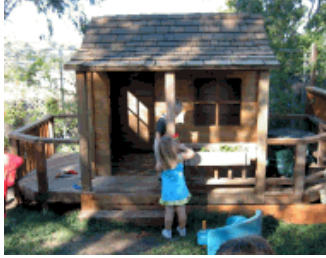


Montessori in Motion Newsletter

"Bringing love and laughter to learning"

Nov.-Dec. 2008



Linda Molinelli – Owner/Teacher
Shelley Martinez – Owner/Teacher

Seasons Greetings

Contents

Dear Parents	1
Parent Volunteers	1
General Reminders	1
Sharing Program	1
School Events	1
Key Dates	1
Little's News	2
Big's News	2
Kinder's Capers	2
After School Program	3
Fundraising Program	3
School Year Calendar	3

Key Dates

- **Nov 11** Veteran's Day
School closed.
- Nov 27-28
Thanksgiving Holiday
School Closed.
- **Dec 10** Holiday Party
- **Dec 22-26** Winter
Recess **School
Closed.**
- **Dec 29-Jan 2** **School
Closed.** Childcare
available.
- **Jan 5** School Resumes
- **Jan 19** Martin Luther
King Day. **School
Closed.**

Dear Parents

Stone Soup

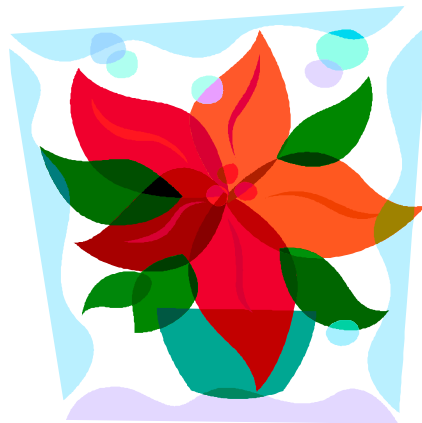
On Wednesday, Nov. 26, Stone Soup was a hit. Thanks to all the parents who contributed vegetables and of course all the cooks and tasters!

Hot Lunch

Thank you to Julie Chopra for getting parents to help with the hot lunch preparation. If anyone would like to help with the hot lunch, **please call Julie Chopra (415) 472-5185.**

Safety is key!

Children like to follow other children and other parents when it is pick up time. Parents please let a teacher know if a child is following you into or out of the building or classroom.



General Reminders

- Please label everything that comes to school. **Check the lost and found** basket in the multipurpose room for lost items.
- **Call the office** when your child is going to be late or not coming to school.
- Remember your **snack day** and keep it healthy.
- Check **your folder and the bulletin board** daily for messages.
- Remember to **sign-in and sign-out your child each day.**
- **Tuition is due on the 1st of every month.** A \$25.00 late fee is charged for tuitions received after the 5th of each month.

Sharing Program

Little's: Every **day is a share day.** Bring something from home "labeled" in a cloth bag.

Big's: Every **day is share day.**

Kinder's: Every **Tuesday or Wednesday.** Children are encouraged to tell what's new and good! Leave toys at home.

School Events

Dec 10 Holiday Party

“Bringing love and laughter to learning”

Little's News

It's beginning to look a lot like autumn. The trees are so colorful, the grass is green again and the leaves come dancing down from the branches. The Little's just love to frolic outside this time of year. Cold morning, warm afternoons, and cool evenings. They just enjoy playing with all their classmates and they're getting so good at cleaning up.

In the classroom we are so busy. Welcome to Kali, Ewan, Angus, and Yoga and their families.

The children love water play and we are scrubbing our babies, fishing in the sink and pouring from cup to cup daily.

We are learning to build great structures with blocks and tinker toys and the pink tower. The light bright has a turkey on it and someone is always busy lighting her up.

Julianne is a great resource and loves to create art projects with the kids. They paint, paste and glue, cut or snip happily turning out incredible art work. We sort by color and shape, and learning to do harder puzzles. Some of the children are drawing circles and faces on the chalkboard.

Circle time is a blast! The Little's love to sing solo for us and then we all join in and sing their song together. Bryanna loves to tell me what song to sing next. Wayne comes on Tuesday and starts the day with his guitar and music class. Every day we tell stories and try to dance. What a wonderful way to spend the day!!

Thanks for the great snacks (we love fresh fruit). Please remember as it gets colder to dress the children in layers. Extra clothes and shoes are very important, and rainboots also come in handy.

Please keep us in diapers and wipes and check your cubbies for wet clothes.

December is filled with excitement and we hope to see you at the winter party on December 10!

Happy holidays!

Shelley and Julianne

Big's News

Can you hear our classroom humming? From molding wet sand to sounding our letters, from counting in English to Spanish to doing Yoga on the balance beam, the children are focused and thriving. Meg and I are continually inspired to keep ahead of them. Creating new work, spearheaded by their enthusiasm for learning, becomes the magic thread that bonds us.

Meet our class Meechu, Niki, Catherine, Josie, Sofie, Jack, Luka, Thea, Hailey, Laney, and Emily. You will see how proud they are to be a Big!

