

Dear Families,

Even with lots of little ones being sick, we got lots of work done this week. The children are loving the Sensorial Materials which, you guessed it, help them use and refine their senses. Children are at a sensitive (critical) period for developing their senses between the ages of 3 to 6. The children can sort thermic (temperature) and baric (weight) tablets while blindfolded. Cloths of different textures can also be sorted while blindfolded. It's amazing how much information the children can receive through their hands, without the use of their eyes. You can play games at home with the children where they close their eyes and you hand them an object. You will be amazed at just how well they can guess what it is. Some fun objects to play with would be a key, a spoon, a button, a rubber band, a paper clip, and a clothes pin. I bet they will love seeing if you can guess too!

We have had lots of illnesses this week. If your little one is sick, please let me know. We wash hands a lot during the day. We also use disinfecting wipes on the materials, tables and chairs to try and prevent the spread of germs. Please note, children may NOT bring antibacterial hand sanitizers to school in their pockets or backpacks.

We said goodbye to our friend Maverick this week who will be attending a new school. We wish him luck on his next adventure. Tomorrow we have an Open House from 1:00 - 3:30, as well as a Visitor's Day on Tuesday morning. If you have any friends who are interested in Montessori, now is a great time to come see Mountain Laurel!

### **New Songs We Sang:**

*The Fruit Market Song*

This fun song sings about mangoes, papayas, bananas, kiwis, quince, red and blue berries, cherries, and coconuts.

### **New Books We Read:**

Animals in Winter by Henrietta Bancroft

I Want to Be an Astronaut by Byron Barton

**Snack:** Cheese, wheat thins, mandarins, pretzel sticks, hummus, strawberries, cheese sticks, crackers, and goldfish. Thank you to the **Winter Family** for bringing snack, wipes and flowers for next week.

### **Mark your calendar:**

**January 27th** - Open House

**February 5th** - Visitor's Day

**February 15th** - "See Me Fly" - Art Gallery Opening

Sincerely,  
Meg DeMato