

# APRIL

Montessori School of Sonoma



## Important Dates:

April 18th - 22nd:

School Closed -  
Spring Break

May 20th:

Classroom Safari

May 30th:

School Closed -  
Memorial Day

June 1st:

Summer Fees Due

June 9th:

Last Day of School

June 10th - 17th:

School Closed -  
Teacher Work Week



We can see clearly what is necessary to give in order to help the child. It is to give the possibility of independence, of living together and carrying out social experiences.

-Maria Montessori



## Join us for Classroom Safari!

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a gathering! On Friday, May 20th you are invited, along with your family, to join us in our backyard to visit with other families, mingle with the staff, let the children play, and get a chance to meet some special animals! The animal show will begin just after 4pm. Bring your picnic blankets for a place to sit. This will be a pot-luck, so please also bring something to share! Ideas include, finger foods, veggie platters, appetizers, child friendly beverages, adult friendly beverages (of the beer and wine variety :) and/or a dessert. We look forward to seeing you all together after a very limited two years!

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## School Wide Reminders:

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### Tax ID#:

For those of you gathering information for tax purposes, the Tax ID# for The Montessori School of Sonoma is **94-2174042**

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## SPRING-TIME FUN!

LOOKING FOR A FUN SPRINGTIME PROJECT WITH YOUR CHILD (REN)?

TRY DYING YOUR EGGS WITH NATURAL EGG DYE THIS YEAR!

YOU MAY ALREADY HAVE MANY OF THESE INGREDIENTS IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR AND/OR PANTRY AND THEY MAKE A GREAT EARTH FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVE TO SYNTHETIC EGG DYE.

CAN YOU THINK OF ANY OTHER INGREDIENTS THAT MIGHT CREATE A VIBRANT COLOR FOR EGG DYING?



## Summer/Fall Registration:

Registration for Summer and Fall is now complete for current families. All students must re-register every year for all programs including childcare. Letters of confirmation will be emailed within the next couple weeks. After receiving your letter of confirmation, if for any reason your child will not be attending school this summer or fall, you must notify the school in writing by Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> or you will be charged full tuition / fees for summer and / or fall.

**Summer School Fees Due:**

**Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**First month's fall tuition due:**

**Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup>**

## Infant Corner:



We have been enjoying the sun in our yard and watching the flowers bloom. We talk a lot about the sounds we hear, and the birds and airplanes we see. The kids love to communicate about their senses and it is a great way to show off the language they've learned. We get to experience the wet grass, warm sun, the smell of the flowers, the bleating of the sheep. We have birds collecting twigs to make their nests and many other spring elements around us.

In our classroom we have watched caterpillars create their chrysalises and we are eager to release our new butterfly friends

in the garden when they emerge.

As always, thank you for sharing your babies with us!

*-Katherine & Karina*



## Toddler Corner:

April Showers bring May Flowers... don't put those boots away yet! We, hopefully, will be getting more rain this month. Thank you to all who attended conferences in March. Plans are set for Summer and Fall. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

### Grace and Courtesy

Practical life curriculum in our Montessori class includes Grace and Courtesy. We are constantly presenting lessons on how to interact appropriately with our peers. Doing this gives the children the language to solve problems before they begin. A simple "No thank you" is a great replacement for "I don't want that." By giving the children the appropriate language, we empower them to express their feelings of sincere concern or apology. Of course, the most effective and meaningful way to teach good manners is by modeling them. Any

chance we get to say a sincere "please", "thank you", or "you're welcome" to a child will be a highlight to the child. By teaching and practicing grace and courtesy, we help children communicate clearly and show them how to treat one another with respect. This mutual respect fosters a happy community and classroom.

We will be celebrating Spring with an egg hunt and special snack. Thank you to Augie and his family for donating our egg baskets. We will be painting them and coloring eggs. Have a fun relaxing Spring Break this month!

