

MONTESSORI CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

www.montessorichilddevelopment.com



Our shark, Cassidy leads the "wave" during the Pep Rally

Our love goes out to Ms. Erika as she takes her maternity leave mid to end of November. We wish you an easy and safe delivery. We look forward seeing your bundle of joy soon. Ms. Mary will take great care of her students during her leave.

Dates to Remember

Friday, 11/11 Veterans Day / No School

Friday, 11/18 Practical Life Parent
Education 3:00 – 3:30

Wednesday, 11/23 Thanksgiving Feast
School closes at 3:00

Thursday, Friday Thanksgiving Holiday
11/24 – 11/25 School Closed

*The students enjoy an afternoon of books.
Photo taken by OC Register.*



Say Hello to November

Fast forward to January and then we ask ourselves, where did this year go? Although we're feeling the thrill of the season, busy as ever with schoolwork, homework, artwork, and all kinds of work in between, we have to find time to somehow slow down and just breathe. The little feet that "pitter patter" in our hallways find it "business as usual" when then take a minute or two to play the "Silence Game," watch rollie pollies tucked under the stepping stones, or check the sky and feel the air for the day's weather report. Many amazing things happen in this little school, but they happen so quickly...that you'll ask in January, where did the year go? Sometimes we need take the time to admire the cutting work, writing work, and artwork piled in that cubby, huddle in the reading corner for a story, join the class for the Pledge of Allegiance, play chess or build Lego spaceships. Happy November everyone!

MCDC Featured in the OC Register

What a treat! What a treat! If you haven't noticed, MCDC was featured in the OC Register on our Superhero party. A link is available in the Parent's Corner of our website www.montessorichilddevelopment.com

Practical Life Parent Education

Learn about the indirect aim and direct aim of our Practical Life activities and why this is so important in our classroom. Parents in the Toddlers and Preschool classrooms are invited to experience the beauty of the Practical Life activities.

The parent education class will be held in Ms. Nikki's classroom from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m on Friday, November 18. Sign-ups are located in the classrooms.

We hope to see you there.

School Library

Our Scholastic Book fair was a grand success. We earned new books for our classrooms and library. These books are available for you to check out. The library is located in the office. Choose a book for your story time at home and bring it back when you're done. If you see a book in the classroom that you would like to borrow, simply ask the teacher. We're always glad to share our love of books.

Fundraising Update

Wow! Our catalog fundraiser had a great turnout. We raised \$1,083 orders and cash donations. Our students will be jumping for joy when they see the new playground equipment we order. Once again, your great efforts deserve a big HOORAY! We expect to see our orders arrive within several weeks.

Book Donations

A hundred books are on its way to the Children's Hospital of Orange County. Thanks to the many families who participated in our Milk and Bookies event and the Scholastic Book Fair. On behalf of MCDC family, \$250 worth of books was donated to CHOC. Our friends in Peru will be receiving Spanish books. We're so glad to spread our love of books.

Feast with Native Americans and Pilgrims

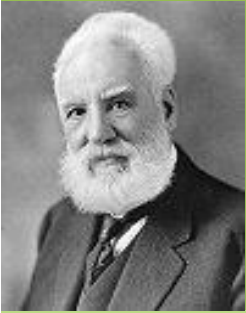
Turkeys will be flocking in our classrooms this November. Don't be surprised if you hear "gobble-gobble's" all throughout. If you ever see a little turkey doing the "wobble" dance, be sure to shake your turkey feathers and join in.

A special feast with little Native Americans and Pilgrims will be held on Wednesday, November 23. It's a feast to celebrate good friends. We will be celebrating with a traditional Thanksgiving lunch. A potluck signup will be posted by the classroom computer and information will be emailed to the parents. Volunteers are welcome to help however you can or to just join the fun.



Thanksgiving Break

School's out on Thursday and Friday, November for a Thanksgiving Break. Remember, school closes at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23. We hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends.



