

MONTESSORI IN MOTION

Linda Molinelli – Owner/Teacher Shelley Martinez – Owner/Teacher

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newsletter
OCTOBER 2009

GENERAL REMINDERS

- Please label everything that comes to school. Check the lost and found basket in the multipurpose room for lost items.
- Call the office when your child is going to be late or not coming to school.
- Remember your snack day and keep it healthy.
- Check your folder and the bulletin board daily for messages.
- Remember to sign-in and sign-out your child each day.
- Tuition is due on the 1st of every month. A \$25.00 late fee is charged for tuitions received after the 5th of each month.



KEY DATES

Thursday October 22, 09
Pumpkin Patch

Friday October 30, 09
Halloween Parade

November 26/27, 09
Thanksgiving - School closed

December 2009
Holiday Party - TBA

Decmebr 21st, to December 24,09
Winter recess - school closed

December 25, 09
Christmas - No school

December 28th to January 1, 2010
Winter recess - Childcare Available

Our eScrip Program is an easy way to earn money for your school.

For those of you who are not aware of what eScrip is, eScrip allows all of us to make a substantial contribution to our school of choice just by doing what we would do anyway and that is buying goods and services from stores like Safeway, Long's United, Macy's, etc.

So how does it work? Participation is easy, by registering your most active credit cards or grocery cards you guarantee Montessori in Motion passive income every month allowing us to reach many of our goals for our children at Montessori In Motion. The more families who enroll, the more MIM can accomplish.

It's a co-operative effort that is easy to do requiring little effort from each of us with potentially very BIG results for our children!

Here is the log in for eScrip:

<http://www.escrip.com/merchants/search/index.jsp>

Click Sign Up

Click Montessori In Motion or Enter **Group ID Name and Address City State Zip #4749628**

Montessori In Motion 3 Wellbrock San Rafael Ca 94903



MONTESSORI IN MOTION

Kinders Capers

The leaves are gold, red and brown. The calendar shows the first day of autumn, but the weather says summer, summer, summer! The sun shines brightly up here on the hill. Please remember to put sunblock on your child(ren). We do keep sunblock at school and will apply it when needed, however it takes a lot of time to put it on 25 to 30 children. If you can remember to use it before your child comes to school it would be very helpful.



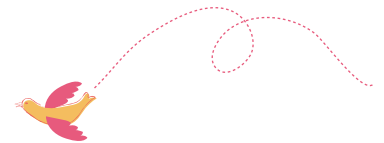
In the Kinders room we are recognizing the signs of Autumn even if the temperature is sabotaging the familiar signs. We are talking about the changes in nature by listening to stories about animals that will start to save some food for the next season. We notice the



different vegetables that we are seeing in the market now that we did not see during the summer.

We are talking about the holidays that are celebrated in the fall. Halloween seems to be the children's very favorite. Here at school, we really enjoy Halloween through our songs and our art. This year it falls on a Saturday, but we will celebrate it here with a costume parade and a jumping house on Friday, October 30th. The children are learning about our planet. They are memorizing the names and shapes of the seven continents on our earth. They know that the earth goes around the sun and what causes the seasons to change.

Our classroom is full of students who are really having fun exploring the new work on the shelves. Maria Montessori has often noted, in her observations regarding the Montessori classrooms, that it usually takes about a month for the children to establish relationships, learn the lay of the land and feel comfortable in the whole environment. I believe that this group of students are already normalizing (this is the term that Dr. Montessori used) and are way ahead of schedule.



Reminders:

Homework will be presented to those children who wish to do it the first Tuesday, in October and every Tuesday thereafter.

Sharing is every Tuesday or Wednesday. If your child brings a sharing on Tuesday, he/she does not share on Wednesday. Please check the white board in the classroom for the weekly letter sound. It's been a great beginning. Thanks for sharing these wonderful little children with us.

- Linda, Meg and Alyssa.

Dance class

with Shar Carlyle

We are waiting for more enrollment for the dancing class to get started.

MONTESSORI IN MOTION

Big's Class

Welcome back! A warm hearty welcome everyone!

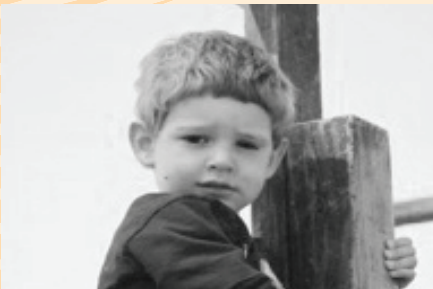
For those of you who don't know me, I'm Taye and I began teaching at Montessori In Motion when my son Randy was a toddler in Shelley and Linda's class in 1993. Now he's officially a college student at Cal Poly!

Our classroom environment has been set up so that the children can interact freely with the Montessori materials and with one another. When successful, the children demonstrate personal responsibility as well as integrate pre-reading concepts into their lives. As they begin to discover the larger world that surrounds them, each success assures positive self feelings.

