

TODDLER NEWSLETTER

December Edition

Upcoming dates

Friday, December 17th:

2 Day Holiday Brunch @
10:45am

Thursday, December 19th:

3 Day Holiday Brunch @
10:45am

Friday, December 20th:

3 Day Early Dismissal @
10:15am

December 23th- January 6th:

Winter Break

Tuesday, January 7th:

School Resumes

Holiday Brunch

Our Holiday brunch is just around the corner. Please be on the lookout from your class' room mom with more detailed information. Our holiday celebration is similar to our Thanksgiving feast. When choosing a dish to prepare, please keep in mind that we are a nut-free/egg free classroom, so choose a meal that follows this policy. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

"Help me to do it myself"

Maria Montessori



Children begin their journey to independence the day they are born. This journey is an ongoing process which can certainly be encouraged through a prepared environment. In the toddler Montessori environment, practical life lessons are of

great importance and help foster this journey to independence. Foundations for independence are put in place through learning to put on a coat and shoes, dress/undress, pour water, prepare a snack, care for the environment, and care for others. Providing children with opportunities and materials to do for themselves can also build confidence and self-esteem. It is in our willingness to see a child work at a challenging task, without interruption, which allows for the child to feel successful and fulfilled.

"Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed". -*Maria Montessori*





Our Thankful Wall

Have you ever wondered what we used the family picture for that you supplied at the beginning of the year? Your family photos are now displayed as a lesson in our class that we refer to as our "Thankful Wall." We have turned this beautiful wall into a language lesson. Each day we find a friend or two admiring the collage of family photos. If you listen carefully, you may hear their conversation of who they are thankful for, or any other words of wisdom. When observing our friends at the wall, we get the chance to witness a pure sense of joy and thankfulness through their expressions. Thank you for bringing in a family picture to share. Our friends have thoroughly enjoyed working at our "thankful wall."

Simplify Your Holidays

During the holidays, the pace of life has a tendency to pick up with exciting new events, extra stimulation, and traveling. As adults, we can often process and adjust to the holiday changes. Our children on the other hand, are in a sensitive period where their senses are heightened. They may not be able to process the change the same as we do. When making plans during this holiday season, take a moment to consider the planned experience from your child's perspective. Whether you are wondering what to put under the tree or how to fill your days together, here are a few ideas to keep your holiday simple, but yet memorable:

1. Instead of receiving numerous gifts that may get lost in the Christmas morning shuffle, choose gifts that offer your child an experience. Another idea is to make your own coupons for special outings to enjoy as a family.
2. Get your child involved if attending an event/party. Invite your child to prepare a dish with you that will be shared at the event.
3. It's called winter break for a reason: Take it easy on yourself, do not over-commit/plan.
4. Continue with the daily routine. For example, designate a holiday nap or quiet time for the entire family.

After all, this is the season of "giving." Make sure to take time out of your day and "give" it to the ones you love. Happy Holidays!

