# CMS FAMILY \* \* \* \*

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF CANTON MONTESSORI SCHOOL

#### CMS Bowling Party



















### Garden Room

We started the month off with discovering shadows on Groundhog Day, The children worked with flashlights to see their shadows in action. We also used our hands to make shadow puppets on the wall.

The children have also been practicing putting on our winter gear, boots, and mittens and also mastering the coat flip. The children love to be independent.

One of the most beautiful activities in a Montessori classroom in my opinion is the children making each other Valentine's cards. The pure joy and pride on their faces as they design each individual card, then place their homemade cards into a special box. The children have experimented with many different types of materials, stickers, paints, markers, and food coloring with eye droppers just to name a few. On Valentine's Day, we will hold a special Circle time where they will hand out these heartfelt beautiful cards to each other. You can see and feel the excitement in the classroom.

We will soon begin work on our Spring Fling live auction item; we have some really good ideas floating around. I will send more details as we start our project.

I want to thank Ms. Savannaha and Ms. Bithia for helping while Mrs. Tanya is off work. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's learning journey!

Ms. Carla, Ms. Tanya, Ms. Savannah

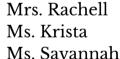
#### Sun Room



The Sun Room friends have been hard at work. After the farm, we learned about the harvest and all the foods we get from it, giving thanks, and we even grew our very own bean plants. The children absolutely loved planning seeds, watering them daily and seeing how they grow. The life cycle of a bean plant was very interesting to them.

We then shifted our focus to the Winter season and the fun things they love like snowmen and snowflakes. The children also explored the cold Arctic animals like the Polar Bears and Penguins. We needed something to plant and watch grow while we waitfor the spring gardening season, so we decided to plant some flowers which include Sunflowers! The children are so excited, and we can't wait until the flowers bloom.

The Sun Room friends Love anything with wheels so during the month of February we are learning about community helpers and the vehicles they may drive. I think the Fire Truck and Firefighters are the crowd favorite.







### The Ballroom

Ballroom students traveled south in January to explore freezing-cold Antarctica. We waddled like penguins, joined together in a rookery to keep warm, and dove into the Southern Ocean for krill. We especially enjoyed viewing Emperor penguins tobogganing across the ice!

In Science, we began our vertebrates unit by comparing/contrasting mammals and birds. Students have quickly fallen in love with our new classroom pet, Snowflake, and enjoy recording and sharing facts as we cuddle and observe this sweet mammal.

Mrs. Bridget and Mrs. Jordan









# Kindergarten Furichment



Students in Kindergarten Enrichment navigated the Caribbean Sea to find hidden treasure as we studied the Golden Age of Piracy in Book 4 of the Magic Tree House Series.

In Book 5, Night of the Ninjas, we explored Ancient Japan, and Mount Fuji and discovered the secrets of the Ninja way. Students enjoyed a visit from Ninja Casey, a tea and sushi party, and creating the islands of Japan out of clay.

Kindergarteners also participate in French, Art, and Music experiences as well as field trips. In February, we traveled to the Canton McKinley Museum. Dinos, mammoths, and creepy crawlies captured our interest!

Mrs. Bridget













## The Loft

Students in the Loft have been loving the bright sunshine, and snow, as well as the cold temps of winter. They are becoming quite skilled at the VERY important task of putting on their winter gear before heading outside. They are so proud when they can finally do these things all by themselves. We are so grateful for this relatively mild winter. Please continue to send in boots, as the muddy season is upon us.

We started off the new year studying South America, rainforests, and penguins. The students loved comparing all of the different penguin species and identifying where on the Earth they live, their size, and what is special about each species. Many of them were surprised to learn that a penguin could never meet a polar bear in the wild. This led to our work with Antarctica and the Arctic region. Our blubber experiment demonstrated how arctic animals can survive in the subzero temperatures. We have compared the sizes of various whales and listened to their "songs" underwater. The children absolutely LOVE learning facts about animals! I look forward to next month when we will be traveling to Asia.

In February we have enjoyed seeing many of you in the Loft, and I will continue to schedule visits during the months of March and April. This is a great opportunity for you to see what your student has been working in in our environment. I know it's not always easy for them to articulate what exactly they are doing in the classroom.

A brand new aquarium with lots of new fish arrived in February as well. Be sure to ask your students about some of the names they have chosen. Thank you to the Varca family for the PetSmart gift card! All of your donations are so generous and so appreciated! Enjoy the winter season, and I look forward to touching base with you all during conferences. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any concerns regarding your child. Samantha and I are so grateful to have them with us!

Miss Molly and Miss Samantha







The winter has been full of celebrations and nature finds in the Parlor. As we studied coniferous trees and their cones; we brought the outside in to observe them open and close and release their seeds. We explored Antarctica and Asia in geography. Students learned about the animals that occupy those regions of the world and particularly enjoyed our study of penguins. Asia brought the opportunity to try on traditional Chinese garments, use chopsticks, and touch real Korean money. Even our youngest friends have come to understand the different cultures and climates of the different continents. Winter was fun but we are now looking forward to warmer days, flowers, bugs, and all things spring.

Mrs. Michelle & Mrs. Julie









## Lower Elementary

The Lower Elementary students kicked off 2024 with our study of the fundamental needs of humans. This traditional Montessori lesson introduces students to the basic needs that all humans have, no matter the time or place in which they live. Food, shelter, clothing, defense, transportation, and more are explored through vertical and horizontal timelines. Each third grader then chooses an Ancient Civilization to research. They find second graders to join their group, and each group then teaches our class about the civilization. First graders enjoyed making menus of food that can be found during ancient times, and paper dolls that showed clothing from the time period as well. In the end, students discovered that, despite our many differences, we all have the same basic needs as humans.













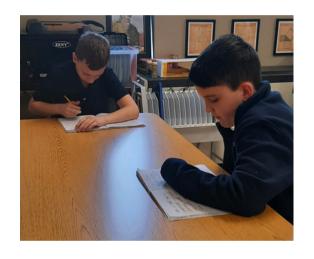




Upper Elementary students learn challenging math concepts using concrete materials. Concrete materials provide children with hands-on, sensory experiences that help them develop a deep understanding of abstract concepts. UE students learn Subtraction of Integers using Algebra Discs, Geometry Problem Solving using Tangrams, Division with a 2 digit Divisor using the Stamp Game, and the concept of Decimal Numbers using the Decimal Fraction Board.

Our creative Upper Elementary students crocheted their own headbands during Knitting/Crocheting class with Mrs. Butler. UE students voted to create their own individual Valentines box and handmade Valentines for each student and their teacher in the class!

Ms. Kim









# Save the Date

