



## Moving forward to March, our children will explore and learn

### All about Plants.

In particular, we will focus on the following topics:

1. In what ways are plants different from animals?
2. Parts of a plant
3. Photosynthesis
4. What do plants need to survive?

### Character Education – Creativity

In March, we will talk about being creative and thinking out of the box. Children are born to be creative and full of imaginations! As adults, we simply need to let children be children and unleash their creative juice. In so doing, we can ensure that they retain and further expand their rich imaginations!



### Cultural Occasions



In March, our children will learn about and celebrate these cultural occasions (school remains open):

- St. Patrick's Day on Wednesday March 17<sup>th</sup>
- Cesar Chavez Day on Wednesday March 31<sup>st</sup>

### Birthday Celebrations

1. Annie's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday – Wednesday, 3/25. Happy birthday Annie!
2. Ms. Sierra's birthday – Saturday, 3/13. Happy birthday Ms. Sierra!

Looking back in February, our children worked enthusiastically trying to answer the question below:

### "What time is it?"

We reviewed what we had learned in January: There are 4 seasons in a year with each season consisting of 3 months, hence there are 12 months within a year. In total, there are 365 days in a year and 366 days in a leap year. Each day has 24 hours.

Through concrete objects (e.g., calendars, clocks and timers), pictures and illustrations, as well as art projects, our children have gained a good picture of the topics below:

- Past, Present, Future
- Day and Night
- Timeline of a Day
- How to tell time on a clock





### Character Education – Kindness

In February, we learned that being kind means to be friendly and nice to others and extending a helping hand to those in need. We exercise this character trait in our classroom in the following ways:

- Taking turns and share with our friends.
- Offering company when seeing our friends sitting/playing alone.
- Offering to help our friends in need, either in cleaning up or trying to accomplish a challenging job.
- Asking our friends if they are ok and if there is anything which we could do to make them feel better when they are upset.



### Language Learning

In February, we focused on how to tell time from a clock across the three languages: English, Chinese and Spanish.

Our children were amused by the facts below:

- The “hour” hand is NOT “our” hand though they sound the same!
- The “second” hand is NOT the “second”, but more like the “third”, as we tend to talk about the hour and minute hands before the “second” hand!

### Cultural Studies:

February is a month full of festivals! Our children had so much fun learning about and celebrating the special occasions listed below:

1. Groundhog Day on Tuesday, 2/2
2. Lunar New Year on Friday, 2/12
3. Chinese Lantern Festival on Friday, 2/26
4. Valentine’s Day on Sunday, 2/14
5. President’s Day on Monday 2/15



We especially focused on the Lunar New Year, for which our children presented two wonderful performances! One was on Friday 2/12 and the other on Friday 2/26. Within a short period of time, our children learned four Chinese songs (the majority of our students’ first language is not Chinese!) We are so proud of our little ones and are heartened to hear them humming those songs now and then throughout February!

In addition to the above occasions, our children also enjoyed learning the following topics:

### History:

1. Past and Present
2. Timers and Clocks
3. Timeline of a day
4. What is Tết (Vietnamese New Year)?
5. Chinese Zodiacs





**Science:**

1. Magnetic vs. Non-Magnetic

**Birthdays**

We celebrated Elyse Nguyen's birthday on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> (her real birthday was on Wednesday February 17<sup>th</sup>). Thanks to Elyse's parents for the wonderful display board and delicious King cake!



**Montessori Wisdom**

**Teaching of the Child**

We can now take a look at the school, and the practical carrying out of our principals. The material used for the training of the senses, which has been determined on the basis of research, is a part of the environment.

Following the norms established through experiences, a teacher gradually presents now one object and now another to a child according to his age and the progressive difficulty of the materials. But the presentation of these materials is only the first step. It introduces the child to them but nothing more. The important activities begin only later. As he is attracted by the various objects, a child will go and freely choose any of the objects which he has come to know and which has been already presented to him.

--Maria Montessori, *The Discovery of the Child*, p.96



**Montessori Quotes & Manifestations**

The material is set out for him: he has only to stretch out his hand to take it. he can carry out the chosen object wherever he chooses, to a table, to a place near the window, to a dark corner, or to a pretty little carpet spread out on the floor, and he can use the object over and over again as often as he feels like it.

-Maria Montessori, *The Discovery of the Child*, p. 96





## Gratitude

1. Thanks to each and every one of our parents for your contribution of food items for the Lunar New Year! Our children definitely enjoyed exploring the variety of food from different cultures!
2. Thanks to Elyse's parents for creating yet another meaningful and beautiful display board which continues our children's study on a person's timeline and the concept of past and present!



## Announcements

3. Welcome Tiffany's mother, Ms. Lan who has joined us as a temporary helper!
4. We had our first in person staff training on Sunday 2/7. I am so proud of our amazing team consisting of educators with a loving heart, a great deal of patience and empathy!
5. Starting from Monday March 1<sup>st</sup>, we will rotate our lunch menu with two options. Both options are posted on MC Bulletin Board.



## Reminders

6. March 2021 tuition is due by **Friday March 5<sup>th</sup>**. To avoid any late payment fees, please make the payment before this date. An invoice will be sent to you soon.
7. With the March monthly theme (All about Plants) and character education (creativity) in mind, parents please help your child to understand those concepts at home to reinforce their learning.
8. A kind reminder that please continue to exercise precautions so as to keep our small bubble safe and healthy.

