

Dolphin Tales

January 5, 2024

Volume 12 Issue 5



January Birthdays

Jase P.	1/3	Harper L.	1/18
Torben P.	1/3	Ms. Angie	1/18
Eva L.	1/4	Ms. Jamie	1/18
Zoey R.	1/7	Vittoria R.	1/20
Alexandra T.	1/7	Peyton J.	1/24
Wyatt H.	1/16	Gabriella T.	1/26
Margaret O.	1/17	Norah H.	1/26
Joshua G.	1/18	Katie H.	1/30
		Ms. Angela	1/31

Important Dates

January 15th	MLK Jr. Day (No School)
January 23rd	Parent Education Night 5:30–6:30pm
February 8th	International Day – Toddler & Primary
February 9th	International Day – Elementary
March 1st	Parent/Teacher Conferences (School in Session)





PARENT EDUCATION NIGHT

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23RD

5:30-6:30 PM

PARENTS, CURRENT AND INTERESTED, ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AS WE TAKE A DEEPER DIVE INTO THE ADVANTAGES OF A MONTESSORI EDUCATION FEATURING WORK DEMONSTRATIONS BY CURRENT MSOR STUDENTS.



Wisdom



Knowledge



Peace

MONTESSORI
SCHOOL of ROME



Toddler News

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

What's Happening This Month...★

What a wonderful holiday break we had! It was so nice to come back to smiling faces. We feel as if our kids really matured over the Christmas break. We want to take a minute and welcome Gordy to our class. Some of you might know Gordy as the youngest son of Ms. Jamie in the front office.

We're really excited to talk about arctic animals this month as well as learn about the country of Scotland for International Day coming up on February 8th. We would love incorporating real life Scottish objects (musical instruments, kilts, books, etc.) into our lessons throughout the month. If you have anything you'd like to share, we will take especially great care of it!

For our toddler classroom, International Day will be held in our classroom on Thursday, February 8th. We will invite parents and grandparents to come experience what we've learned about Scotland throughout the month. We will email a sign up sheet later this month, asking for you to bring in a traditional Scottish dish and share in a Scottish lunch with your child that day.



Reminders:

We will be closed on Monday, January 15 for MLK, Jr. Day.

Please make sure to label all jackets and water bottles. We will be going outside each day as long as the temperature feels above 32 degrees.

Toddler News

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

What's Happening This Month...★

Happy New Year! We're so excited to start the year with our International Day studies. Our class is learning about Norway this month. We will talk about the animals, geography, food, and people of Norway. For those who are new to MSOR, International Day is a big deal for us. Each classroom chooses a country to study and on International Day, we will dress in costumes, do a presentation, sing songs, and all pitch in to cook a meal from our country and enjoy lunch together. I have been working on our costumes and will send more information soon. I will also send out recipes and a sign-up for food. February 8th is the day for both Toddlers and Primary. Please let me know if you have anything that would pertain to our studies that you can share with us

I've noticed lots of new jackets and clothes from Christmas. Please make sure to label everything that comes to school. A couple of class reminders for the new year to get us started. Our drop-off time is from 8:20-8:30. Please do your best to arrive on time. I hate for them to miss line time and when they come in late, it's hard for me to get everyone else back on track. Our pick-up time is 2:15-2:25. We have several picking up after 2:30 and we need to get back to the classroom to clean and prepare for the next day. Library day is on Friday. Please send books and bags back each week by Thursday.



Primary News

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

Interesting Articles...★

Assessment in the Montessori Classroom

For most of us tests were a big part of the school experience. Whether we liked them or not, tests feel familiar to us—they were how we proved we knew something, how we passed classes and grades, how we qualified for the next higher level of education. Tests are also something that are noticeably absent from a Montessori school. So, it's hard not to wonder: how are we assessing our students?

Montessori is grounded in two very important principles: the natural patterns of child development and child-led progress. Montessori believes each child progresses within general time frames (the Planes of Development), but at their own unique pace. From a Montessori perspective, formal test-taking does not give a complete picture of a child's progression. A Montessori education is about more than what can be shown on a test. It is about leading each child toward the fulfillment of their highest potential in every aspect of their person, academically, socially, and emotionally—about giving each child a vision for life...

Read more here:

<http://www.montessori-blog.org/2022/04/21/assessment-in-the-montessori-classroom/>

10 Principals of Montessori Education

1. Respect for the Child
2. Absorbent Mind
3. Sensitive Period
4. Educating the Whole Child
5. Individualized Learning
6. Freedom of Movement and Choice
7. Prepared Environment
8. Intrinsic Motivation
9. Independence
10. Auto-Education

Read more here:

<https://montessoriacademy.com.au/montessori-education/principles-of-montessori-education/>



Primary News

Ms. Ortrud's, Ms. Camela's, and Ms. Trudy's Class

Interesting Article...★

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the wonderful journey of parenthood, where every moment is an opportunity for growth and discovery. As your child enters the formative years between 3 to 6, you may find yourself marveling at their curiosity and rapid development. Amidst the toys and playful laughter, there exists a fundamental aspect of their character that lays the foundation for a resilient and positive mindset – gratitude.