Big's News continued

Work periods have taken on a 'work alone' or 'two person' flavor that we determine as a group. When the children work alone their focus builds because there is more time to practice that which is challenging. The need for immediate gratification (usually formed from frustration) falls to the wayside because deeper feelings of having accomplished a difficult task take hold. Extending our work period happens frequently because the children do not want to stop! New learning is then reinforced on partner days, when they become the teacher of their many new skills and concepts. With this year's group, work together time is especially sweet because of the deep friendships that have already been formed and the affectionate nature of their interactions.

This month we will be talking about 'attitudes & gratitude's.' Learning to notice what's right in our world not only makes us feel good, it's contagious!

A special thanks to each of you for helping with hot lunch. Homemade pizza made by Jane (along with Gus and Ewan) was devoured by all!

A giant thanks to everyone who helped with our trip to the pumpkin patch and our Halloween celebration at school. The children were fantastic! You were our anchors.

Taye and Meg

Kinder's News

As the year 2008 comes to a close we are all becoming more and more affected by the changes taking place in our country - the uncertainty of our economic system, the collapse of many old institutions and the increasing numbers of people who are losing their jobs and the homes they have fought to keep during this decline. Here at Montessori In Motion "nothing" has changed. We still delight in bringing love and laughter to learning. The children still sing about Alberquerqui Turkey. We will celebrate our Thanks by sharing in the annual Thanksgiving stone soup that we will make this week. In the Kinders class, we have begun to learn about the animal kingdom. These young students seem to be interested and fascinated with the various kinds of animals from mammals to insects. We will be involved in this subject for the next couple of months. I am hoping to culminate the entire unit with a field trip to the new Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the drivers that helped us out at the Pumpkin Patch. What a wonderful turn out of parents! Thank you. Kudos to all the families who came out on the Work Day to toil at our school. It is appreciated by all of the staff.

Remember we don't have to have a formal conference to chat. We can meet or talk on the phone any time you have questions or concerns.

Happy Holidays!

Linda

"Bringing love and laughter to learning"

After School Program

Adventures After School & Parent Involvement

In the aftercare program, we are developing environments and opportunities which involve lots of social interaction. We challenge the children physically to attempt tasks that may be a stretch for them. We challenge them socially to find the appropriate language to get their individual needs met in a group setting.

We welcome parent involvement to offer us new insights into the different children activities and more creative ideas. Parent involvement adds to the quality of our aftercare program. With the wide age span of children and their different abilities, it is great to have more competent adults on board. So for a good adventure, please come join us.

Wayne Lechner

Parent Volunteers 2008/2009

THANK YOU to those parents who have signed up. We truly welcome you and your enthusiasm to help our school. So, let's get into action and get things moving.

If you have any questions with the jobs, please email Taye, our head teacher in the Big's class at boldvision@comcast.net

Jobs are still available and 100% parent participation will be greatly appreciated. So, **sign up** and be a part of this wonderful parent community and school!

We are still looking for parent participation for:

- **Marketing Coordinator**
- **Librarian**
- **Mother's Day Party**
- **Spring Fling**
- **Sewing Person(s)**



Classifieds

Let us know if you have something that you would like to give away or sell and we can list it here.

School Calendar 2008-2009

As the school year begins to wind down, our children are forging ahead. Pushing their boundaries often elicits feelings of frustration for children, parents and teachers.

September 2, 2008.....First Day of School
 September 4,08.....Orientation
 October 4,08.....Back to school/Parent Work Day
 November 11,08.....Veteran's Day (School Closed)
 November 27/28, 08Thanksgiving (School Closed)
 December 10Holiday Party/TBA
 Dec 22,08–Dec 26,08Winter Recess (No School)
 Dec 29–Jan 2, 2009School Closed (Childcare Available)
 January 5.School Resumes
 January 19.....Martin Luther King Day (School Closed)
 February 16.....Presidents Holidays (School Closed)
 FebruaryParent Work Party/TBA
 April 13-17.....Spring Break (No School -Childcare Available)
 AprilParent Work Party/TBA
 May 7.....Mother's Day Tea Party
 May 25. .. Memorial Day (School Closed)
 June 19 .. Graduation/Last Day of School
 June 22–June 26..... No School - Summer Set Up Days
 JuneParent Work Party/TBA
 June 29-July 3No School – (Childcare Available)
 July 6–July 31 .. Summer Session I
 Aug 3–Aug 28Summer Session II
 Aug 31–Sept 4No School – Teacher Setup Week
 Sept 7 Labor Day (School Closed)
 Sept 8First Day of School 2009

Fundraising Program

Our eScrip Program is an easy way to earn money for your school.

For those of you who are not aware of what eScrip is, eScrip allows all of us to make a substantial contribution to our school of choice just by doing what we would do anyway and that's buying goods and services from stores like Safeway, Long's United, Macy's, etc.

So how does it work? Participation is easy, by registering your most active credit cards or grocery cards YOU guarantee Montessori In Motion passive income every month allowing us to reach many of our goals for our children at Montessori In Motion. The more families who enroll, the more MIM can accomplish.

It's a co-operative effort that is easy to do requiring little effort from each of us with potentially very BIG results for our children!

Here is the log in link for eScrip:

<http://www.escrip.com/merchants/search/index.jsp>

Click Sign Up

Click: Montessori In Motion or Enter **Group ID Name Address City State Zip # 4749628**

[Montessori In Motion](#) 3 Wellbrock San Rafael CA 94903