

Dolphin Tales

December 2, 2022

Volume 11 Issue 4



December Birthdays

Anika G.	12/1	Vihaan P.	12/16
Lilah P.	12/4	Fraunchez D.	12/18
Jaina S.	12/8	Lyra Y.	12/22
Ria R.	12/11	Victoria V.	12/24
Robert C.	12/12	Agata C.	12/25
Liam A.	12/13	Naveed S.	12/31
Eva R.	12/16		

Important Dates

December 13th	Holiday Program
December 16th	Holiday Classroom Celebrations (1/2 Day)
December 19th–30th	Winter Break
January 2nd	School Resumes
January 6th	Chess Club Resumes



Toddler News

Ms. Ginny's and Ms. Kelly's Class



★Holiday Program Information

MSOR's Holiday Program is right around the corner. On Tuesday, December 13th, MSOR will hold their annual Holiday Program at the City Auditorium, starting at 6PM. We need all of our toddlers at the Auditorium between 5:30PM and 5:40PM. We sent home ticket order forms in their lunch boxes earlier this week. Please return those by Monday, December 12th. If your child will NOT be performing in this year's holiday program, we need to know ASAP for costume purposes.

Speaking of costumes, we are asking for \$7 for shirts we will be creating to wear the night of the performance. You can send cash or Venmo Ms. Kelly (@Kelly-Dougherty-2526). We also ask that you dress your child in brown pants or leggings to complete their ensemble. :)

We will be singing and dancing to three songs: Happiest Christmas Tree by Nat King Cole, Santa Finger by Miss Rachel, and We Wish You a Merry Christmas by Super Simple Songs. Feel free to sing along with your toddler to help them practice for their big night!

★Also coming up...

On Wednesday, December 14, we'll be having a pajama day. Send your child in their cozy, comfy pjs and we'll watch a Christmas movie and have "hot" chocolate.

Reminder that we will be closing on Friday, December 16th at 11AM. We'll be decorating cookies that morning! If you'd like to donate any cookies or cookie decorating supplies, please reach out to Ms. Ginny.

This month, we are learning about nursery rhymes and talking about the Christmas season. We're reading stories and signing songs. It's the happiest time of the year!



Toddler News

Ms. Shannon's, Ms. Jessica's, and Ms. Kristin's Class



I can't believe it's already December! We had a wonderful time learning about transportation this past month. This month we will have lots of fun making cute things to decorate your tree, talk about Christmas in other parts of the world, and sing lots of fun holiday songs.

We will spend a lot of time working on our Christmas program.

The program will be held on Dec.13th at the Rome City Auditorium. I have all the pajamas and antlers ready to go! I will give you more info closer to the date about specifics for drop off. We will be singing the Kidz Bop version of "Rudolph," the Kiboomers version of "Reindeer Pokey," and recite a poem.

They are doing a great job so far! The next day will be a pajama day.

We will have our class Christmas party on December 16th. If you would like to send a treat for a snack please let me know. It will be a half day. Class will dismiss at 11, no later than 11:10. We will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 19th until Jan. 2nd. I hope you all have a wonderful, safe holiday!



Primary News

Ms. Angie's, Ms. Karabeth's, and Ms. Rana's Class

A Montessori Approach to the Holidays ★

1. Determine what your family traditions will be, so your child can understand what to expect each year. The timing of holiday books, songs, clothing. There is an excitement and energetic feel to this time of year, so make it clear to your child that “we put decorations out for the month of December,” or whatever your timeline may be. Do what feels meaningful and celebratory for your family.

2. Gifting: Involve your child in gift wrapping for others, so they begin to get excited about the process of gifting as much as receiving. Even if they are wrapping a bracelet they made, or picture they drew, allow them their own tape (cut into small pieces) and wrapping paper to try on their own.

3. Practice with your child “how to receive a present.” Act it out together, so your child will understand the graciousness of what it will look like and how they can properly respond when someone gives a present. Take turns pretending to give a gift, and model for your child saying “thank you!” Let them know that even if they are surprised, or not interested in the gift, it is still important to politely say thank you.

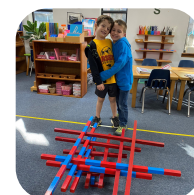
4. Give your child a purposeful job to channel some of that excitement. Cook together in the kitchen, set the table for the holiday meal, gather all of the wrapping paper and trash to take out.

