CMS FAMILY * *

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF CANTON MONTESSORI SCHOOL

January 2021











"To stimulate life, leaving it free, however, to unfold itself, that is the first duty of the educator."

-Maria Montessori -











Garden Room Gab

Winter is upon us and the toddlers are loving the snow!

We have been very fortunate to spend a great deal of time outside this January, the children love getting themselves dressed in their snow pants and boots. What a wonderful teachable moment this is for them. Each and every one is proud as they are able to accomplish a new article of outdoor wear, sometimes pants might be backwards or boots on the wrong feet but the joy on their faces is priceless.

We have also been honing many of our practical life skills, such as folding towels, buttoning and unbuttoning, using a zipper, pouring and scooping and many other life skills. Practical life is always a favorite among the children.

For Valentine's Day we will be hard at work making each other beautiful home-made cards for each other at school. The children beam with glee as they create and then hand out these special cards to each of their friends. The children are patient as they wait their turn to walk around to each child with this token of friendship.

Thank You!!!

Carla, Tanya and Krista

Wish List: Bingo Markers Stickers Baby food Jars













Sun Room News



Friends have been fascinated by the weather so we have talked a lot about what to expect during the winter season. As part of learning about the season, we have discussed what animals do when it gets cold. Our main focus has been on birds. We made seed wreaths and purchased a regular feeder too! Friends are working hard at learning the names of many Ohio birds. Woodpeckers seem to be particularly fascinating to them. In February, we will be learning about Valentine's Day and making special treats to share.

Jennifer and Rachell

Wish List: Amazon cards for books, grocery cards for cooking supplies and Valentine stickers













The Ballroom

Ballroom students enjoyed ringing in the new year by creating party hats. We also celebrate the new year by discussing the abstract concept of the calendar with song. Singing the Days of the Week and the Months of the Year to catchy tunes like, The Adams Family is not only fun but helps with memory.

Birds, especially the penguins, have captured our attention this January. We are learning about the parts of the bird and have especially enjoyed observing birds up close as they visit our feeder. In Geography, we are exploring Antarctica and reading about the animals that survive the coldest place on earth.

Reminder: Please send in hats and mittens as we brave the cold winter weather.

Wish List: bird seed and Valentine's Day stickers

Wishing you a happy 2021! Bridget and Daniela











Kindergarten Enrichment

Kindergarteners in the afternoon enrichment program head to the largest rainforest, the Amazon as we read, "Afternoon on the Amazon" by Mary Pope Osborne. We will visit each layer of the rainforest, from the tallest trees in the emergent layer down to the forest floor. The capybara, the three toed sloth and the poisonous dart frog are just a few of the animals that students will research from this most amazing habitat.

Mrs. Bridget

















The Loft

Students in the Loft have been loving the arrival of snow and all things winter. Thank you so much for sending in the proper outdoor gear on a daily basis. As long as the wind chill is above 20 degrees, we will be going outside for at least 20 minutes or so. Speaking of wind chill, we are finishing up our work with Antarctica, penguins and other arctic animals this month. There has also been an interest in the Titanic. We have been researching and using our facts to practice math problems, handwriting, greater than/less than, sink/float, as well as some fun art projects. Our focus in science is on the human body. They are particularly fascinated by the story of "digestion" and our classroom mannequin.

I want to say a very heartfelt thank you to all of you for your kind words, notes and donations for my beautiful plant and delicious candy. I was also able to order some new books for our environment with the Amazon gift cards. Your generosity never ceases to amaze me. As I said before, you always make me feel so loved and appreciated. Miss Samantha and I are so thankful to have the opportunity to teach your children everyday. Thank you for entrusting them to us. We feel so lucky! Please feel free to reach out to us at anytime. We are here to support your children.

Miss Molly & Miss Samantha













The Parlor

The Parlor has been busy since our return in January. Lincoln B., Silas, and Evelyn have all joined the Parlor. The older students have been modeling good classroom behavior and love the opportunity to "teach" and give lessons to the new students.

In Geography, we are studying South America and cardinal directions.

In Science, students will learn about density with experiments on sink and float.

Please check your email for Valentine's Day information.

- Olivia and Alexis









-Head of School Chat-

Elementary Physical Education

Lower Elementary:

We will continue our study of the Second Great Lesson and the Timeline of Life with "Egg Thief", an exercise that is similar to "capture the flag" and promotes pursuit of a moving target, evasion tactics while running, and throwing and catching. One team will be "Oviraptors" and the other "Ornithomimus".

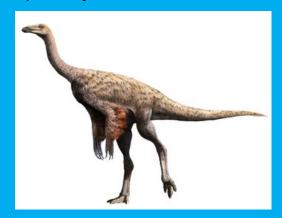
We'll wrap up the Second Great Lesson with "Fungus" and begin the Third Great Lesson with exercises related to Hunting and Gathering.

Upper Elementary:

Our goal will be to wrap up our study of different types of governments with "World Government Simulations". This exercise is designed to extend students' understanding of the different types of government (dictatorship, fascism, oligarchy, absolute monarchy, constitutional monarchy, limited monarchy, communism, and democracy), hone problem solving skills and practice their jumping jacks, sit-ups, push ups, and burpees for physical fitness.

Looking ahead, we'll be tackling some science-related subjects with: "atom dodge ball", "electron cloud keep away", and "photosynthesis".







Lower El students were encouraged to try the Winter Reading Challenge, reading a new book for about 20 min a day over winter break. If they participated, they finished up by making a project about their book and presenting it to the class.

In Math, our first graders enjoyed experimenting with multiplication using the Golden Beads and Stamp Game. While multiplication is usually a thirdgrade standard, young Montessori students enjoy and understand it thanks to the use of the materials they have had since Pre-Primary! To multiply 2000 x 4, a student will go to "the bank" and get 2 thousand cubes, four times. This involves working memory skills by holding the number in their head that they need to get, movement, balancing the beads on the tray, and arithmetic all in one!

- Mrs. Liotti















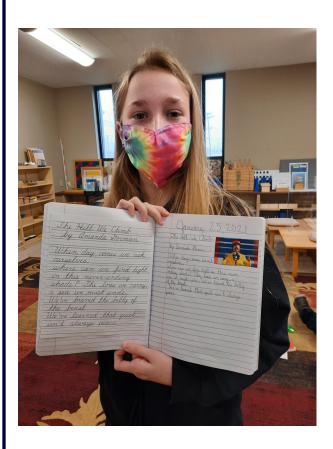




Upper Elementary

How does the day start in Upper Elementary? Students take time to practice their cursive handwriting skills by writing quotes from famous people or classic poetry. This week, students are writing the poem written by poet laureate, Amanda Gorman. She wrote and so eloquently read her poem, "The Hill We Climb", for the presidential inauguration of our 46^{th} president. Students write a few sentences per day and we read and discuss the meaning of her words. Next, students are using the tools used by Greek Mathematicians more than 2000 years ago, a compass and straightedge, to learn important relationships of geometry. Iris is pictured (next page) drawing circles to compare the lengths of segments. Also pictured, Upper Elementary students get creative! The group rolled heavy logs to make an obstacle course. The cut logs were part of a tree that blew over this past fall during high winds. When we're not outside braving the cold, students love to play Monopoly or work on knitting projects that they have started with Mrs. Butler.

Mrs. White





























Parents Association

If you are interested in helping with the PA, please email parents@cantonmontessori.org for more information

