

JANUARY 2024

LIBRA MONTESSORI

Highland Pre-School



IMPORTANT DATES

January Birthdays

Emmett 1/25

School Resumes

Tuesday 1/2

MLK Day

No School Monday 1/15

Naturescape Day

Thursday 1/18

A NOTE FROM THE TEACHERS

Happy New Year! Maria Montessori's philosophy emphasizes the importance of peace education as a foundational element in a child's development. The Montessori method seeks to cultivate peace not only in the classroom but also in a broader global context. Peace education in Montessori classrooms involves fostering a sense of social responsibility, empathy, and understanding among children. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. advocated for peace, equality, justice aligning with the principles of peace, justice, and equality that are foundational in Montessori education. Montessori teachers often draw inspiration from leaders like him to instill a sense of social responsibility and a commitment to creating a just and peaceful world. In our classroom, we look forward to incorporating discussions about Martin Luther King Jr. as part of broader lessons on peace and the importance of working towards a harmonious society. Our Libra Montessori friends are always encouraged to explore and understand different perspectives, fostering a sense of empathy and a commitment to making positive contributions to the world.

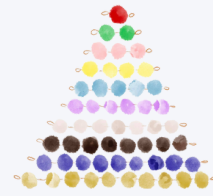
“Praise, help, or even a look, may be enough to interrupt him, or destroy the activity.... The great principle which brings success to the teacher is this: as soon as concentration has begun, act as if the child does not exist.”

—Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*

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JANUARY THEMES

BOOKS AND POEMS

The Mitten

'Snow'

Penguin March

Happy Birthday Martin Luther King

'Polar Bear, Polar Bear'

Practical Life: winter themed transferring lessons; sifting/sorting; bubble whisking; putting on mittens/gloves

Art: Fun with Winter! snowflakes, penguins, and polar bears; Artist Unit Study: Henri Matisse

Sensorial: extensions and variations with traditional Montessori materials - adding small manipulatives for further creative exploration

Math: symmetry, patterning, numeracy; linear and skip counting; measuring length; telling time

Language: rhyming; compound words; story elements; poetry; blending sounds to read/write CVC words; winter word wall and writing scavenger hunts

Science/Culture: Polar regions; Arctic/Antarctic animals; Shadows/Light

Individualized activities and lessons are recorded on Montessori Compass. Activity Reports are generated and distributed weekly. Check daily for pictures!

As partners in your child's education, we greatly appreciate your ongoing support. We wanted to take a moment to remind everyone about the importance of punctuality for the start of the school day.

Timely arrival not only helps us maintain a smooth and organized schedule but also ensures that your child has the best possible start to their day. Arriving on time allows them to settle in, connect with friends, and be fully prepared for the exciting learning activities that await them. Here are a few benefits of punctual arrival:

- Smooth Transitions: Arriving on time helps your child transition seamlessly into the school day, reducing any potential stress or rush.
- Maximizing Learning Opportunities: Being present from the beginning allows your child to benefit from every valuable moment of instruction and collaborative activities.
- Building Responsibility: Punctuality is a valuable life skill. By reinforcing the importance of being on time, we collectively instill a sense of responsibility in our students.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to welcoming all our students with smiles and positive energy each day!