

FEBRUARY

Montessori School of Sonoma



Important Dates:

February 20:

**School Closed -
Presidents Day**

March 6th:

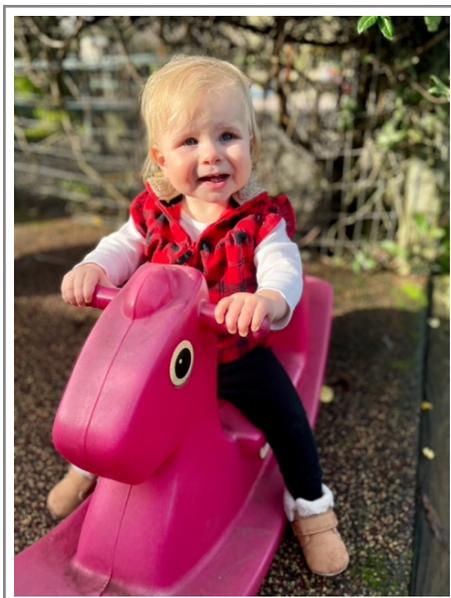
**School Closed -
Teacher Work Day**

March 9th:

Open House

March 13th - 16th:

**Parent Teacher
Conferences**



“It is a fact that anyone who lives with children, anyone who knows how to approach them with love, will always learn new things.”

*- Maria
Montessori*



Summer and 2023-2024 Registration:

It is that time of year when we open registration for current families to enroll for Summer 2023 and the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. All students must re-register every year for all programs. You will receive an email with the registration forms which are due no later than February 24th, along with the annual \$200 registration fee. This year's placement does not guarantee the same placement for next year. All fees/tuition to hold your child's space are non-refundable. Remaining available spaces will be offered to those on the waiting list beginning in March. Application Deadline: Friday, February 23rd

Summer School Fees Due: Thursday, June 1st

Fall Fees Due: Saturday, July 1st

School Wide Reminders:

Clothing Returns:

If your child was sent home in school clothes, please wash and return them.

Parking Lot:

Please be sure to drive slowly in the parking lot and hold your child's hand as you're passing through.

Extra Clothing:

If your child came home in their own spare clothes from school, please send them with clean replacements the next day.



Infant Corner:

Our little love-bugs have been growing their social skills rapidly these last few weeks. We have been seeing our class hit so many emotional and physical milestones.

One to two years old is such a huge growth time for these little bodies and great minds. Perhaps you've noticed your curious, expressive, active, one-year-old express themselves in a more impatient, defiant, and impulsive way lately. They are gaining social skills and luring this way. It is extremely common for 2 year olds to push boundaries and assert independence.

Routines are your friend! Two year olds love repetition and they love to copy. Have you read the same book to them over and over? Have they requested the same song all day? If it were up to them, everything would be on repeat. It is one way they grow their memory, language, thinking, and reasoning.

With their new feelings of uniqueness in the world comes opportunities as care givers to teach them empathy and patience. They can control some emotions. They can show and/or say how they feel but needs to be reminded and encouraged how to do so. Some examples are when: They are feeling proud "I did it!", They feel pain "Ouch, that hurts", Empathy "Are you okay?" "I'm sorry"

We like to do some "baby team building exercises" to help the group dynamic. These include singing songs that alternate the focus on each friend. Meaning, their name is included in the song or we say the color they are wearing. We sing "Ring Around The Rosie" and other good "shake it out" songs.

We are enjoying how much LAUGHTER these children share every day with each other. They are blossoming into empathetic, kind, fun friends more and more each day.

Thank you for sharing them with us!

-Katherine & Karina

Please note that we don't pass out Valentines but we will certainly send home some love-day crafts for the kids's favorite valentines - YOU!



Toddler Corner:



Hello Families!

We seem to have settled back into our classroom routine now that the excitement of the holidays has passed. With the new year we are doing many new things! We have been taking turns holding our flag while we say the pledge of allegiance. The child that holds the flag becomes the helper for the day. They help with snack towels, dumping the bucket and ringing the clean up bell. They also receive a flag sticker for their shirt. Keep an eye out for the sticker, if you see it you will know they were the helper that day!