### **Here is a song we've been singing in our class:**

*"This is a little one is ready for bed.  
On the pillow they lay their head.  
Wrap the covers around them tight,  
And that's the way they spend the night.  
Morning comes.  
They open their eyes  
and off, with a toss,  
the cover flies.  
Up they jump.  
Get dressed.  
Eat breakfast.  
Brush their teeth.  
They're ready to work and play all day."*

- Chistine & Cara



## Primary Corner:



Dear families,

Spring is a wonderful and exciting time in the classroom and the garden.

Our curriculum will take us to Africa to learn about native animals, habitats, people, and life styles. This is also a very rich continent for us to study diversity, acceptance, and the importance of positive decision-making.

In Zoology we have arrived at mammals. This will include farm and hoofed animals as well as animal families. Children will recognize an ewe from a mare, a ram from a stallion and a chick from a calf.

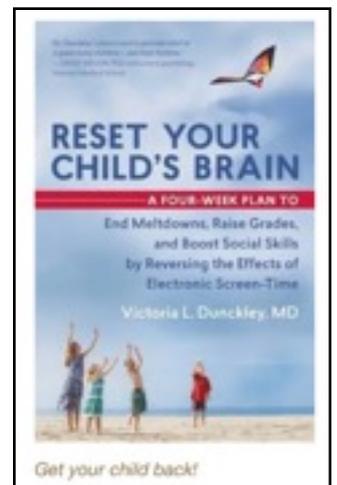


For the garden we will start seed and bean experiments and hopefully some sprouts and young plants will find their way to your home. Our caterpillars just metamorphosed into butterflies, our fish eggs are patiently growing in the tank, and we did have the great fortune to watch eaglets hatch in the big swaying nest way over in Iowa. Those eagle parents can teach us a thing or two about patience and commitment.

Our tip of the month is called '**Get your kid back**', inspired by Dr. Victoria Dunckley's work. It's really quite simple:

For one month turn off all electronics and witness the radical difference in attention, behavior, sleep, focus, concentration etc. You are invited to give it a try!

Happy Spring,  
*Barbara and Rachel*



## Childcare/Enrichment Corner:



Dear Childcare Enrichment Families,

Happy Spring! March brought lots of fun with Dr Seuss and things that go! We enjoyed turning the students into the Cat in the Hat, and created lots of art work based on the books of Dr Seuss. On St Patrick's Day the children got to knead their own round Irish Brown Bread - a delicious activity to build hand strength.

Now that it's spring we are enjoying beautiful weather and warmer days! With spring comes our new theme for the month - Insects! Our painted lady butterflies should be emerging soon and we will get to release them in the garden. We will create projects and art on the life cycle of a butterfly now that we have gotten to see it happen in real time. Waiting for the metamorphosis to happen is not easy! Other activities will include fine motor spider webs, beautiful pastel butterflies and mosaic dragonflies. Because there are so many beautiful and fact full books on insects we will not be selecting just one author this month, but will feature instead lots of books on our theme.

We will continue with our letter of the week as well as our corresponding cooking projects. The first week is letter M and we will make Monkey Bread. Letter N week we will make hash brown Nests. For letter O we will make Oat Bars and finally for letter P we will make Personal Pizzas together. Friday cooking classes have become a class favorite activity!

We are looking forward to spending more time learning with your children.



Thank you,  
*Natasha and Danielle*

# APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2  <b>Happy Birthday Jemma!</b>
3	4	5	6  <b>AM &amp; PM Primary Ballet</b>	7  <b>AM &amp; PM Primary Ballet</b>	8	9  <b>Happy Birthday Gemma!</b>
10	11	12	13  <b>Happy Birthday Cara!</b> <b>AM &amp; PM Primary Ballet</b>	14  <b>AM &amp; PM Primary Ballet</b>	15	16
17 <b>EASTER</b>  <b>Happy Birthday Melody!</b>	18 	19 	20 	21 	22 <b>earth day</b> 	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**School Closed - Spring Break**