

# Montessori Center of Downriver: January Newsletter

## A Note From the Inside

I am in the lucky position of being both an employee here at MCOD and a parent of an enrolled child. I also have an older kiddo whose school is closed to parents, so I know how hard it is to drop your child off somewhere that you can't see for yourself. I watch her little head go bobbing off into the building every day, and I hope she's okay.

Our health protocols are doing an excellent job of keeping everyone safe, but I wanted to give you a little look at what I see here every day:

I see kiddos who are loved and happy and thriving. (Yes, even the ones who cry at drop-off! They are all smiles before you know it.) I see staff members who know and care about each and every child. I see kids working hard to master skills. I see acts of kindness between children, and friendship, laughter, and lots of snacks! I see teachers dedicated to providing the best for all their kids. I wish you could all see the warmth that radiates in here!

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday break. We're excited to be back and to see all our little friends!

- Ms April

## Announcements

1. We added [a page to the website with fact sheets](#) on common illnesses from the Wayne County health department.
2. We know that everyone is busy and time is tight. We need your cooperation in picking your children up at their scheduled time. There have been days recently when we have up to eight extra children staying late. We do not have enough staff to cover the ratios when that many children stay beyond their scheduled times--many of our staff leave at 3:30 at the end of an eight-hour shift. We appreciate your support.
3. Please be sure that all of your paperwork is up-to-date. Do we have the right authorized pick-up people listed? Do you need to add or remove anyone? Has your address or phone number changed? Let us know!
4. Registration for our summer programs is open. Please complete this form by January 15th.

## Upcoming Events

January 17, 2022: School closed - Parent/teacher conferences

We will be emailing a link to sign-up for conferences later this week. Please complete this form prior to your scheduled time.

## Fun at Home

It's the New Year! And Chinese New Year is coming soon on February 1, 2022. There are [so many fun activities](#) you can do to teach your children about this holiday.

## Montessori Philosophy

Control of error: Montessori materials are designed so that the child receives instant feedback about her progress as she works, allowing her to recognize, correct, and learn from an error without adult assistance. Putting control of the activity in the child's hands strengthens her self-esteem and self-motivation as well as her learning. ([Source](#))

## Local Resources

1. Gleaners is doing a drive-thru food distribution in Wyandotte on 1/07/2022 from 9:00am to 11:00am at the Yack Arena. Families can receive a box of fresh produce and shelf-stable goods. No registration necessary.
2. Swing into the most magical time of year with this year's holiday light installation – Swinging Bells at Beacon Park! Runs through January 9th.
3. The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy is hosting fun events at Valade Park each weekend through February. Enjoy curling, sledding, 'smores, bonfires, and hot chocolate! [The Fire and Ice festival is January 14-16th.](#)

## For the Love of Reading

### For Parents

[Throwback Parenting by Jennifer Wheelhouse](#)

[Please Stay: Here's Why by Donohue Shortridge](#)

### Children's Books

Lunar New Year by Hannah Eliot

Shante Keys and the New Year's Peas by Gail Piernas-Davenport

Our Favorite Day of the Year by A. E. Ali