

HAPPENINGS

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"We cannot know the consequences of suppressing a child's spontaneity when he is just beginning to be active. We may even suffocate life itself. That humanity which is revealed in all its intellectual splendor during the sweet and tender age of childhood should be respected with a kind of religious veneration. It is like the sun which appears at dawn or a flower just beginning to bloom. Education cannot be effective unless it helps a child to open up himself to life."

— **Maria Montessori**

International Peace Day - September 21st

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The United Nations General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. This Peace Day let's open our hearts to take personal responsibility for our own thoughts, feelings and choices. As we do this collectively, our self-generated peace will be amplified and sent out into the world.

We are so excited to welcome Ms. Liliana Ramirez as certified Montessori teacher in our Toddler classroom. Ms. Liliana has many many years of experience in various Montessori schools in Houston. She is a great team player and the Toddlers are already getting attached to her! Thank you for being here Ms. Liliana!

Classroom Happenings:

Toddlers: The three period lesson is a fundamental approach to introducing a new concept (not just vocabulary) to children. It is used to move the child from basic understanding to mastery.

Period 1: Introduction during this period, it is important to always isolate the desired nomenclature. Say to the child "this is....." it is always good to repeat the words several times while pointing to the appropriate item.

Period 2: Assosiation/Recognition (show me) the second period is often a separate lesson done after the first period lesson. It is purpose is to extend the handling and action presented in the first lesson. This is the most critical period and should last the longest.

Period 3: Recall (what is this?) This is the first time the Montessori teacher asks the child to name the object or idea. The teacher should only move to the third period when she is sure that the child will succeed. It is important to understand that the knowledge gained during these lessons becomes the starting point for the child's next quest for knowledge. Every time a child masters a skill or idea, he/she becomes stronger, more competent and more independent.

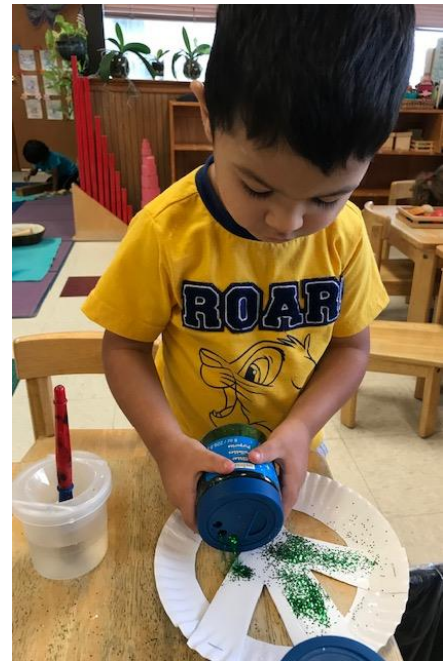


Classroom Happenings:

Primary 1: The children delighted in listening to a Dinosaur song that got their counting and learning basic facts about dinosaurs. They had fun creating a shape A-saurus. For the next topic, we talked about the history behind Pioneers and their lifestyle. The kids imaginatively role played as pioneer. Then children switched to modern day activities. Moving on to the next curriculum, the class was taught how Australia is similar/different to where they live. They relished the experience in reading an Australian poem entitled "The Melbourne Cup". They were greatly amused by the Sydney Opera House collage, they made. This week, we are going to take a walk outside and explore nature in our own way. The kids will dearly realize that Peace may be attained through communing with nature. They will creatively make doves out of paper plates. Next week, the class will be enlightened about safety specifically how to use Machines at home. They will also have a blast making a "Wine Gumball Stamping."



Primary 2: In the month of September our students learned interesting facts about dinosaurs. Incredible dinosaurs lived on Earth millions years ago. There were big, small, fierce and fast or sometimes very slow. Some were carnivores (meat eater), while other preferred plants (herbivore). Our students also talked about the history of Pioneer and their simple life style. They lived in leg house, plant their own vegetables and fruit, and grew their own cattle. They also learned that Golden Wattle (*Acacia Pycnantha*) is Australia's national flower. The Golden Wattle blooms in spring season, on beginning of September. The children also talked about Boomerangs. It is well known as a weapon used by indigenous Australians for hunting. Boomerangs have seen historically used for hunting, as well as sport entertainment.



Primary 3: Every Friday the classroom has nature show and tell. Nature show and tell challenges students to find something from nature in their own backyard and talk about it with the classroom. Some examples are: rocks, shells, flowers, leave a bug etc. I usually do not allow toys unless they look realistic with proper coloring and are not wearing clothing. Please encourage your child to go outside and notice items from nature. Nature is such a wonderful teacher and it gives us so many opportunities for discovery. My classroom recycles unwanted used cards, calendars (used are fine), junk mail, envelopes and wooden puzzles that are missing pieces. Thank you!

Thanks to the Bluzard Family for donating books and Salamanca Family for donating shoes, coloring books and pencils!

Upcoming Events for October:

Week of Oct. 7th Oct. 11th Community Helper's Week!

Wed., Oct. 9th - Dental presentation

Wed., Oct. 16th - Life Touch Picture Day starting @ 8am

Thursday. Oct. 31st - Halloween Dress up day