

# MONTESSORI

## CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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### Happy Valentine's Day

We will celebrate Valentine's Day on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. The children may bring a Valentine note or card for their friends. To make it easier to pass out their Valentines, fill it out as "TO MY FRIEND" and "FROM (Child's Name)." Please NO candies.

Since we had a huge Lunar New Year party, we plan to have a simple and sweet celebration for Valentine's Day. Snack will be served. Be sure to pack a lunch or order pizza. Parents are welcome to volunteer to read a story, help set up or clean up, or do arts and crafts. If you would like to help, please speak to your child's teacher.

To make this day more festive, be sure to dress your child in red or pink.

The festivities will start at 9:30 and end at approximately 11:00. Each class may have a different schedule, so be sure to check with the teacher if you plan to volunteer.

### Dates to Remember

8- Lunar New Year  
Celebration

12 – Valentine's Day

15 – Presidents' Day  
NO SCHOOL

18- "Pero" Segerstrom  
Center of the Arts  
(Upper Elementary)

23 – Elementary Field  
Trip Tessman  
Planetarium

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### Presidents Day Holiday

School is closed on Monday, February 15 to celebrate Presidents' Day.



# Lets Talk Montessori

## What we mean when we say...

### Work vs. Play

*Work refers to the effort someone makes or to the process someone follows or makes something that has value to the person or society. Play can be described as any activity someone finds enjoyable and interesting and is valuable in itself for that reason.*

*In Montessori, work and play are valued differently. Work is often perceived in three ways: 1) as the result of someone setting an intention to carry out a specific goal; 2) as needing concentration; 3) as something that must be done whether or not the work is enjoyable or interesting.*

*Play is perceived as: 1) as something that may or may not require concentration; 2) as recreational and not particularly important, even if does require concentration; 3) as something that can be easily interrupted.*

*The words “work” and “play” have special significance in the Montessori Method. Montessori referred to children’s activity as work, rather than play, because she believed that play is the important work of early childhood. What Montessori did with this one idea was place value on children’s activities in the classroom by describing and treating them as work. In effect, Montessori combines the above definitions of work and play. A child’s work becomes not only an effort a child makes or a process the child follows to do something or make something that has value to the child or to the child’s environment, but also an activity the child finds enjoyable and interesting and valuable in itself for that reason.*

*When a child comes home from school, ask him / her what kinds of work he / she did and if it was a challenging or easy work. You’ll find that if you place value on their work at school it encourages them to do more.*

## Extra Clothes

Please replenish your child’s extra clothes container. Include both long sleeved and short sleeved shirts, socks and underwear.

We are also running out of extra clothes. If your child borrowed some clothes, please check at home and bring to school. Donations for underwear and shorts are greatly needed. Thank you.

To keep our cubbies organized, we would like to request parents to bring a shoe-sized plastic container for your child’s extra clothes. These will keep clothes that are already in the cubbies not in contact with food and other things that are in the cubby. Please label boxes and clothes inside.

## Helping Hands

One of our goals in our school is to develop children's sense of awareness in their community by contributing something small to make a big difference. This sense of awareness can be as simple as recycling to lessen pollution, respecting nature, composting to grow healthier foods, donating food and supplies to the needy, or contributing their time to make others happy. Our Montessori students have the ability to develop their sense of awareness in our community through our encouragement and examples. Learning to think of others at this very young age will help them develop compassion, generosity, and appreciation. Each month, our school strives to encourage students to become a part of the community by participating in selected charitable organizations. This month and next month, Carly Marinko's charity project is to collect items for care packages. We are collecting travel size shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, and lotion. Collection boxes will be set up by our elementary students in front of the office and in Room 3 (Ms. Nikki's class). Your child will appreciate giving if they understand why they give. When your child drops off a donation, congratulate him or her for helping someone. This simple act will surely become more meaningful to your child. Surely, this will not only make your child feel good about himself or herself but will also make the children and their families appreciate that someone cares.

## Friendly Reminder

- Peanut butter or any peanut products are not allowed in school due to some children who have life-threatening allergies with these products.
- Be sure to sign in and out every day.
- Be sure to latch the gate as you enter and exit the school. Children should walk together with their parent/s when exiting the school.
- Be sure to drop off your child to a teacher. Children should never be left alone in hallways or in the classroom.
- When picking up, be sure your child says good bye to the teacher. The teacher needs to have a face to face contact with the child before he/she leaves the school.
- It is still flu season and many of our students have gotten ill from it. If your child has the flu, fever, or is sick, he/she needs to be fever-free or symptom-free for **24 hours** before returning to school. Do not give your child fever reducing or cough medicine while in school.
- Please bring your child's updated immunization records.
- If your child has more than two containers of milk or lunch, please pack an ice pack to keep things cold. We have a small fridge and can accommodate one or two containers per child.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

### Monday

Soccer Shots (for 2 to 3 year olds) 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Tap and Ballet (3-5 year olds) 2:30 -3:30

Tap and Ballet (Elementary ) 3:30 -4:30

Tennis for Kids 3:30

### Tuesday

Sports 3:00-3:30

### Wednesday

Tap and Ballet (5 years and up) 2:30 – 3:30

Tae Kwon Do 3-3:30 (Primary) 3:30-4:00 (Elementary)

### Thursday

Tap and Ballet (3-5 year olds) 2:30 -3:30

Soccer Shots (Primary) 3:00-3:30

### Friday

Gymnastics 3:00-3:30 and 3:30 -4:00

Tap and Ballet (Elementary ) 3:00-4:00



## Happy Birthday

### 2 Years

Sasha 2/10

Timmy 2/5

### 3 Years

Shalin 2/21

### 5 years

Faith 2/12

Nehemyah 2/18

### 6 years

Carly 2/2

Evan 2/6

Grace R 2/7

Alessio 2/10

Ms. Jen 2/3



A Special Thank You!  
And  
Happy Valentine's  
Day!