

DECEMBER

Montessori School of Sonoma



Important Dates:

Dec 19th - Jan 2nd:

School Closed-

Winter Break

**SCHOOL RESUMES ON
TUESDAY JAN 3RD**

January 16:

School Closed -

MLK Jr. Day

February 20:

**School Closed -
Presidents Day**



Thanksgiving Feast:

Thank you to all who joined us in gathering for our Thanksgiving Feast. What a great turnout! We love seeing all of our families spending time together. We are so appreciative of those who volunteered to help make it happen.

Cold Weather Clothing:

As we move through November, we are experiencing more cold days than warm. If you can, please bring some cold weather appropriate clothing to place in your child's backup bags. This way, if your child needs to change their clothes at school, they will be prepared to keep warm on the more chilly days. Thank you!

School Wide Reminders:

Health Policy:

As we approach Cold and Flu season we ask that you please be diligent in monitoring your child's symptoms and follow the Health Policy and guidelines to keep our school community as healthy as possible.
Thank you!



Infant News:



We hope you enjoyed some time with family and friends over the Thanksgiving Break! December is a short school month and it will be fun to fill it with Holiday songs and Art Projects (clear some space on the fridge!!)

Just a short message about how helpful routines are in regard to a child's sleep habits and overall health and demeanor. A predictable schedule helps children know what to expect in an otherwise chaotic world. This sense of control can actually build confidence because it takes away the worry about what comes next.

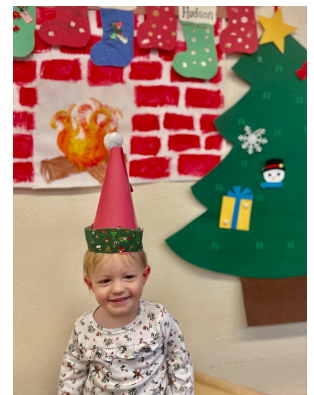
Bedtime routines can help any resistance you may experience when it's time to go to sleep at night. Being consistent with the routines is key. And only you know and can learn what works for you and your family. Toddlers (1-2 years) need about 11-14 hours of sleep a day total, so depending on their nap length you can calculate how much they need at night.

Just a reminder, school will be closed from December 19th to January 2nd (school will resume on Tuesday Jan 3rd).

Some songs we've been singing in preparation for the holidays are *Frosty the Snowman*, and *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*. Start singing tunes in the car and see if your child joins in!

If your child naps, please bring in a thick blanket for these colder months of the year. Thank you!

-Katherine & Karina



Toddler News:



It was so nice to see you all at the Thanksgiving Feast! We hope you all got to try our delicious mashed potatoes. Please sign up for a conference if you have not done so already. They will occur on December 6th, 7th, and 8th.

The weather outside is changing. Winter has arrived! Let's remember that being outside is an important part of our children's lives and daily routine. Wet and cold weather is an ordinary part of their world and they need to experience it. Appropriate clothing fosters a fun outside adventure, so please dress your child in layers daily. Any items of clothing that could potentially be removed while inside (jackets, hats, mittens, etc.) should be labeled clearly so they make it home.

If your child is sent home with wet clothing, please remember to return a clean extra set the following day.

Our last class before break is Friday December 16th and school will be closed through Monday, January 2nd. **See you back on Tuesday, January 3rd!**

Here is a play dough recipe that might be fun to make with your child over break:

Ingredients:

2 Cups of Flour
2 Cups of Water
1 Cup Table Salt
4 tsp Cream of Tartar
2 TBL Vegetable Oil
Food Coloring (optional)

Directions:

Mix everything together and cook over medium high heat, stirring until a ball forms (about 3 min). Turn out onto wax paper, let cool, and have fun!

-Christine & Cara

Childcare Enrichment News:



Dear Childcare Enrichment Families,
It's hard to believe that the year is already coming to an end. This month we will learn about how different countries and cultures celebrate the many different holidays around the world. We will celebrate as many of the December holidays as we can as a class! We will be making some holiday crafts to send home to share with our families.

This month instead of choosing an author of the month we will be reading books about all of the Holidays around the World. If you have a family holiday you celebrate at home and wish to share any books about it please feel free to send them in with your child. We love learning about and celebrating all holidays!

We will continue with our letter of the week with each week focusing on a new letter. We learn what sound each letter makes, how to sign it, and look at its uppercase and lowercase forms. We also ask the children to volunteer words beginning with the beginning sound of the letter of the week.

As the weather is colder now, this is a good time to switch out your child's extra clothes from shorts and short sleeved shirts to pants and warmer items.

We also want to congratulate Danielle, Maia, and Leo and welcome baby Ellis to the world! Ellis was born on 11/29. Everyone is healthy and settling in to their newfound roles!

Thank you!

- Natasha and Maggie



Primary News:



Dear parents,

For the remainder of this year we will review and summarize our Botany work. This includes a smoothie made from a root and a stem, leaves, broccoli flowers, fruits, and seeds. We noticed how interested all children have been in the exploration of nutrition. You must have put them to work in your kitchens at home!

Reading, writing, and math will continue with exposure and regular practice of letters, (skip) counting, and one-on-one correspondence to objects.

We began to peek into the study of South America just before Thanksgiving and this geographical work will unfold in the same way we learned about our home continent. Most likely we will also look into traditional food and clothing for the people of this Southern continent.

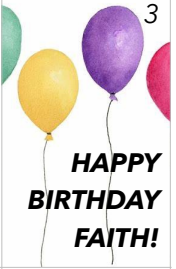
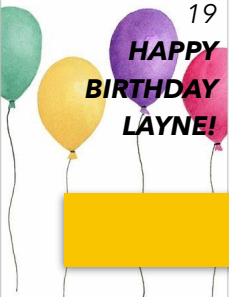
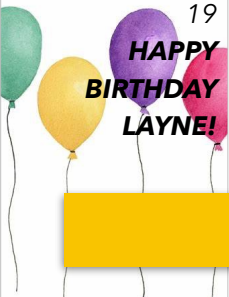
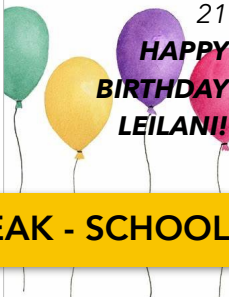
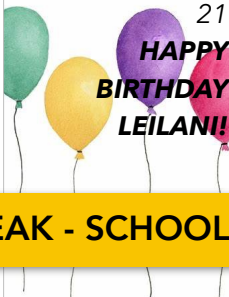


This is a time of gratitude and giving so we have come up with a really sweet project for the children to prepare for you and your homes. It will be a keeper!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a brightly star struck New Year!

Warmly,
Barbara & Rachel



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 	19 	20 	21 	22	23	24
WINTER BREAK - SCHOOL CLOSED						
25 	26 	27	28	29	30	31
WINTER BREAK - SCHOOL CLOSED						