



Sparkle Montessori

Newsletter - February 2017



Dear Sparkle families,

Welcome to the month of February. We have a lot in store this month. February means Valentine's Day which means a lot of hugging!! The children really care about each other and want to learn all those social skills necessary for being a good friend.

We will be celebrating Valentines' Day in the classroom by talking about love and friendship. We will be making valentine cards and crafts for our families. Children are welcome to bring cards from home for their friends. Gifts and candies are not allowed.

We would like to remind you that our school also has a Kindergarten program. Registration for kindergarten classes beginning this fall starts this month. Please let us know if you would be interested.

Thanks,
The Sparkle Montessori Team

CLASSROOM NEWS

Room 1

In February, for our older children who have mastered colors, we will be introducing **shapes**. The younger ones (18 months) will learn about **colors** and about matching them. They will be learning the layout of the classroom, so that they can readily retrieve and properly place back our Montessori materials. We will continue on **learning to drink from open cups**, as well as learning to **put on and off our winter coats**.

Room 2

In February, in line with the monthly theme, we will be learning about some of our **past presidents**. During Montessori time, we will focus on **math and language jobs** to build words and sentences with Montessori materials. We will be learning about **blending sounds**, emphasizing the short vowels, beginning and ending sounds. In math, we will continue with **comparisons** (more or less, short or long) and with **additions and subtractions**.

Room 3

The children in room 3 were happy and excited while working on winter, spring, summer and fall **craft**. They learnt the letters and sounds of **l and m**.

During February, we will continue learning letters as well as sounds. We will also be doing **lots of body movement** according to different kinds of music and specially when it's raining outside. In math, we will continue to work on **Sand Paper Number**. We will learn numbers from 0 till 9 and their corresponding values.

Room 4

The children enjoyed working on the four seasons crafts last month when they learned about four seasons based on the life cycle of a tree. In February, we will be talking and learning about the **first and the current president of our country**. We will also be discussing about the **history of our country** including crafts based on the flag of USA.

In language, the children will be **tracing their names** on a tracing sheet. In math, they will be learning about **even and odd numbers**. Besides continuing daily Montessori activities, the children will continue to follow ground rules by using walking feet in the classroom, taking good care of their materials, washing hands during transition, using soft tone voice, taking turns and raising hand to speak during circle time.

Looking back.....

The children and teachers were back to school with a bang in January. During the month, children enjoyed all the different seasons' crafts. Please check our Facebook page for pictures.

On Dr. Martin Luther King's Day, our teachers spoke to our children about the importance of equality. The children also colored a picture of Dr. King.

We celebrated Chinese New Year! The children made beautiful crafts and each class had a wonderful and informative presentation done by Ms. Jenny on the Chinese New Year. Please visit our Facebook page for pictures.

Theme of the month: February

During this month, our children will be learning about our Presidents. We will be talking about fun facts of some of our past Presidents and our current President. We will also do special art work for Valentine's day.

Did You know?

George Washington's birthday in Feb is celebrated as Presidents Day.

Abraham Lincoln's cat ate dinner with him at the White house dining table!

Donald Trump's wife gives him a haircut at home!

It's been a popular tradition in the United States to see what Mr. Punxsutawney Phil's prediction is. Feb. 2 is when the Groundhog comes out of his hole from his long winter sleep to see if he sees his shadow. Tradition has it that if he sees his shadow, that means that we will have six more weeks of winter and if he doesn't, we will have an early spring! We've had some challenges in our weather lately, but that doesn't stop Mr. Groundhog!

Mark your calendar

14 Feb Card exchange for Valentine's Day (NO CANDY PLEASE)

20 Feb Holiday for Presidents day

Some Gentle Reminders....

- Please help us ensure smooth flow of Traffic by taking all phone calls on your personal cell phone after you have left the parking lot.
- Fridays are show and tell (sharing days). Please refrain from sending toys. We encourage handmade arts and crafts.
- Each child has a folder for his/her work . Please remember to take your child's last week's work home every Friday from his/her folder.
- Please avoid any gold jewelry on your child. The school is not responsible for any lost ornaments.
- Please pick up your child's soiled clothes the same day and also replace it with extra clothes the next day. All clothing must be labeled.
- Please make sure your child's nails are trimmed at all times.

VERY IMPORTANT

- Please ensure that you hang your child's bag\jacket on his\her hook ONLY. This will help us to track individual items.
- We have noticed that many children are putting hairclips in their mouth hence we recommend Cloth hairbands or rubber bands.
- Please refrain from making your child wear light shoes, this is very distracting for your child and the entire class.
- The disabled parking is for use only by cars that have a valid sticker.

Circle time starts at 9.00a.m. and continues until 9.30a.m. This is a very important period and all what is done during this time is not repeated during the day. The children learn a lot at this time and we request that you try your best to bring your child before 9.00a.m.