyone that our Parent Teacher Conferences are on Friday, November 5th this year. I have a sign-up sheet posted on the school website. If you cannot make any of the times available, you may schedule a phone conference with me.

Happy Birthday to Pierce, Evie, and Kai!
Have a wonderful holiday!