

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Montessori School



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IMPORTANT DATES

- 1/6 Staff Development Day
School Closed
- 1/7 First Day of Spring Semester
- 1/20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
School Closed
- 1/23 Upper Elem Field Trip
- 1/30 Lower Elem Field Trip

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome back and Happy New Year! Thank you to all who volunteered to help us pull off our Christmas celebration last month; it was a wonderful day and a great success!

Next month, we'll kick off pre-registration for school year 2025-2026. This is an opportunity to indicate your child's return and reserve their space for next year before registration opens to the public. Be on the lookout for details to come!

As always, thank you for trusting us with the care and education of your child. We look forward to a successful spring semester!

Mrs. Jennifer Watson



"Children are human beings to whom respect is due, superior to us by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future."

- Dr. Montessori's Own Handbook



INFANT 1



Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope each of you enjoyed the holiday break. A BIG thank you to all the parents for the lovely Christmas gifts! It was very generous of you to think of us and we really appreciate it.

One thing I enjoy most about this age group is how fast they grow and develop. In December, we asked for your help in supporting your child's independence over the break by allowing them the opportunity to hold their own bottle, use a spoon, or drink from an open cup. I know it was messy, but we appreciate your trust in our request! We cannot wait to see just how much each child has evolved during that short time! By allowing them to use their independence, you're giving your child the opportunity to develop their own personality and problem-solving skills. We will continue working on independent eating skills in class and encourage you to do the same at home.

This month we will also introduce arctic animals, focus on "mother," "father," and "teacher," in ASL, and continue working with the color green. Our Bible lesson is from Zephaniah 3:17 and emphasizes God's constant presence and new beginnings.

-- Mrs. Terri Wallace

Our Bible song this month:

Praise Him, Praise Him:

Praise Him, praise Him
(wave arms in the air)

All you little children
(spread arms wide)

God is love; God is love
(point up)

Praise Him, praise Him
All you little children

God is love; God is love



INFANT 2



Welcome back! We are excited to see everyone and looking forward to all that January will bring!

This month we'll have the opportunity to maintain a consistent routine in working on toilet awareness. Students will practice going on the toilet and will also play a role in changing their soiled clothes as a part of the learning process. As you can imagine, students will be going through extra clothes as they practice this new independent skill. Therefore, we ask that you kindly send 5 complete sets of clothes, to include training pants and/or underwear. With consistent practice at school and at home, you will be amazed at how quickly your child can master toilet training!

Here are the other exciting things we will be working on:

GROUP LESSONS Seasons (emphasis on winter); Antarctica; Arctic animals

PRACTICAL LIFE Toilet awareness: using the toilet; dressing and undressing; juicing oranges; restoring work; grooming

COGNITIVE MANIPULATIVE Counting snowflakes; sorting blue/white poms; Arctic animal rescue with pipe cleaners; paper tearing

LANGUAGE Stories: *Bear Snores On*; *The Snowy Day*; *What lives in the Arctic?* Spanish: arctic animals; cold (*frio*); hot (*calor*); windy (*viento*)

BIBLE Verse: Luke 12:29; God provides for me
Story: Jesus freed the people; Jesus feeds 5,000

SENSORY Arctic and winter sensory bins; snow painting; gluing Arctic animals

As a reminder, we post your child's needed supplies on their Smartcare timeline; please watch for those alerts and bring new supplies as quickly as possible.

We appreciate your support!

-- Mrs. LaDonna Ronelus

TODDLER

It's hard to believe that the new year is already here! Our toddler class would like to thank all the parents and family members for attending our first-ever performances this holiday season! We appreciate all of the support and help that was given.

