



Mara and Nolan share a laugh.

“Never help a child with a task which he feels he can succeed.”

Maria Montessori

October, 2016

## Missoula Valley Montessori

Hello Missoula Valley Montessori Families. Catherine and I want to begin our first newsletter by thanking all of you for your help and support in getting this year off to a wonderful start. The paperwork is in, the bins are filled with changes of clothing, families are signing up and bringing in snacks and the parent group is up and running! A special thank you goes out to Emma Hunter (Hank and Lucy's mom) who went over all of the immunization records for us to make sure everything was in order. Most important of all is that the children are coming in ready to begin the day. If they are not, parents are trusting that we will calm and redirect them as they transition into school. Thank you so very much.

We also want to give a huge thanks to the staff at MVM who have been working hard in so many ways. It takes a lot of effort and

thought to prepare a well-designed Montessori classroom. Once everything is in place, the children need loving, insightful adults to guide them. We are also fortunate for their professionalism (currently they are all taking on-line courses as well as updating 1<sup>st</sup> Aid/CPR training) and the support they give to one to another. Catherine and I appreciate and are grateful for everything they are doing for MVM and will continue to do throughout the year.

### **A message from Sunny:**

The first weeks of class in the Early Learner room have been fun and productive. They have also flown by! Children are adjusting to their new school schedules, building friendships, practicing self-care, developing their fine and gross motor skills, and working on ways to communicate. The beginning of school for a two year old can be an overwhelming experience. I'm happy to see that our young class is enthusiastic about taking on the challenge.

## Taste Buds Kitchens

Our lessons with the chefs at Taste Buds Kitchens began last week. The children were whisking, grating, shredding, and measuring with joy. We were so impressed with how well prepared the lessons were for the children. The staff of Taste Buds Kitchens was also terrific at explaining the steps and making sure all of the children had a turn. The food was also delicious. Last week they created mini lasagna. This week the children made fruit parfait. The menu for the weeks ahead include falafel with tahini sauce, Irish soda bread, veggie pot pies from England and Greek sugar cookies. Yum.

*Truman and Madeleine are busy preparing the carrots and cheese for the lasagna 'cupcakes'.*



*Michael is ripping the basil which will be mixed in with the rest.*



**Pacific Recycling** Our trip to the recycling center was so much fun. We were greeted by Mason and Greg who took us safely through the various areas of this facility.



*The children in Kelli and Jonnie's class watch intently as a car is brought out of the 'crushing machine'.*



*Derek and Alyssa listen with the children as Greg explains how the cardboard boxes end up into bundles.*

### Reminders:

- If you have not had a chance to sign up to bring snacks, please do so.
- Winter weather is upon us. Please make sure your children are dressed warmly.
- Thank you for the calls you are making to let us know when a friend or relative is picking up your child.
- If you love it, label it!



(kidding! Sort of...) to the fantastic teachers at MVM on 11/11/16.

## The MVM Parent Group:

"The MVM Parent Group has been working on a number of initiatives since the school year started, and we need your help!

- **Picture Day Nov. 3rd:** Individual photos of your lovely children are scheduled to be taken in a few short weeks. We need some energetic parent volunteers to help out. Duties include, but are not limited to, helping organize paperwork, corralling our kiddos while they patiently await their turn, making silly faces to solicit smiles, and comforting the occasional child that is just "not having" picture day. Your time will be rewarded with lots of laughs and your kid's photos for free. Look for a sign-up sheet by the door very soon.

- **Conference day is coming up on November 11th:** The wonderful teachers at MVM meet with us back to back on conference days to review their detailed assessment of our children without time for so much as a coffee break. Let's help them out and bring some sustenance to the very people who weather tantrums and teach our kids to read. A sign-up sheet will be posted soon for those interested in bringing food, snacks, and wine

- **Scrip Accounts:** Attention Fresh Market and Good Food Store shoppers! Don't forget to sign up for the GFS scrip account (sign up sheet by the door) to earn 3% of every purchase for MVM. And if you shop at Fresh Market, simply write "Missoula Valley Montessori" on the back of your receipt and give it to the cashier to earn 1% of your purchase back for MVM. It's (pretty) easy and provides funds to benefit our children through field trips, new materials, new playground equipment, and more. email [christine.fregerio@gmail.com](mailto:christine.fregerio@gmail.com) with any questions.

- **The Parent Group** meets again on Wednesday, 10/19/16 at 3 PM at Missoula Brewing Company - join us! New members always welcome."

Thank you!

**MESH BAGS WILL BE ON YOUR CHILDREN'S COATHOOKS SOON! THEY ARE INTENDED TO HOLD HATS, MITTENS, AND SCARVES!**



