



During the month of November, our children explored and learned about **“Family & Friends”**. Each and every one of our children happily presented their family to the entire class in both English and Chinese languages. We also discussed in depth the following topics:

1. What can we do to make our mommy and daddy happy?
2. What is friendship?
3. What makes a good friend?



Character Education – Gratitude

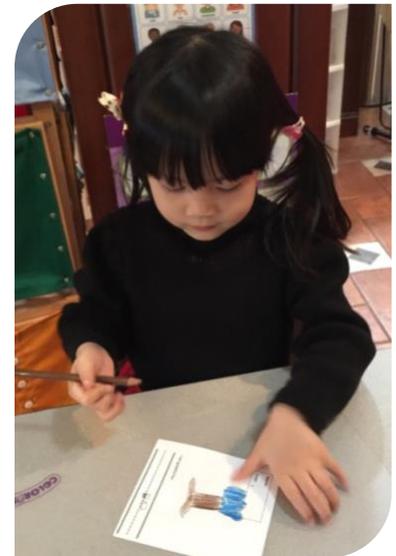
From the book “Grateful Ninja”, our children learned that “...happiness comes from the inside when we are grateful for what we have.” Follow suit of Grateful Ninja and Calm Ninja, our children did a three-week Gratitude Challenge and took the following steps:

- 1) Grow our thank-yous and pleases.
- 2) Gift ourselves a Gratitude Jar.
- 3) Keep a gratitude journal.

At the end of the three weeks, we were so pleased to see our Gratitude Jar full of Gratitude Journals! Grandma and Ms. Sierra were touched and inspired by the many beautiful

journals our children wrote for them! In addition, our little ones expressed their gratitude for their moms, dads and all other members in their families as well as their friends in school. Two of these journals stood out as follows:

- 1) Ai-An expressed her gratitude for herself, and
 - 2) Annie showed her gratitude for her family’s puppy Mochi!
- Such expressions are heartening as we ought to take good care of and be thankful for ourselves and our pets too!





Language Learning

In November, our children learned how to address our family members across the three languages: English, Chinese and Spanish. They were fascinated about the fact that regardless of the differences among these languages, the



way we call our mother – “mama” is all the same! In terms of phonetics, Grandma has designed a game to review the alphabet letters, in which our children would take an item from a big sack, then based on its initial sound, they have to match it with the corresponding sandpaper letter. It was delightful to hear all their giggles and exciting exclamations as the game was carried out!



Cultural/Science Studies:

In terms of cultural studies, our children learned about the origins of the following occasions in November:



- Veteran’s Day
- Thanksgiving

Our little ones also enjoyed a couple of presentations in these curricular areas:

- History: Timers and Clocks
- Geography: Initial Experiences: Position Words



Highlights of the Month:

Family Presentation



With these presentations, our children have become much more familiar with the large GOJMIS Family by the end of the month!

Character Education on Gratitude

Through book reading, discussions, and writing of gratitude journals, our children have developed a much better idea about being grateful.



Chayote Harvest



We are so thankful to mother earth and to our little ones for the abundance of chayote we have harvested. Apart from providing us with delicious fruit on our lunch table, the harvest has also brought us tons of joy and excitement! Sadly, we said goodbye to our chayote plants which were pulled out due to safety concerns.





Thanksgiving Arts & Crafts

Our children had so much fun making their own turkey and family tree! It was heartening to see them working with such concentration and pride!



What We Are Up to in December:

“Table Manners” is our theme, in which we will talk about:

1. What are “table manners”?
2. Why are table manners important?
3. What are good table manners?

Besides, we will put all those good table manners in practice!



Character Education- Responsibility

Responsibility refers to a duty to deal with or take care of somebody/something. As responsible citizens, we ought to fulfill our duties, keep our promises, and be accountable (责任; 负责 in Chinese) for our actions.



Montessori

Teaching of the Child

The sense material can certainly be considered from the viewpoint of its being materialized abstractions. It provides a child with color, size, shape, smell, and noise in a distinct, tangible, and orderly graded manner that permits him to analyze and classify these qualities.

When a child finds himself confronted with this material, he applies himself to it with a serious, concentrated effort that seems to draw out the best that is in him. It actually seems

as if children then do more than what they could naturally do with their minds. The material opens up to their intellects paths that would otherwise be inaccessible at their tender age.

Through this material children learn how to concentrate, for it contains things designed to absorb the attention of a child.



--Maria Montessori, *The Discovery of the Child*, p. 177



Montessori Quotes & Manifestations



We call an individual disciplined when he is a master of himself, and can, therefore, regulate his own conduct when it shall be necessary to follow some rule of life.

- Maria Montessori, The Montessori Method, p.78



Announcements/Reminders

1. December tuition is due by **Monday December 7th**. To avoid any late payment fees, please make the payment before this date. An invoice will be sent to you soon.
2. Christmas and New Year holidays are from Monday, December 21st, 2020 to Friday January 1st, 2021. School will resume on Monday January 4th, 2021. We wish each and every one of our families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
3. A kind reminder that please continue to exercise precautions so as to prevent the virus, especially during the holiday season.

