



Montessori Academy of Arcadia

January 2018

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Remember...

January 15th:

School Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day



DECEMBER WAS AN EVENTFUL MONTH...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hope you had a wonderful holiday season, and marveled in what the Season had to offer. We wish you a Happy, Healthy and a Prosperous 2018! We also welcome you back for another fabulous year, looking forward to working together with you to ensure our students are learning and growing, and continuing to make great progress! On behalf of all our staff, we also thank you for your thoughtful Christmas gifts and warm wishes. They were greatly appreciated!



ALL WRAPPED UP CHRISTMAS CONCERT
Our Winter recital was a huge success! We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt appreciation to all our parents who supported us to make it a memorable experience for our young artists. We truly believe that music, dance and art are essential parts of every child's education.

SECRET SANTA BOOK EXCHANGE
Our Secret Santa Book Exchange last month was fun. We emphasized the importance of altruism, selflessness and generosity, along with the joy of giving as well as receiving. "Thank you" to all those parents who participated in our Christmas Gift Program.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK SNACK PARTY
We also celebrated the spirit of Christmas with a variety of snacks specially prepared by our very own parents. Thank you so much for your active involvement in our school, making it a little bit merrier for all of us.

CHINA, MONTANA, COLOSSEUM & ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL
We started the month by visiting the third largest country in the world. We spent a week in Beijing appreciating the largest structure ever built by humans – The Great Wall of China, the two longest rivers – Yangtze and Yellow, the palace that was off limits for people – The Forbidden City, and the country's national treasure – the Pandas. On our way back, we stopped by in Montana to study about its very distinctive features. Then we turned back to go to Rome, Italy to learn about the oval shaped, largest amphitheater in the world. After a very busy month, we settled down to appreciate the Scottish Scientist who invented a very important tool for us – the Telephone.





BALLET CLASSES

We have added yet another subject to our already diverse curriculum. If your child has expressed an interest in dance, and longs for satin slippers and a pink tutu, consider joining her in our beginners ballet instruction classes, free of charge for all our students. Like all dance forms, ballet is physically intense, promoting strength, agility, an understanding of music and rhythm along with a love of movement. It also has the added benefits of improving coordination, concentration, endurance, stamina, and overall cardiovascular health while correcting poor alignment. Talk to your daughter's teacher today to learn more about our classes.

JANUARY 15TH – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Dr. King, born on January 15th, 1929, was a Baptist minister and a civil-rights activist, who had a huge impact on race relations in the U.S. Through his activism and inspirational speeches, Dr. King made tremendous contributions to ending the legal segregation of African-American citizens. He received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Though Dr. King was assassinated in 1968, he continues to be remembered as one of the most influential leaders in history. We will dedicate a significant segment of time learning about his achievements; and the school will be closed on the 15th in honor of his birthday.



COUNTRY OF THE MONTH – BRAZIL

Brazil is a large spread of territory taking up most of South America. In fact, this nation is the fifth largest in the world, both in terms of land and population. Brazil contains the largest forest and the largest river (both named Amazon), keeping alive the most fascinating and primitive forms of human tribes, land animals, birds, and fishes that cannot be found elsewhere. This month, we will dedicate a large portion of our time to study in depth about this interesting country.

LANDMARK OF THE MONTH – STONEHENGE

The 83 huge stones at Stonehenge are the remnants of a ring of them. Located in England, it is probably the best known prehistoric stone monument in the world. Some scholars feel it might have been used as a calendar. However, it is still a mystery as to how the stones were transported to the Stonehenge in those ancient times. This month, we will take a trip to the UK to learn more about this marvelous structure.

STATE OF THE MONTH – NEW MEXICO

The state of New Mexico shares an international border with the country Mexico. The Rio Grande is New Mexico's longest river and runs through the entire length of the state. The state has far more sheep and cattle than people. We will be travelling to see this distinctive state which embraced Indian, Spanish and Anglo cultures with open arms.



PERSON OF THE MONTH – AMELIA EARHART

This month we will learn about Amelia Earhart, a woman who contributed immensely to the history of aviation, inspiring a generation of female aviators. As the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean, Earhart endures as a symbol of power and perseverance for her courage, vision, and groundbreaking achievements, both for aviation and for the pride of women.

MONTESSORI PHILOSOPHY: ABSORBENT MIND

A child goes through tremendous physical and psychological growth, exploration and development during the first six years of life. We firmly believe that humans are capable of learning more from birth to six years than during any other stage of their lives. Thus, considering what children can accomplish during this time period, we stress the importance of starting their education as early as possible. We closely observe how young children acquire language(s), develop motor and cognitive skills, begin to copy the social skills of adults and acquire expectations about how the world will treat them, at an extremely early age. As young children are capable of absorbing huge amounts of information about the environment through their senses, this stage of a child's life is described as the time of the "Absorbent Mind". Children from birth-to-three years seem to absorb unconsciously, and children from three-to-six years are more likely to experience a conscious absorption. Children under three years notice the tiniest details, easily getting distracted and try to focus on everything all at once. At our Montessori, students engage in a variety of sensory and motor experiences that would lay the vital groundwork for later learning.

