

# DECEMBER

Montessori School of Sonoma



## Important Dates:

December 20th -  
Jan 2nd:

School Closed -  
Winter Break

January 17th:

School Closed -  
MLK Day



*The study of love and its utilization will lead us to the source from which it springs, The Child.*

*- Dr. Maria Montessori*



## 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!

Be sure to follow us on

[Instagram](#)



and

[Facebook](#)



## Ballet:

Mrs. Churchill is thrilled to be back and has been enjoying working with your children each week. We are so thankful to have this opportunity available!



## Reminders:

**COVID-19 Policy:** In addition to our Regular Health Policy (see November Newsletter), we are still asking that prior to your child returning to school after being sick, a negative COVID test be emailed to us if they have experienced any symptoms (see October Newsletter) Please let us know if you have any questions regarding either of these policies.

**Paper Masks:** If you plan to send your child to school with a paper mask, kindly send a backup for them in their lunchbox as these masks are more prone to breaking throughout their busy day. Thank you!



## Fire Truck Visit:

Thanks to Danielle, one of our Childcare Enrichment Teachers, we received a visit from the Sonoma Valley Fire Dept. in honor of fire safety month. We learned about the different tools they use, what to do in an emergency, and even got to try on a Firefighter's jacket for size. Here are a few photos from our visit!





## Infant Corner:

Hello Families!

Our elves will be making Holiday projects this month to send home. We are practicing "Frosty the Snowman" at school so be sure to sing along at home as well!

Here are the lyrics if you're not familiar:

*[Verse 1]*

*Frosty the snowman was a jolly happy soul  
With a corncob pipe and a button nose  
And two eyes made out of coal  
Frosty the snowman is a fairy tale, they say  
He was made of snow but the children know  
How he came to life one day  
There must have been some magic in  
That old silk hat they found  
For when they placed it on his head  
He began to dance around  
Oh, Frosty the snowman  
Was alive as he could be  
And the children say he could laugh and play  
Just the same as you and me*

*[Chorus]*

*Thumpety thump thump  
Thumpety thump thump  
Look at Frosty go  
Thumpety thump thump  
Thumpety thump thump  
Over the hills of snow*

*[Verse 2]*

*Ooh Frosty the snowman knew the sun was hot that day  
So he said, "Let's run and we'll have some fun  
Now before I melt away."  
Down to the village with a broomstick in his hand  
Running here and there all around the square  
Saying "catch me if you can!"  
He led them down the streets of town  
Right to the traffic cop  
And he only paused a moment when  
He heard him holler "Stop!"  
Oh, Frosty the snowman  
Had to hurry on his way  
But he waved goodbye, saying "Don't you cry,  
I'll be back again someday."*

*[Chorus]*

*Thumpety thump thump  
Thumpety thump thump  
Look at Frosty go  
Thumpety thump thump  
Thumpety thump thump  
Over the hills of snow*

If your child stays full day, we will most likely be changing their clothes daily at nap time because the play yard can be wet, even on sunny days, this time of year. If you are able, we appreciate you sending extra clothes more frequently.

We hope you enjoy the winter break and hope you have a Happy New Year!

**- Katherine & Karina**



# Toddler Corner:

Thanks to all of you who attended conferences. It was nice meeting with everyone! I hope you all know a little more about what your child is doing in our classroom, as well as a little more understanding of the Montessori environment itself. Again, if you have any questions or concerns about anything, please reach out to us and we will do the same.

Our last class before break is Friday, December 17th. There will not be class from December 20th through January 2nd. Classes will resume on January 3rd.

**A few reminders:**

- Please update your child's extra clothes bag in our classroom - winter weather is coming.
- Please be sure to write, sew, or label your child's coat, sweater, jacket, or any outerwear you send your child to school in.
- A note may be left for you to bring more diapers. If you receive that note, please make sure to bring in the diapers as soon as possible.



*We hear and we forget. We see and we remember. We do and we understand.*



Children learn through their:

**SENSES:** They see, hear, taste, feel and smell. By using all their five senses, they learn about the objects and people around them.

**MUSCLES:** It is a time to learn about their body and how it operates in space.

**CURIOSITY:** When curiosity is given freedom to operate it leads to satisfying experiences, children enjoy learning.

**LANGUAGE:** This goes hand in hand with curiosity. As children discover things for themselves they want to name them, talk about them, ask questions and tell others (either through spoken words or body language), how they feel and what they think.

Below is a great easy Play Dough recipe to fill up some winter break time. Have fun!

<p>2 cups of flour                  2 cups of water                  1 cup salt                  4 tsp. cream of tartar                  2TBL vegetable oil                  Food coloring of your choice</p>	<p>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!</p>
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Happy Holidays to all of you!  
 Enjoy the wonders of your little toddlers!

**-Christine & Cara**

## Primary Corner:



Dear parents,

Our curriculum takes us to South America to explore native animals and people. In addition, this month lets us celebrate winter solstice and the many forms of gratitude and appreciation for all the goodness we experience in our lives. For children this is a time of magic and traditions, and we hope that the older generations keep stress and pressures at bay.

We also want to take this last newsletter of

2021 as an opportunity to thank you for your support and compliance to run our program. Some of our policies might not be your favorite thing and by you simply accepting current conditions you have taken an active place in our community. Your children will benefit from this life skill and role model.

Rachel and I also want to thank our team of teachers and especially our administrators Cathy and Sarah! Not a day goes by without adjusting, compromising and lending a hand so we all can continue to care and educate 70 plus children on a daily basis.

We hope it means something to you as well.

Peace & Joy,  
**-Rachel and Barbara**



## Childcare Enrichment Corner:



Dear Childcare Enrichment Families,

November was a very busy month full of art, projects and music! We enjoyed learning all of the songs in James Dean's "Pete the Cat" books as well as some Thanksgiving turkey songs. We focused on a season each week and learned about the different attributes of all four seasons. Some favorite art projects this month were making sun catchers, acorn painting, and creating Thanksgiving turkeys.

In the coming weeks we will finish up the four seasons with the last season, Winter. Art and projects will include cutting snowflakes, making snow dough and finishing our four seasons finger print trees. We will also learn about winter celebrations around the world

and how they are celebrated. Some of the holidays we will be learning about include: Saint Lucia Day, Diwali, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, St. Nicholas Day, La Befana, Los Posados, and Christmas. We will read books, sing songs, and talk about traditions that go along with each holiday.

We will continue with our Author of the Month curriculum with this month's author, Ezra Jack Keats. The artwork in his books uses different methods like collage and painting to create beautiful and rich illustrations. We are excited to share these books with the children. We are looking forward to another fun month full of learning and creativity!

Happy Holidays!

**-Danielle & Natasha**

# DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3  HAPPY BIRTHDAY FAITH!	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13  HAPPY BIRTHDAY CAMRYN!	14	15	16  HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAYLEE!	17	18
19	20 Winter Break 	21 Winter Break  HAPPY BIRTHDAY LEILANI!	22 Winter Break 	23 Winter Break 	24 Winter Break 	25
26	27 Winter Break 	28 Winter Break 	29 Winter Break 	30 Winter Break 	31 Winter Break 	