

Classroom Notes

November 2020

November 17, 2020

Dear parents of the Toddler Community:

Today our classroom said good bye to our beloved teacher Megan Van Stray and welcomed Angela Whitterspoon, who would be replacing Megan and that has many years of experience working with toddlers. We are so excited to have her in our classroom.

The classroom has been so busy lately! Each child, as they come in, are ready to start their morning. It is delightful to see some children cleaning after they are working, putting their dishes away and using less help in the bathroom. Playing outside is truly an enjoyable time for your child, so please do not forget to send proper clothes depending on the weather.

With Thanksgiving approaching, the toddlers have had the opportunity to listen and sing beautiful songs and even a rhyme in Spanish that talks about a turkey. Singing together has become a great time together for everyone. They get the opportunity to move, to clap and to dance! A poem that your child has been enjoying is "This is Just to Say" by William Carlos Williams:

I have eaten
the plums
that were in
the icebox

and which
you were probably
saving
for breakfast

Forgive me
they were delicious
so sweet
and so cold.

A resource that we have been using in the classroom to support your child's language development is the use of Sign Language. Some basic words that we have been using are "help me, sit, silence, wash, more, walk, shoes, jacket, please, water." The signs are accompanied by the word and most of the children are using them!

Next week we only have two days of school. I am looking for a volunteer to bring in a few things to provide snack and lunch. If you are able to do so, please reply to this email and I will send you a short list, then you will receive volunteer hours.

We are also in need of more wipes, so please send in a package with your child.

Sincerely,
Angee and Valentina

November 25, 2020

Dear parents of the Toddler Community:

Yesterday your child received a package with different types of activities to work at home during the break. I got the opportunity to talk to some of you about the contents of the bag. Your child has worked with very similar activities in the classroom:

Glue Work: you will find some Christmas shapes, blank cards, a small container for the glue. This could be a fun activity for your child to make some Christmas cards to family and friends!

I also added some black paper and chalk to color anything your child wants. Just add some water in a small container and let your child create!

Language Cards: we work with language cards in the classroom every day. I would recommend that you put them in a tray or basket and present to your child the name of each object in the card, one by one.

If you are looking to add some more Language Cards in your Home Environment to support your child's language development I suggest that you check out this website. Due the times we are living, they are offering their language Cards Library for free:

<https://montessoridigital.org/>

Wood polishing: the bag contains some non-toxic wood polishing in a small squeegee, a small container to squeeze in there the polishing, a sponge to dip into the polishing and a small cloth to clean afterwards. Let your child know which wooden area he/she can work with. This is an activity that most children enjoy.

I would recommend that you put each work in a tray or basket and assign a work area. This work can be displayed in a work shelf and other baskets with other work and toys can be displayed. I will be sending a Circle Time video next week, more songs and other resources.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Angee and Valentina