Alexander Graham Bell,

Noted inventor, provided financial support directly to Dr. Montessori. Helped establish the first Montessori class in Canada and one of the first in the United States

Hot lunches Interest List

Easy, delicious, healthy, and convenient is what our hot lunches should be all about. Cater tots has temporarily cancelled hot lunches due to low daily orders. We hope to bring it back to school when we get an interest list of 15 daily orders. Till then, be sure to pack a lunch.



A Small Step to Save the Earth

*Troy would say:
"What belongs in nature stays in nature."*

Grade: 2nd

See those blue recycling bins around school lately? It's not often that we find kids passionate about saving the planet. It's not often that we find them become advocates of Mother Earth.

Enter Troy Kiet. Seven years young and passionate about the outer space and planets. As a matter of fact, if you ever need to know something about Astronomy, he's the one to go to. Back when he was in preschool, his teachers noticed that had great interest in the Solar System. He borrowed books and studied the planets like Neil Armstrong would. Now in second grade, Troy often heads debates in the classroom about our Solar System.

He noticed one day that the kids in school were not recycling. According to Troy, "Earth is the only planet with life and I would like to help preserve that." That makes perfect sense! So to encourage kids and adults, he asked his mom to donate recycling bins for the school. He encouraged his entire family to save all recyclables. His love of the planets flourished into a passion to help Earth.

A year later Troy has collected empty cans and empty bottles to probably reach the moon. Troy continues to encourage everyone he meets to recycle at home and at work. He would like to get bigger recycling bins and have every school join him. He would also like all the kids to help keep Earth clean.

We celebrate his parents, friends, and teachers for encouraging him to do what he believes in. Way to go Troy!

Practical Life Sign Up



Sean, age 2, squeezes an orange during the Toddler's class weekly Practical Life Group lesson.

Practical Life work brings so much joy and pride. These are exercises children perform daily to help them become independent and responsible individuals.

Our food preparation exercises such as banana slicing, orange squeezing, and carrot cutting give the children an opportunity to perform real life skills, hence the name Practical Life. But it also refines their fine and large motor skills, develops their hand and eye coordination, strengthens their memory, and encourages grace and courtesy.

Our children love to perform these exercises and we appreciate continuous donations to our food preparation exercises.

Class Volunteers

The kids buzz in excitement when they see moms or dads read a book, teach, or help out in class. Our class events are not only a time to celebrate a special occasion at school, but also a time to invite parents to join the fun. If you are able to volunteer, please let your child's teacher know. You may also sign up by contacting the class moms during special events.



Moms and volunteers, Joo and Laura pose for a photo during the Bon Voyage Party.



Mom, Pauline, talks to the class about the symbolism of Chinese and Vietnamese attires.



Morgan gets a little help from volunteer mom, Melissa.

Garden Under Construction

Our thumbs are turning green! A little bit of labor of love, a sprinkle or so of sweat, a peek of sunshine, a raindrop or two, a bucket full of dirt, a mini shovel, ten squiggly earthworms, a family of ladybugs, and a handful of seeds is our recipe to a Children's Garden. We'll be digging and preparing a garden we all can admire.

This project, "A Joyful Garden," is located between Building A and B. We'd like to have a dwarf orange tree, vegetable patch, flower beds, and herbs. As it is a joyful garden, it is a learning garden as well. Harvesting fresh foods and learning about plants are some of the things we wish to do in this garden.

As we construct our "Joyful Garden," we ask you to bring in some ingredients that we may need such as organic soil, potting soil, compost, bulbs, herbs, garden decorations, orange tree, stepping stones, garden bench, bird feeder, bird bath, trellis, flowers, and seeds. Our little gardeners will do the rest.



November Birthdays

6 Years Old

Andrew 11/1
Isabella 11/25

5 Years Old

Jaden 11/4
Casey 11/20

4 Years Old

Gabriele 11/9
Sophia 11/12

3 Years Old

Jacquelyn 11/5
Emma 11/30

Staff

Ms. Huong 11/3
Ms. Cyndi 11/15

Montessori Birthday Celebrations

Happy Birthday to
our November
celebrants!

Montessori
birthdays are
celebrated with the
traditional "walk
around the sun."
The birthday child
holds the Earth as
he/she walks around
the sun, each time
representing a year
old.