To celebrate Valentines Day we will be having a party! We will celebrate on Tuesday, February 14th and Wednesday, February 15th. If you wish for your child to participate in making Valentines, please do not address them to specific people. We have 15 students in the class total.

Here are the lyrics to a fun song we've been singing in class:

Skidamirink

*Skidamarink a dink a dink, Skidamarink a doo, I love you.
 Skidamarink a dink a dink, Skidamarink a doo, I love you.
 I love you in the morning And in the afternoon,
 I love you in the evening And underneath the moon;
 Oh, Skidamarink a dink a dink, Skidamarink a doo, I love you!*

We will be closed Monday, February 20th for President's Day!

-Christine & Cara



Childcare Enrichment Corner:



Dear Childcare Enrichment Families,

The new year is off to a great start! The children look forward to signing in and writing their names each morning. The letter of the week is also a big hit! This month our letters will be O, N,

M, and L. Each week we have a class art project, an individual project, and a book to go along with our letter of the week. The class is also excellent at suggesting words that begin with the letter of the week.

Our theme for this month is zoology! We will learn and discover about all types of animals. Our focus points of the month will be pets, farm animals, wild animals, and

ocean animals. We will also be celebrating Valentine's Day! We will be creating lots of cards & art for the students to express their love for their family and friends.

Our author of the month will be Eric Carle, another classroom favorite! Many of his books have a focus on nature and include various types of animal. His books offer the children a chance to learn something new about the world around them. Eric Carle is also famous for his collage technique and the beautiful artwork he creates. This is also a technique the children enjoy learning and creating with.

We have enjoyed getting to know our friends visiting from Chile this past month, and we are happy we have a few more weeks with them in February before they make their journey home.

We are looking forward to the month ahead, and are excited about all we have planned! We hope everyone has a wonderful month at home, and we are thankful to have more time to creating and learning with your children!



Thank you,

Natasha & The Childcare Enrichment Team

Primary Corner:



Dear families,

Our curriculum takes us to Europe. This continent is diverse in countries and rich in art and culture. It would be great to get some input and ideas from our European families. Of course, we will make a map and discover the main land & water forms of Europe. For this part of the world we happen to have many representations of clothing and we hope you'll see them coming home as art work.

Amphibians are our next group of animals. This includes the transformation from tadpole to frog and the evolutionary step onto land. Maybe we will find some tadpoles in a creek near by. If you have seen them on your walks, please scoop some up and we'll put them into an aquarium in

the classroom. Once a full grown frog they will be released into nature.

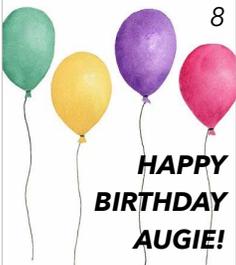
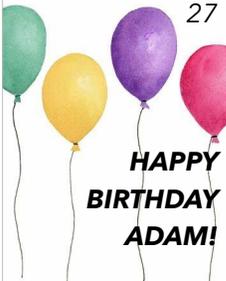
And then, of course, we celebrate Valentine's Day. It's been our tradition that each child makes a card at home for every friend in their group (morning separate from afternoon). Preferred materials are doilies, ribbons, yarn, stickers, and all other natural craft materials. We'd appreciate it if you could assist your child in making cards from scratch/construction paper rather than store bought items. Please, no food, candy, chocolates, etc.

Although we are thrilled with all the rain we have had, we look forward to some sunny afternoons on playground.

Warmly,

Barbara and Rachel

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			 <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY SKYLAR!</p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY REIGN!</p>			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			 <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY AUGIE!</p>			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	 <p><i>Valentines Day</i></p> <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY AYL!</p>					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	<p>School Closed</p>  <p>Presidents Day</p>					 <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALTHEA!</p>
26	27	28				
	 <p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY ADAM!</p>					