This week we grew the germs from our unwashed hands in a bowl of jello. Actually we made two bowls. In the first bowl we soaked our unwashed hands for about 10-15 seconds, removed our hands and let the jello set. We labeled that bowl red, (for STOP.) In the second bowl we made the jello having washed our hands without touching the liquid at all. We labeled that bowl green, (for GO.) After two days we compared the jellos. As you would imagine, colonies of germs grew in the red bowl. The green jello was completely clear. (While this was not a full experiment because we did not dip our washed hands in the jello to compare the results from washed vs. non-washed hands, I wanted to set up a completely clear jello control to demonstrate keeping our fingers out of the food we prepare to eat.)

What the children discovered was how important it is to rub our hands together with soap and friction because it is that action that removes the germs (that we normally can not see!) down the drain.

I hope this was just enough of an experiment to remember to wash before eating and after going to the potty! :-)



If your child no longer wants a play kitchen, that's because we are learning how to use real kitchen utensils such as a small paring knife, cheese grater, egg beater, potato peeler, baster, etc. The children are awesome kitchen helpers and could be expected to take on more and more responsibilities with food preparation.

Sharing

Time permitting, we will share everyday. Sharing is your child's responsibility. The idea is to develop language by talking about something meaningful. We began talking about sharing pictures of ourselves, our family, our friends, our pets or our favorite places or things. You can help your child select the pictures to bring in to school by suggesting pictures you can part with, please!

Additionally, they are partners in caring for the environment. It would be wonderful if you would support their doing chores at home. Let your children pick up after themselves. Let them sweep, sponge up, dust and fold whenever possible. By Springtime they will probably be able to make their own bed!

Feel free to drop by anytime. I will look forward to meeting you during conferences.

Taye

PS Thank you for volunteering!

In the Coming Weeks

We will be learning about two and three dimensional shapes, 'look a-likes' and 'go together,' (tooth brush and tooth paste, ambulance and hospital etc.) directions such as under, over, around and through opposites, sorting (colors, size, items), arranging, sequencing, counting, odd and even, big, bigger, biggest, long, longer, longest, wide, wider, widest.

In addition we will identify everyday objects: signs, directions, colors, sounds, rules, marvelous magical words -please, 'thank-you,' 'excuse me' and 'I'm sorry.'

MONTESSORI IN MOTION

Life in the Littles Class

Well, September is almost over and we're beginning to feel like a family. The class is so delightful. I feel I need to introduce you to our new incredible. June or June-bug (as we sometimes call her) is a bright ray of sunshine. Cameron is a bundle of energy who loves to play. Hannah and Lullah, our old timers, who with the help of Malia create great harmony in the class. Then there's Austin and Justin, our identical twin boys who were sent to us from a former high school aide (Liz Torgrimson) who wants her brother's sons to have a great beginning at Montessori In Motion. I can't forget Analiese, our youngest, who is so full of herself and happily mixes up all our works.



REMINDERS

With Indian summers upon us, we need bathing suits and towels for the real hot days (also water sandals).

Sunscreen before school and we will reapply when necessary.

Keep us in diapers and spare clothes.

Please send a sharing in a sharing bag or backpack daily.

Send two recent pictures of your child to put over their jacket hooks in the hall.

In the classroom, we're learning to choose work and bring it to a table, sit in circle with our legs crossed, and share our toys and books at sharing time, to wait our turn to speak and to sing and dance together. Most important to trust our teachers and our friends. Thank you for your patience, your snacks and your presence at back to school night. It's great to get meet other parents and share our stories. Both Julianne and I came down with colds, but the children were the greatest medicine and we have both recovered. I recommend that a good dose of littles can change the world, one smile at a time. Happy new year to all our Jewish families. May it be a wonderful year, bringing peace to the Middle East.

October brings our favorite holiday, Halloween. We begin to prepare and decorate our school and read and discuss what pretending is all about. Lots of time to try on different personalities or animals. Also remember to join us on October 30, 09 for the halloween parade. We also take a trip to the pumpkin patch on October 22, 09 and we will be asking for drivers and chaperones.

MONTESSORI IN MOTION

One Enchanted "Fall"

Is it changing colors of the leaves swirling to the gusts of cooler winds, or is it Alice toppling head over heels down the rabbit hole, getting new perspectives as she goes to which I am referring with the word :fall: in the title? Let us try the second one.

Imagine as Alice fell, she caught a glimpse of preschools as they might be.

The children were engaged in projects, sharing with their friends their discoveries. The adults were gently guiding the children with open ended questions and stepping



in swiftly when the children's language was not enough to resolve a conflict.

Fruits and vegetables of the season were abundant. After a busy morning of exploration, the children rested, ate a nourishing snack and eagerly looked to the afternoon for challenges to their minds and muscles.