We encourage
parents to bring
pictures from birth
to present to share
to friends. Parents
also have an option
to host a healthy
snack or lunch.

CLASS NEWS

Pre-Primary Class – Ms. Annie and Ms. Erika

Thank you to all the parents who attended the parent- teacher conference. It was a great opportunity to share your child interests and goals. We also appreciate your support on our book fair and our Halloween party. We had a great time.

During this month, we will learn about Native Americans and Thanksgiving. We will learn about what plants need in order to grow, the difference between pollution vs. a clean earth, the homes of animals and months of the year. We will also learn and experiment what the wind is. We will continue learning about Solar System and sign language.



Sean, Nhathy, and Madeline join friends during the Pep Rally.



Alana explores the beginning sounds by working on matching objects and its sound.

Primary 1– Ms. Monique and Ms. Dee

October was a super fun month. A big thank you to everyone who donated to our Milk & Bookies fair. Our Halloween celebration and parade was so much fun. Thanks so much to Jessica Stewart for organizing the event. Our appreciation goes out to all the parents for helping make our event a memorable one. We really enjoyed seeing the children in their costumes.

We will spend some time this month talking about things that we are thankful for. Please bring a family photo for our project. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Primary 2 – Ms. Haidee and Ms. Jen

We would like to thank all parents who came for our parent-teacher conference and for donating books for our class. We greatly appreciate all your help and support for our Halloween parade. Everyone had fun decorating pumpkins and playing games. Big thanks to our parent volunteers who made our Halloween event special.

This month is “Giving Thanks” month. We will talk about the things that we are grateful for. We will be studying the life of Native Americans and Pilgrims as we are learning the continent of North America. Lastly, we will be discussing the importance of Veteran's day.



Malia works hard on her addition with the Dot Game exercise.



*Ms. Nikki guides Andrea on the Blue Reading Level
Morgan gets a little help from volunteer mom, Melissa.*

Primary 3 – Ms. Nikki

Thank you for all your help with the preparation of our Halloween event. It was a success! It turned out to be a wonderful day and everyone had a good time. Your valued time given to this school event is so appreciated! Thank you also for supporting our recent book fair.

November is here! It arrives with a sense of anticipation for the Holiday season. Thank you to our room moms, Danielle and Daisy for planning our event. Once again, we are looking forward to your continued support. Have a happy Thanksgiving!

ELEMENTARY NEWS



The elementary class is a small community of mixed age students who work together as a team. Shown here, Erika (10) reports on Earth while Samantha (7) shows the planet. On the right, Andrew (6) helps out Cassidy (8) on her oral presentation of Mercury.

We are going on a field trip on Friday, September 4. At the Ecological Center, the children will visit the butterfly house to learn about the life cycle of toads or butterflies. They will search for decomposers and will visit the building to learn about the natural resources that we use to build materials. This outdoor activity will help the children appreciate and understand the ecological importance of all living things around them: big or small.

The first homework was given out last week. Homework is primarily about developing one of the responsibilities in our children. They are responsible to bring home the homework, complete it with a parent's guidance, and then return it. These skills will help the child well later in his/her school life. Parents should make sure that they check their child's work. It should be done neatly and all problems should be corrected after they have completed them. Homework is also designed to reinforce what your child has already learned in the class and to integrate their abilities by applying many different skills to a single task. It also provides an opportunity to parents to participate in their children's education.

For this month, we will be studying the continent of North America. We will select several countries from each continent and study the customs and culture, geography, landforms and climate, wildlife, plants, and human activities of each. Older children in the class will select one of the countries in North America. They will write a research paper and do an oral report at the end of the month. This activity will help them to be more confident in front of an audience. To culminate their report, they will show a dance and prepare a food from their chosen country.

We would like to thank Melissa and Christian Eggerling for sharing their time with us to help us carve our pumpkins and for organizing the snack. The children loved their pumpkins and you made this day a wonderful one.

Special Thanks to:

*Ingardia Brothers Produce,
Inc*

*www.ingardiabros.com
for donating pumpkins*

The children had a wonderful time



Trevor N., Kolbe, and Taylor enjoyed picking pumpkins.