

# HAPPENINGS

18323 Kuykendahl Rd, Spring TX 77379

Telephone (281) 370-6100

[www.cypresswoodmontessori.com](http://www.cypresswoodmontessori.com)

Volume 17

Feb. 2019

## PEACE IN CHILDHOOD

Dr. Montessori's intent was to promote individual growth, communication skills, and self-esteem and to abolish competition and violence. If children can discover how to solve problems with words and to appreciate themselves without others judging them, they may develop into adults who will see no need for wars. Filter television shows and movies to get rid of as many of the violent good guys vs. bad guys formats as possible. Are the bad characters real? How could the issues be solved in more peaceful ways? *How much TV time should your children have, anyway?* For almost 20 years, Duna and Bruce's family lived without TV. Their children had fun renting videos during weekends, and they found plenty to do with the rest of the time they had. Be careful with your choice of words at home. Ask "Who can brush their teeth before I reach the count of 50?" instead of asking "Who can brush their teeth first?" Then, take your time in counting so that even the youngest is done before the 50-second mark.

Be a good role model. Your children may not be able to understand that it is not necessary to hit if you spank them. If you yell at them or shame them, they may very well echo your behavior to their own children in the future. Oftentimes, negative behavior will vanish with a lot of loving physical contact and positive reinforcement. When a 4-year-old acts out for attention, try holding them while reading a good storybook or watching a heartwarming movie. Even adolescents need a lot of hugs and need to be reminded that they are loved. If you need assistance with positive discipline, read the following books: *How to Talk so Kids will Listen* by Faber and Mazlish, *Positive Discipline* by Nelsen, and *Montessori Parenting* by McFarland.

Other suggestions for working toward a more peaceful childhood:

How screen time can slow your child's development:

See articles below:

<https://health.clevelandclinic.org/>

## Classroom Happenings:

**Toddlers:** In the month of February, our students learned how they love their parents, grandparents, their siblings, and friends at all times. They participated in designing Valentine cards. Students celebrated Valentine's Day by exchanging gifts to extend their love for each other. They also learned the colors of the month by doing different art activities.

**Primary 1:** The students were overwhelmed as they watched a video showcasing our astounding solar system. They also had a grand experience getting to know the different planets. For our art project, they made a shuttle spaceship made out of paper. The following week, the class had a blast celebrating Valentine's Day by giving each other gifts like cards, stickers, and other lovely stuff. The parents were so cooperative that it made the celebration even more exciting. We made Heart Owl Bags with loving messages. They also elected Logan Lott as our class President and Olivia Salamanca as Vice President. Logan said, "If I become President of the USA, I will improve health care benefits for all Americans." while Olivia said, "I will make sure all the kids have plenty of toys to play with." Awesome kids! This week, the children will be inspired by the accomplishment of the images and accomplishment of the past and present Presidents of the USA. For our project, the class will glue red and blue glitter papers on George Washington's silhouette. Next week, we will talk about a festive holiday celebrated by our Chinese brothers/sisters all over the world—the Chinese New Year!



My classroom recycles wooden handles from paint and foam brushes that are made into dolls. We have a sewing lesson that makes a small doll holder that holds the doll that the children made. We recycle all kinds of material for our sewing lessons, wall hangings, small purses, and mixed media art. We love blue jeans and old stained or ripped jeans are gladly accepted, because we cut them apart and use all parts of the jeans. We also recycle zippers, buttons, socks, and pockets from any clothing. Tiny small fabric swatches are made into small pillows and quilts for the dolls that they make.

**Primary 2:** The Sun is the center of the solar system. There are planets. Earth is the planet where humans, plants, and animals live. Earth has one moon while other planets have many. The moon has holes, which are called craters. We did "moon with craters" for our art project. We also watched videos about space. We made Valentine's Cards for Moms and Dads. We did the Valentine's Exchange. Kids were so delighted to open their cards and goodies they have in their goody bags. Primary 2 classroom chose Madison as our class President and Pauline as our Vice President. They learned how people in the USA voted for President. Donald Trump became the President because people voted for him. We also talked about Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. They were great Presidents of our country. We did Lincoln log house as integration for this week's lesson. Asia is the biggest continent! Kids were able to locate Asia on the globe and on the map.



### Sewing Lessons!



Election Day!

Valentine's Exchange!



Thank you very much for all your donated items!

A big thank you to Mr. Mike (Olivia Rodriguez's granddad) for donating several unwanted DVR player and other items for the class to take apart.

**Primary 3:** Sewing is an important part of the Montessori classroom. When a child sews, they learn self-confidence, finger dexterity, mechanical skills, patience, eye hand coordination, fine motor skills and creativity. I have many sewing lessons in my classroom.