

MONTESSORI

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

www.montessorichilddevelopment.com

Dates to Remember

- 3 – Dr. Seuss' Birthday
- 4 – Elementary Field Trip
Irvine Ranch
- 7 – Parent Teacher Conference
(No School)
- 14 – Kindergarten and Elementary
Open House
- 17 – St. Patrick's Day
- 19 – Spring Pictures
- 28 – Elementary Field Trip
Mission San Juan Capistrano

Parent Teacher Conference

Be sure to sign up for the final parent teacher conference. Your child has achieved many goals this year and the teacher would love to share those accomplishments with you.

Please sign up in the classroom. There are no make ups for conferences. If you are unable to attend, you may schedule a phone conference with the teacher. For phone conferences, please write your phone number next to your child's name and the teacher will call you at that time.

School is not in session. Day care will only be available during your conference time only.

Progress reports will be sent home in June.

2014-2015 Registration

Priority registration forms for 2014-2015 school year will be distributed on week of March 10th. Priority Registration forms are due by Friday, March 21st. Current students and siblings are given priority for classroom placement. Be sure to turn your forms in before the due date to guarantee your child's space in September.

Kindergarten Information Night

It's that time of the year where parents have to decide where to place their children for Kindergarten. For most 2nd year Montessori students (typically 4-5 years old), the basic foundation have been presented and it is in the 3rd year (5-6 Kindergarten age) when everything they have absorbed in the past two years will become apparent. There are many benefits to finishing the 3 year Montessori cycle. In the 3rd year of Montessori, you will notice spontaneous reading and writing develop further, math becomes more complex and abstract, and many more academic interests become more obvious. Most importantly, the 3rd year Montessori offers these students the opportunity of leadership in the classroom. They begin to teach other students and they become more confident individuals. Presented in this Parent Information Night are the Kindergarten curriculum, benefits of the 3rd year Montessori program, and requirements. Invitations have been sent out to those students eligible for Kindergarten. Please RSVP to attend.

Elementary Information Night

This is a great opportunity for the parents of our current Kindergarten students to learn about the benefits of continuing with the Montessori system of education for the elementary level. If you have seen your child blossom and thrive during their Kindergarten year, just wait and see what they will learn in the elementary years. Elementary students are given the opportunity to explore subject matters such as history, chemistry, biology, botany, zoology, literature, to name a few. They use many tools for learning: such as doing research on a subject matter, reenacting a certain scenes in history or literature, performing numerous hands on activities or experiments, and using the Montessori Elementary materials as a guide to understanding an abstract concept. Our goal is for the child to have a deeper understanding of the subject matter and to make this information meaningful to them. Not only elementary students do well in academics, but they are well versed in different areas, such as, performing in front of an audience, helping their community, playing a musical instrument, conversing and writing in Spanish. Self-confidence and a love for learning become inherent. Motivation and goodness come from within, not through token rewards or a need of praise.

If you haven't set foot in the Elementary classroom, we invite parents of our current Kindergarteners, soon-to-be-1st graders, to attend and to learn more about the Montessori Elementary program. We will discuss the elementary curriculum, requirements, work, and many Montessori materials used in the classroom. Also, at your convenience, we invite you to observe the students during work time and learn more about the class. Please RSVP for this event.

Spring Pictures



Another picture opportunity will be hopping along MCDC, and this time it's on Wednesday, March 19. We will have a background of flowers, green grass, bunnies, and eggs. These photos would be a perfect gift for grandparents and loved ones. There is no sitting fee and photos will be ready by the end of the day to purchase. Please have your child dress up for the photos. Bring extra change of clothes to change to after the photo session.

St. Patrick's Day

We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Monday, March 17. Sign-ups for our green-themed or Irish-themed snacks will be in each class. If your family is from Ireland and would like to share the beauty of the green isle or the Irish culture, dance the jig or share the gift of gab, you are most welcome to participate in this occasion. This is a fun time for our students because they love to jig, gab, and share their fondest moments of St. Patrick's Day! Please don't forget to wear green!



Community Supported Agriculture

Thank you to all the families who ordered their box of produce and fruits from Tanaka Farms. They will be delivering a variety of local produce and fruits to MCDC every other week. You can order a small box for \$20 or a large box for \$30. The majority of the freshly picked produce is grown by Tanaka Farms located in Irvine. Produce/fruits will be supplemented from other organic farmers to provide a good variety in each box.

Having your CSA box delivered to MCDC also supports our Joyful Garden program. Tanaka Farms will donate 10% back to the school. We will use all the funds raised to purchase soil and plants for our garden.

To order your box, please go to www.tanakafarms.com. Click on Montessori CDC. It's that simple!

JOYFUL GARDEN and RECYCLING

We have adopted more worms for our Joyful Garden, thanks to our friends at ENRECOS who are educating us in recycling organic waste into a resource, reducing water consumption, reducing pesticides, reducing chemical fertilizers, and using organic soil amendments for gardens.

We plan on building a mini organic farm and extending our Joyful Garden to fill the open space next to Building A. The students have planted starter plants to fill our garden beds. We are excited to learn from our garden everyday.

Donate your recyclable bottles and cans to MCDC. Luke Gordon has volunteered to sort and drop off the recyclables to the recycling center. He is also donating 100% of the proceeds for our Joyful Garden. We are proud of his charity work. Great job Luke!

On Going School Charity Projects and Donation Needs

Luke Gordon's Recycling Project

Bring empty cans and bottles to be recycled by Luke. All proceeds used towards the Joyful Garden.

Box Tops for Schools

Cut up box tops for schools from products and goods used at home. The school will earn points. All funds will go toward the Joyful Garden.

Joyful Garden Project

Garden items needed

Scholastic Books

The school will earn points for all book orders. Points are used to purchase additional books for our library.

SUMMER PROGRAM

Summers at MCDC is always filled with so much fun. We have a different theme planned for each week. The summer registration and program will be distributed at the end of March. Parents may sign up for the entire program or on a weekly basis with a minimum of 4 weeks. Siblings attending public school are welcome to join us for the summer. The summer program is posted on line at www.montessorichilddevelopment.com.

Scholastic Book Fairs = Smart Board

Thank you so much to all the families who support our Scholastic Book Fairs. We have earned enough points for a Smart Board valued at \$2,300 for our Elementary class. The students will be benefitting from the Smart Board for many years to come. The Smart Board is on its way to MCDC. Hooray!

Our next Book Fair will be in April. Our goal for our next book fair is to earn points towards early reader and series books for our Preschool classrooms.

Nap Bedding

Our storage space for nap bedding is very limited. We would like to ask parents to send only a small blanket, crib sheet, and/or a small-sized pillow (optional). Please do not send comforters or full-sized pillows.



2 years old
Luke H. 3/8
Bella 3/16

3 years old
Mason 3/28

4 years old
Julia 3/4
Kana 3/3
Rachel 3/8

5 years old
Fiona 3/20
Nhathy 3/27

6 years old
Madeline 3/9

7 years old
Tristian 3/20
Ella 3/13
Luke G. 3/8

Teachers
Ms. Haidee 3/17
Ms. Anna 3/19

Thank You

Thank you to all the Room parent volunteers for making our Valentine's Day special. We were treated to very cute projects, delicious treats, and surprises.

Thank you for The Perlman family, The Vu family, and The Hartman family for donating school materials and books.