The imaginations were switched on and the site was humming with activity. The parents often entered this magic realm to share their special gifts. And at the end of the week, all gathered in gratitude to thank each other for a week of cooperation. Why not? Please get involved!



Wayne Lechner

He actively plays with the children while teaching them how to be respectful of themselves, their friends, their teachers and parents as well as the environment.



Afternoon Plan

Wayne's afternoon plan - Mondays and Wednesdays:

1:00 p.m. Free play outdoors and introduction to new building

1:30 to 1:45 Look at books - set up for rest - read to group

1:45 to 2:30 Rest time

2:30 to 3:00 Quiet art project or individual booklets

3:00 to 3:30 Afternoon snack

3:30 to 4:30 Adventure, building project or group game outdoors

4:30 to 5:00 Inside free choice activities

5:00 to 5:30 Clean up

5:30 to 6:00 Quiet activities - reading

Note: Starting in October, we will try late morning adventures on wednesdays from 11:30 to 12:30. If you want your child to go on nature walks/exploration, (to the water park, pine forest, drainage ditch, community garden or baseball field) please pick up a permission slip and supply your child with a lunch, sun screen and walking shoes.

MONTESSORI IN MOTION

Afternoon Enrichment

On Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Shelley (our in house librarian) is doing creative reading and story telling with the Primary and Kinders. We are having a blast! We've written our first story about "The Guinea Pig who thought he was a turtle," a very creative story written by our very own Montessori In motion kids.

We share books and stories, tell fairy tales and nursery rhymes and play Trivea about all the characters and parts of the stories. We also are learning to "Listen" to the stories on tape and to draw and paint the main characters. This week we did "The Shark's Loose Tooth" and "The Gingerbread Man". I hope you enjoyed the results.

Please send books to share (in a labeled bag). It's a great experience, so if you would like your child to participate, just let the office know.

Flu Season

With flu season upon us, we are doing our utmost to keep the school clean.

We are washing our hands (both teachers and students) many many times a day, and we have someone cleaning the faucets and doorknobs and other common areas and surfaces.

Please do your part by keeping your child home if you observe any flu symptoms at all. Thank you.



Photos of the children can be found online at: <http://gallery.me.com/boldvision>

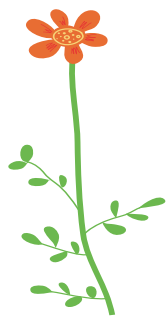
2009-2010 CALENDAR

Monday, August 31, 09.....	FirstDay of School
Monday, September 7, 09.....	Labor day (No School)
Thursday, September 10, 09.....	Back to school night
Wednesday, November 11, 09	Veteran's day (NoSchool)
Wednesday/Thursday, November 26/27, 09	Thanksgiving (No School)
Wednesday December 09.....	Holiday party/TBA
Monday, Dec 21 to Thursday, Dec 24	Winter recess (No School)
Friday, December 25	Christmas day (No School)
Monday, Dec 28 to Friday, Jan 1, 2010	Winter recess (Childcare available)
Monday, January 4.	School Resumes
Monday, January 18....	Martin Luther King Day (No School)
Monday, February 15.....	Presidents Holidays (No School)
Monday, April 12 to Friday, April 16.....	Spring recess (Childcare available)
May 2010.....	Mother's Day Tea Party/TBA
Monday, May 31.....	Memorial Day (No School)
Thursday, June17.....	Graduation Day
Friday, June 18.....	No School
Monday, June 21 to Friday, June 25.....	Summer set up (Childcare available)
Monday, June 28- Friday, July 23.....	Summer Session I
Monday, July 5,.....	Independence Day (No School)
Monday, July 26 to Friday, August 20.....	Summer Session II
Monday, Aug 23 to Friday, August 27.....	Fall Setup (No School)
Monday, August 30.....	First day of School 2010
Monday, September 6.....	Labor Day (No School)
Tuesday, September 7.....	First day of School year 2010

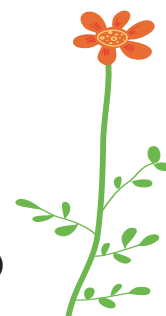
NOTE: A PARENT WORKDAY EVERY MONTH / TBA

Parent Participation:

Thank you to all parents who have already signed up for parent committees at 'Back to School Night'. A few more committees still need to be filled up. Please consider participation in the undermentioned committees:



Escrip
Pet Coordinator
Fundraising Coordinator
Parent workday coordinator
School Photographer
Thursday Hot lunch (now Cooking projects)



The job descriptions to these committees is available at the office. Our most top priority is a Thursday Hot Lunch (now cooking projects) coordinator. This is a very popular activity and the children and staff look forward to every Thursday. Will someone, please, please sign up. Let the office know. Leave a note in the office notes box. Thank you.