5. Introduce gratitude. Appreciate out loud, modeling for your child how grateful and thankful you may be for all blessings in life.

- “We are so lucky to have this amazing meal to eat.”
- “I feel so thankful that our family is visiting us and we can all celebrate together.
- “How lucky we are to have been given this book that we will enjoy for a long time!”

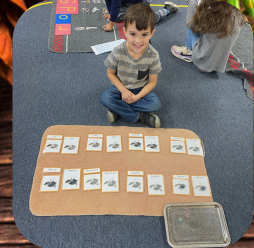
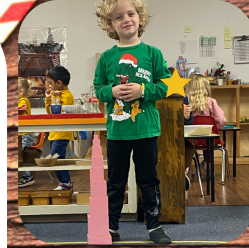
Article courtesy of Cloud Montessori.

[Read more here...](#)



Primary News

Ms. Krystle's, Ms. Macy's, and Ms. Trudy's Class



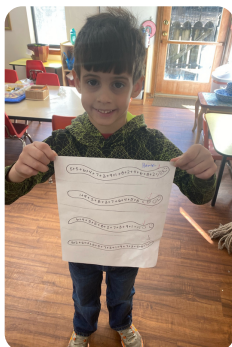
Happy Holidays and, boy, are the holidays upon us! The children will be starting their holiday project next week and the project will go home on the 16th. (Your child is making a holiday gift for their own family).

On Friday, December 16, please have your child wear their favorite holiday pajamas, bring their favorite holiday book, and pack your child either a packet of hot cocoa or hot apple cider. We will be supplying the hot water and cups.

This month we will be studying the composer:
- Pytor Illyich Tchaikovsky and his work and life.
Our unit of inquiry:
-identifying objects by 2 or more attributes
-Europe: biomes, foods, landmarks, animals, flags.
-parts of: Poinsettia
-Reindeer

****Readers need to come to school every Monday and Thursday****

****Workbooks need to come to school only on Thursdays****



Important FYI:

- 12/5–To reduce the spread of germs we cannot allow a student's jacket/items to touch another student's (our closet is very small, so to make more room for jackets–starting on 12/5 PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD KEEP THEIR BACKPACK AT HOME EVERY DAY. (Administration will follow up with an e-mail.)
- 12/13– Holiday Performance: Please meet at Rome City Auditorium promptly at 8:15–8:30am for our rehearsal. You may drop off your child and then pick up at 10:30 AM. You are welcome to take your child home for the remainder of the day and then meet back at the Auditorium for the performance at 5:30pm prompt. Please dress your child in a solid red long sleeve shirt and solid red pants (no tights) with black or white shoes.
- 12/14 –Lyra's birthday celebration. Pizza and cupcakes will be provided. Please bring fruits and veggies to supplement.
- 12/16– Half Day (please bring hot cocoa or hot apple cider packet). School pick up is at 11:00 (no later than 11:10 am) *your child will NOT stay for lunch*
- School closed on 12/19–12/30 and school will resume on 01/02/2023

Happy Holidays to each and every one of you. Thank you for your continued support and have a Happy New Year!

Lower EI News

Ms. Robin's and Ms. Dolores's Class

This month's content comes from Montessori Services: The word holiday comes from the Old English word for "holy days." Religious holidays are meaningful to many families. People celebrate holidays for numerous reasons, including giving thanks, seeking protection, and celebrating freedom. Children can learn how holidays bring joy to people around the globe as we celebrate the diversity of the families in our communities.

We study and celebrate many holidays from different cultures in Montessori classrooms—Lunar New Year, Cinco de Mayo, The International Day of Peace, Diwali, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Kwanza, and Christmas—any cultural holiday represented by the students we work with. If a holiday is meaningful to one of our students, we highlight it—which benefits the development of all our students.

In traditional classrooms, holidays often are treated as special events that disrupt everyday routines. A sense of fun and community spirit may appear for a holiday, then take a back seat once the holiday is over. But Montessori educators take a more holistic approach. When highlighting a cultural celebration, we weave the celebration into the general cultural studies we do—giving students a greater appreciation for the diversity of our world, as well as the values we share across cultures.