Here are some of things we'll be doing in January:

GROUP LESSONS Arctic animals; Antarctica; igloos; seasons; winter

PRACTICAL LIFE Serving snack; squeezing oranges to make juice; wiping our nose; putting on our coat

MOTOR SKILLS Ice picking (hammering); snowball (cotton) transfer; pouring lessons; nature walk; balance beam

LANGUAGE Songs and finger play; days of the week, month, and seasons; arctic animals in Spanish

BIBLE John 6:1-14; Jesus feeds 5,000 people

ART Cotton ball painting; snowflakes



Cooler temperatures have arrived! Please refresh your child's extra clothes with warmer shirts and pants, and be sure to send a jacket for outdoor time.

-- Mrs. Tammy Clausen



PRIMARY

Welcome back!

During the month of January, the primary students will become paleontologists and study dinosaurs! They will learn their names and classify them according to their diet.

Students will also learn about Africa and its cultures, customs, and animals.

Here's a look at our full lesson plan for this month:

GROUP LESSON All about fossils; Paleontology; dinosaurs

SPANISH Winter clothing

GRACE & COURTESY Review and practice ground rules; how to ask for help; walking on the line with a basket

PRACTICAL LIFE Scissor cutting: making snowflakes; cooking lesson: African cuisine

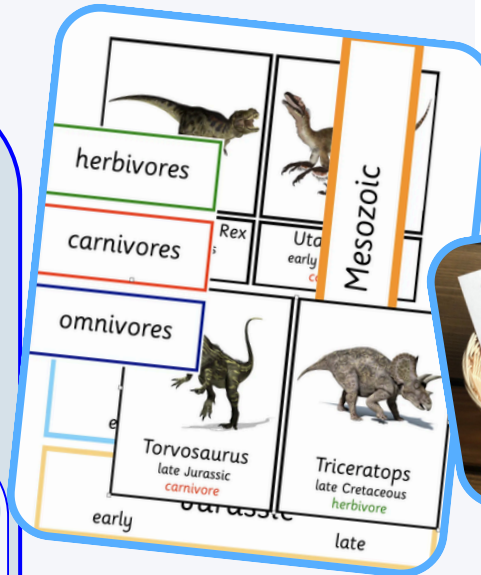
CULTURE Africa: map and animals: MLK Jr.; amphibians and reptiles: life cycle and parts of a frog and turtle; dinosaurs: herbivores, carnivores, omnivores

BIBLE Luke 2:4-52, young Jesus in the temple

ART & MUSIC Art: Creating fossils; African craft
Music: Mozart study

Thank you all for your support and the many thoughtful gifts we received during the holiday season. We are beyond blessed by our students and their families!

Mrs. Carmen Alvarado
and
Ms. Gwen Copeland



ELEMENTARY

Happy New Year! We are glad to welcome our students back and we're ready to dive into the spring semester.

January is a busy month full of exciting lessons! Here is a look at what we have planned:

MATH Fraction subtraction intro, level 1; fraction equivalency, level 2

SCIENCE Intro to the study of light: sources, how it travels, reflection, refraction; types of liquid

CULTURE Africa: countries, capitals, flags, culture; landforms; parts of a leaf, reptile, and flag; family tree

LANGUAGE Oral games (sentence structure), level 1; reading analysis, level 2; verb analysis, level 3

BIBLE Jesus as a boy in the temple; Jesus is baptized; Jesus and the children

ART Sew a button-hole pouch; Monet

Thank you to all who supported our service project this year! McLane Children's Hospital was delighted and grateful for the many wonderful donations!

Mrs. Dolline Abraham
and
Mrs. Monica Walker



BIRTHDAYS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Kohen Castilleja	Primary 1	January 1st
Brayden Miller	Lower Elementary	January 1st
Brandy Wells	Primary 2	January 5th
David Hunt III	Infant 1	January 8th
Penelope Greco	Upper Elementary	January 9th
Evelyn Tisdale	Lower Elementary	January 13th
Solaina Waterhouse	Infant 2	January 14th
Nandika Pachipulusu	Infant 2	January 17th
Roman Barton	Primary 1	January 17th
Alivia Widmer	Toddler	January 25th
Sasha McMahan	Lower Elementary	January 25th