

Missoula Valley

Montessori

SEPTEMBER
2014



Hello MVM Families,

It is hard to believe that school has already been in session for a month. Everyone has adjusted beautifully and the children are settling into a routine. Thank you so much for your help in making this first month go smoothly.

A special thank you to Mike Russ for helping out several times a week on the playground. The children in particular love having a dad to play with.

Both the Early Learners and Primary groups have held their Curriculum Nights. Thank you to those of you who were able to attend. If you were not able to make it we have several books in our lending library that you are welcome to check out. Some are short and sweet and give you a basic over view of the Montessori Method. Others are longer for those of you who want to delve

deeper into what we do and why.



Want to Volunteer?



There will be a sign up sheet on the central table in the hallway for those of you wanting to volunteer in some way this year. The jobs range from taking care of a pet over the holidays to washing rags or sharpening pencils. Any help you can give us is greatly appreciated!

MVM Parent Group

Last year it was the inaugural year of our parent group. This small group of dedicated parents hosted several events designed to help you as parents get to know one another. They also organized fund raisers and assisted us with special events like the Halloween party and the spring program. The chalkboard on the playground is there thanks to the work of the Parent Group.

If you would like to get involved with the Parent Group or learn more about it, please contact Sara McComas (see school directory).

Specials

The three special classes have gotten off to a great start. As you may know every Wednesday and Thursday morning we divide the students into three groups. Each group then goes to science with Catherine, music with Kim, and Mandarin with River for 30 minutes. In science we have talked about a scientist's tools from our senses to magnifying glasses. Then we moved on to clouds and are launching into weather. In music the children have been singing, dancing, and experimenting with different instruments from maracas and clappers to bells and shakers. In Mandarin the children are learning how to say the names of animals, family members (mother, father) body parts, numbers and more!

Early Learners

Our Early Learners are making wonderful strides every day, working with the materials, extending their periods of concentration, and especially in showing that they are gaining security within this very new environment and with these very new people. Each child has his or her own unique timetable for adjustment. We are pleased to share that within the Montessori environment we are able to meet each child where they are and guide them at a comfortable pace into a deeper relationship with the room, the activities, and of course, with us and their peers. The children respond beautifully to this opportunity to move at their own pace, and show us each day a stronger sense of confidence and ability within the room. Their voices now raise with us in song, their hands show skill and assurance in choosing materials that call to them. We are on our way to a wonderful year! Thank you all for your support of your children as they come into the room each day.

-Anna and Maggie

After Care Update

After care continues to be in high demand. Thanks to Kelli's willingness to help out when needed we are now able to accept 24 students each day rather than 16. Please remember to write your child's name in the after care binder (not the classroom communication notebook) in the morning if he/she will need to stay or call 239-3322 as soon as possible. This program is very full and there are only a few openings. Please be aware that there may be days when we cannot accommodate every family that needs after school care.