The ways a classroom may give attention to a holiday can vary greatly. It's not uncommon for more traditional schools to take an all or nothing approach—either everyday tasks on an uneventful day, or parties and little lasting instruction on a holiday. Some approaches we may take when celebrating holidays:

- Sharing about the particular holiday, its history, and how it is celebrated
- Doing a related art, music, or cooking project
- Presenting and discussing significant items related to the holiday celebration

This year, as we study and learn about the winter holidays, we will make geometric ornaments to decorate our themed Geometree. Students will learn about the traditional Christmas holiday and sharpen their geometry skills as we decorate. They are very excited! Did you know that a candy cane is a curved line?

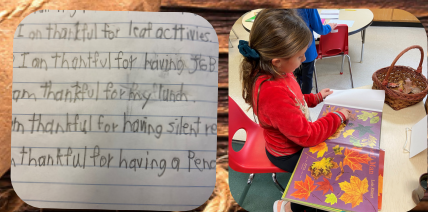
Have a fun and wonderful holiday season with your families!

Joyeux Noel! Feliz Navidad!, God Jul!, Chag Urim Sameach!, Heri za Kwanza!, May this year bring you good fortune!, Happy New Year, May Lakshmi bless you this year!



"As different as we are from one another, as unique as each one of us is, we are much more the same than we are different. That may be the most essential message of all, as we help our children grow toward being caring, compassionate, and charitable adults."

~Mr. Rogers (Fred Rogers)



Lower El News

Ms. Stefanie's Class

The Christmas trees have been brought into the classrooms and there is much excitement surrounding this time of year. This year, in lower elementary, we have decided to do things a little differently. To create an inclusive environment in our classrooms, we will be decorating a "Geome-tree". The students will enjoy creating various Geometric shapes and figures to decorate our trees. We will add winter-themed decorations and activities. However, as a wonderful blogpost from Montessori for Everyone points out, we know that celebrating holidays is important for many reasons. Therefore, we will also spend time learning how various cultures and people groups around the world celebrate this time of year. Although they occur at separate times, some of the fall/winter holidays we will be learning about are Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Las Posadas, St. Lucia Day, St. Nicholas Day, Winter Solstice, and Chinese New Year. Here is a list from Montessori for Everyone of some reasons why holidays should be celebrated in the Montessori classroom:

1. They help us mark the passage of time and seasons
2. Winter holidays bring a sense of light and joyfulness to the long, dark winter months
3. They create a sense of community and a shared bond among groups of people
4. They provide an opportunity to study history, geography, and culture
5. They give us chances to experiment with different kinds of artwork and art projects
6. They help us honor special events and people in our lives
7. They encourage us to spend time with friends and family

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! I hope the holiday break will allow you time to create treasured memories with family and friends.



Upper El News

Students in the Upper Elementary environment are constructing their social personalities. As they do, they develop a sense of morality – They become conscious of right and wrong and learn what gifts they can offer their community. We went outside of our classroom to work in our community this past month. Our students participated in the Empty Bowls Event with the organization Swerve. Each student made a glazed, fire burnt clay bowl for donation. The Empty Bowls organization filled the empty bowls with soup and salad and sold the bowls to the community. The donations went towards a charity in our community. They sold around 300 bowls at the event. Thank you for your contribution!

★ 4H PROJECTS

4H Projects– Due on December 7th with Visual Aid

Liam Kieler– Marines & Machinery–
“If we didn’t have marines protect our country, we wouldn’t be here today. My dad is a marine and I feel bad for the loss of his friends.”

Charles Giles–Greek Gods and sacred animals–
“I like the Greek Gods and animals and I’m interested in both subjects.”

Wanling Chen– Black Holes–
“I’ve seen videos of black holes and I wanted to learn about the different types.”

Om Patel– The Indian Cricket Team–
“I am interested in the sport and I am interested to see how many World Cups they have won.”

Anika Glover– Tips on Photography–
“I do a lot of photography at home and I want other people to learn how to be a pro at it.”

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

When & Where: December 13th at the Rome City Auditorium– 6:00 p.m.

Rehearsal on Tuesday morning, December 13th at the Rome City Auditorium

Costume: Black pants, white long sleeve t-shirt (Walmart), black socks, Christmas sweater (traditional)

CLASS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

Secret Snowflake Gift: \$15–\$20
Students will draw names for exchange.

Firecracker Game– (Dirty Santa): \$5 unwrapped gift

Classroom Brunch: More information will be sent out soon!

