



## **Newsletter October 2021**

**Dear Parents,**

September was a busy month and saw us once again adjusting to a yet another school year in our classroom community. We have been closely following the guidelines put forward by the health authorities, in order to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children and staff.

We are rigorously carrying out preventative measures in order to keep all of us safe. Cleaning and disinfecting of the classroom environment is done regularly, while paying more attention to frequently touched surfaces.

We ensure appropriate hand washing happens multiple times a day, starting upon arrival, before and after snack/lunch, before and after play time/outdoor time, and during the washroom routine.

Playgrounds are a safe environment during these times, so we have children outside more often whenever weather permits.

We set up small group activities to reduce the number of children in a group, and to encourage more space between children and staff.

Please understand that we are unable to let parents into our classrooms in order to minimize the number of additional adults entering the centre.

Flu season is upon us and so are the seasonal allergies. Please keep this in mind, monitor your child's symptoms and take appropriate measures in order to stay safe.

In spite of all these challenges we are pleased to say that we have been able to keep safe and continue with our Montessori curriculum, so that the children get the full benefit of our program.

## **Classroom and School Procedures**

Montessori work cycle starts at 9.00am. **So please make every effort to drop off your child latest by 9.00am.** Children who arrive late miss out on this important learning time. Also it is very disruptive to the rest of the class, as the children who are working get distracted by the late arrival of their friends. It is very inconvenient to the teachers as they have to stop their lessons in order to answer the doorbell. We are working hard to achieve certain goals with your child and punctuality sets a very good and important example for them.

Please remember, it is important to allow your child enough time to get ready for school so that he/she can feel calm on arrival. Always reassure your child of your return.

Children should wear comfortable and appropriate clothing. In order to foster independence make sure that the clothes are easy to manage by the child.

Since the weather is unpredictable, make sure that your child is dressed appropriately. Days are getting colder, so your child should have a warm jacket, hat, mittens and boots if it is raining.

Please label all your child belongings. i.e. school bag, water bottle, jacket, hat, shoes, lunch containers.....This way it is easy for us to find items that get misplaced.

Please explain to your child that toys should be left at home.

All children should have a set of extra clothing (shirt, pants/dress, underwear, socks) which will remain in the classroom. They also need an extra pair of shoes which can be used as inside shoes.

## **Topics for October**

During this month we will be exploring the fall/autumn season and all the related topics such as changes in the weather, changing colours of leaves and the fall celebrations – Thanksgiving and Halloween.

## **Thanksgiving**

We will be discussing the significance of this important event and harvest time through a variety of activities, songs and books. We encourage children to bring books or any related items to share with the class.

## **Halloween**

There is something about Halloween that definitely catches the imagination of all children. Therefore it has become one of their much awaited favourite events. We will be making Halloween crafts, stories, songs and games during this time. In sharing the enthusiasm of the children, we will also be celebrating Halloween in our classroom community on Friday, October 29th. We encourage children to come in costumes on this day. It is optional for your child to be dressed up and it is entirely up to the child or parent. We would like to remind parents to leave masks and weapons that are part of your child's costume at home as they may frighten some children. Weapons are a means of destruction and promote fighting. We want to maintain a safe environment where children learn the value of solving problems peacefully.

Please note that **we will not be sharing food** during these events as we want all of us to be safe.

## **Pumpkin Patch**

Pumpkin patch field trip will not happen this year because of the current prevailing situation. Nevertheless our playground will be converted into a pumpkin patch where children can harvest their own pumpkin and decorate it.

**Please note that school will be closed on Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving.**

Sincerely,

Class #1: Ms.Shvetha, Ms.Michelle,  
Class #2: Ms.Ambreen, Ms.Simrat.