Gratitude is more than just saying "thank you." It is a profound concept that shapes a child's perspective on life, fostering emotional well-being and a sense of connection with the world around them. In the early years, when little minds are easily absorbing experiences and lessons, instilling gratitude becomes a key ingredient in nurturing a happy and empathetic individual.

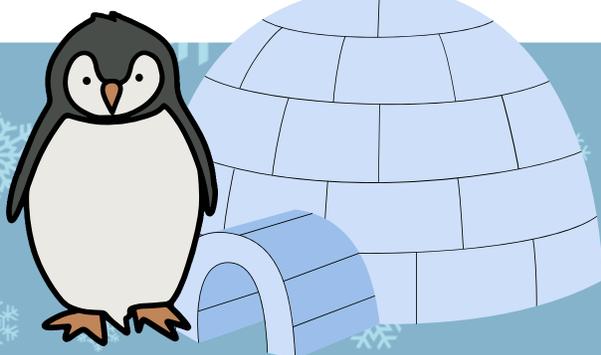
As parents, you play a pivotal role in cultivating this virtue within your child. This introduction aims to shed light on the significance of teaching gratitude during the preschool years, offering insights into the lasting impact it can have on their emotional intelligence, social skills, and overall development. So, let's embark on this enriching journey together, understanding why gratitude is an essential lesson for your child.



Read More Here...

For further information about teaching gratitude please read the following article:

https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/seven_ways_to_foster_gratitude_in_kids



Lower EI News

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

★ Classroom Update...

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a wonderful winter break. Thank you all so much for your contributions to our Pajama Day breakfast for lunch buffet; the children loved it! Thanks also to Kim Headrick for designing all our adorable Muppet t-shirts. Finally, thank you to Ms. Rana for the inspiration and all the work that she put into the creation of our classroom cookbooks.

Homework folders were sent home on Tuesday but are not due until Thursday, January 11th. We will resume our Junior Great Book work on Monday. Students will bring home a story to read with parents and should return it by Wednesday, January 10th.

A birthday lunch for Alexandra and Gabriella Townsend will be held on Friday, January 19th.

We've started our Africa studies in preparation for International Day. The students are excited to dig into all our new library books to research Tanzania. We will need parent volunteers to help turn our classroom into Tanzania, complete crafts with students, and to make dishes for our Tanzanian feast. International Day is on Friday, February 9th. Please let us know if you are able to help. We'll send a Sign Up Genius for the feast later this month.



Upper El News

Ms. Kathleen's and Ms. Anja's Class

★ Classroom update...

Dear families,

Happy New Year! We are so excited to have our students back after a wonderful Christmas time.

This week, we started studying Egyptian history and culture. We focused on Early Egypt (c. 4400-2686 BCE), which included information about the Predynastic period, the chronology of the kings, the River Nile, farming techniques, and the local government. Furthermore, our studies led us into discoveries of Egyptian cities of mud, predynastic pottery, temples and private tombs. We also reviewed the invention of writing. Until International Day, which is on February 9th in our Upper Elementary Classroom, we will continue our Egyptian research (The Old Kingdom, The Middle Kingdom, The Early New Kingdom, The Late New Kingdom, The Late Period and the Greco-Roman Period). On International Day, parents will be able to enjoy our presentations and taste Egyptian food. We will send out a recipe list very soon, asking for your kind participation in creating an Egyptian lunch and snack bar. Please look out for that email and an email regarding costumes! By the way, we are still waiting on the response letters from our Egyptian pen friends.

Did you know that a pen pal can do more than help your child learn about the world around him? Perhaps most obviously, writing and receiving handwritten pen pal letters practices both reading and writing skills. When students use email and text messaging, they tend to rely heavily on shorthand languages and often fail to capitalize and punctuate properly, and often write in phrases instead of full sentences. So, having pen pals from all around the world hones reading and writing skills!

Obviously, it is much more fun to practice writing while writing to a peer than writing an essay for the teacher! In addition, most international pen pals are writing in their second language, putting your child in the role of English "teacher" or role model. This role may naturally encourage the child to put their best English skills on display.

Having a pen friend and having to wait for a response also promotes patience. Since delay of gratification is related to many positive outcomes, including school success, encouraging this skill is important. Text messaging that is so common today, actually works against the ability to delay gratification - there is barely any wait for a response. In contrast, letters or packages from an international pen pal can be spaced out by weeks or even months! By having a pen pal, children can experience the joy of anticipation and the potentially more satisfying reward of getting something after a wait.

So go ahead and consider joining pen pal programs! Also, if you are interested in getting involved in our Upper Elementary Classroom (volunteer in the mornings or afternoons), please kindly contact us. Thank you so much and have a great weekend!
Upper Elementary Guides

