

January 17, 2020

Dates to Remember:

Monday, Jan. 20th - **No School. MLK Junior Day.**

Friday, Jan. 24- **Sing a long**

Sunday, Jan. 26th - **Open House**- 2:00-4:00pm. For prospective families.

Wednesday, Jan. 29th - **Modified Day. Staff meeting. 1:00pm dismissal.**

Open House

Casa di Mir's Open House for prospective new families will be held on Sunday, January 26th from 2:00-4:00pm. We appreciated all your help in preparing for this at our School Clean up this Saturday. You made our school sparkle. Thank you!

If you have any friends or family members who are looking for a quality Montessori education for their child or children, please let them know about this wonderful opportunity to learn about Casa di Mir and to talk with the teachers.

Welcome!



We would like to welcome Munjal and Sharanya Munshi to our Casa community and Aiden Munshi in Primary-2.

Thank You!

To- Neeraja Surumpudi (Anika Potaraju) P-1 and Melanie Watson (Alex O'Conner) P-2 for helping with laundry.

To-Neeraja Surumpudi (Anika Potaraju) P-1 and Sophie Riss (Emilie Riss) P-2 for helping with Friday folders.

To- All the parents who helped with our school clean up. We appreciate your time and effort.

What are we studying this month?

Primary 1: Mammals and South America

Primary 2: Reptiles and Australia

Primary 1

After the break, we were glad to see all the children jump back into the regular routine right away. No tears. Only excitement and happiness! They were ready to start a new year of learning adventure.

In January, mammals are being introduced. Based on the children's interests, we have talked about the giraffe— Casa's mascot. The children have learned that giraffes keep in the standing position for most of their lifetimes. Also, giraffes drink water only once in two or three days. Giraffes symbolize grace, peace, individuality, protection, communication, perception, and farsightedness. They have the largest heart of all land animals. Those are reasons for choosing giraffe as Casa's mascot. Another mammal we have talked about is the dog. Dogs are human's close friends. We have discovered some parts of the dog have interesting names like muzzle, withers, stifle, and hock.

South America is the continent we are studying this month. Two highlights are the amazing layers of Amazon Rainforest and Quipu Knots. The children have recognized the four layers: emergent layer, canopy layer, understory, the forest floor and some species of animals and plants live inside the layers. Quipu Knots were recording devices of knotted string used by several cultures at Peru long time ago. People used them for collecting data and keeping records. Ms. Joy has made a Quipu Knots board to let the children have this cultural experience while exercising their fine motor and counting skills.

Ask your child.....

How a giraffe drinks water?

Ms. Yan for Primary 1



Primary 2

We are excited to be back into the swing of things as we begin the first month of a new decade! The children started their first morning back with warm embraces and shares from their winter break experiences! It is amazing to enjoy the diversity of our school community and highlight the international travels many families took over the break.

As we integrate back into our daily routine, the teachers find it useful to brush up on reinforcement of our classroom ground rules. Consistency of ground rules provide the children with structure. They also help maintain a safe and courteous classroom.

This month we are learning about Australia and are diving into the study of reptiles. Without going into heavy detail, we have acknowledged the wildfires happening in Australia. Ms. Diane highlighted the heroic efforts of fire fighters helping to manage the fires. With the primary students, we strive to focus on using language that supports giving the children hope for the future. The children have learned what marsupials are through their introduction to "parts of a kangaroo."

They are learning about how ancient reptiles are! Did you know that the first reptiles evolved approximately 320 million years ago?! The children have also learned that alligators and crocodiles are close relatives with distinctive features. Did you know that the head is the quickest way to tell them apart? Crocodiles have longer, narrower heads, and alligators have a more rounded shape to their heads. We look forward to more discovery and rich learning as the month unfolds!

We are delighted to welcome our new student, Aiden Munshi. He is the grandson of Hema Munshi. He is now the youngest student in our classroom. We love to see our students support and assist Aiden with works and practices in our classroom! We love to witness this leadership as it reflects the brilliance of Maria Montessori's concept of a mixed age classroom.

Ask your child to tell you a characteristic of a reptile!

Ms. Kristin, for P2

