

Montessori Center of Downriver - November Newsletter

Becoming a Montessori Teacher

You may have heard us talk about our teachers being “Montessori certified”, but have you ever wondered what that means and how someone becomes Montessori certified? I know I certainly did when I first started in the office, especially as I’ve watched Ms Donnette on her journey toward certification. (Ms Donnette completed her training last winter. We are so proud of her accomplishments!)

The first thing to know is that it is not something that happens overnight—or even in a few weeks or months. From classwork to internships, the training programs can take several years to complete. Some programs also require a four-year-degree, while others offer options for those without a degree.

There are different certifications that a teacher can obtain, depending on the ages of children they’d like to work with: Infant and Toddler (birth through 3 years); Early Childhood (2.5 through 6); and Elementary I (6-9) and Elementary I-II (6-12 or 9-12). Teachers must first submit an application to their desired program. This includes writing an essay on why they want to become a Montessori teacher and providing transcripts and professional letters of recommendation. After this, they will be invited to an interview. If all goes well, they’ll be accepted to the program.

Programs begin with classes and coursework to learn the Montessori Method and have in-person experience with the materials. Student-teachers will also work on creating their own teacher manuals. Classes include reading texts and journal articles, writing reports, and completing a yearlong project and a yearlong observation of a child.

Because the Montessori Method is something you learn by doing, the next phase is an internship. MACTE (the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education) requires an internship with a minimum of 400 hours, with at least 120 hours of student teaching. This is done under a mentor in the class, and trainers from the program will also come occasionally to do observations and provide feedback.

After the internship and all coursework is complete, the teacher must pass a final exam before receiving their certification. And then it’s time for the very best part: Being in their own classroom!


If you have any questions on the certification process, please don’t hesitate to ask!

-April

In the Classroom




Ms Ashley's Room




November's theme in Ms Ashley's room is transportation and safety signs. They also will discuss the things they are thankful for, make Thanksgiving art to take home, and learn the Five Little Turkeys song.

Mrs. Dona's Room



In November in Mrs. Dona's room, the class will be studying North America. They'll be focusing on Mexico and the First Nations within the USA--learning about the clothing, food, transportation, trade, shelter, music, and storytelling of these cultures. They'll also be celebrating Día de los Muertos with Ms Kimmie!






Ms Paula's Room

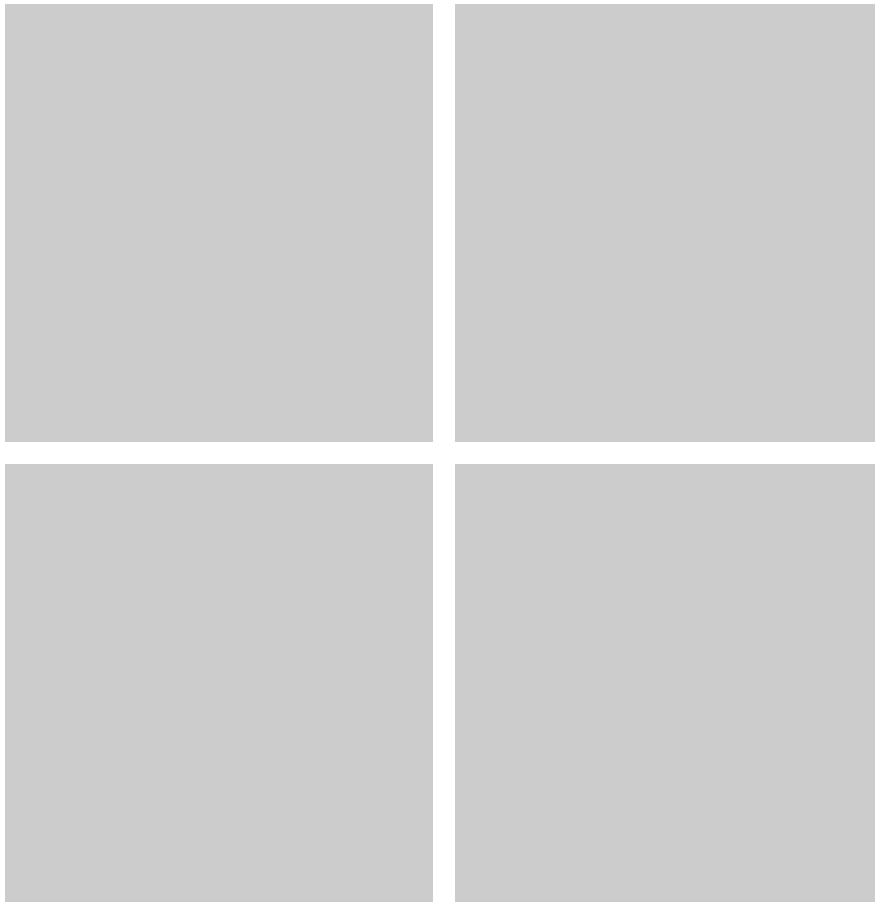
In November, Ms Paula's class will be making feeders for our winter birds and doing Thanksgiving activities and projects.

Mrs. Melissa's Room

For November, Mrs. Melissa's class will be learning about food groups and nutrition. They will taste foods from each group and will have food prep activities from each group as well.



Trunk or Treat!



Announcements

- Thank you for helping make the Trunk or Treat such a great success! We were absolutely overwhelmed by and so appreciative of your generosity! We had so much fun celebrating Halloween with all of you and are looking forward to more in-person events with our MCOD community.

- Staff will be taking part in the [Michigan Montessori Society workshop](#) on Saturday, November 12th as part of our dedication to continued learning.

Dates to Remember

November 24 and 25th: Closed for Thanksgiving
November 28th: School resumes

Local Events and Resources

1. Wayne County offers free vision and hearing screening. [See here](#) for more information.

2. Gleaners provides boxes of food free of charge. No need to preregister. First come, first serve:

City of Wyandotte - Copeland Center
2306 4th St.
11/11/2022: 9:00am-11:00am

Kennedy Building - Central Office - Ecorse Public Schools
27225 West Outer Drive
11/15/2022: 2:00pm-4:00pm
11/29/2022: 2:00pm-4:00pm

City of Woodhaven
23101 Hall Rd
11/8/2022: 9:00am-11:00am
11/22/2022: 9:00am-11:00am

3. Wyandotte Library
DINOVEMBER Scavenger Hunt & Crafts
Tuesday, November 01, 2022 through
Wednesday, November 30, 2022

Little Foot is looking for kids to play hide-and-seek. Find Little Foot to receive a prize token. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up a wind-up dinosaur kit, then check the makerspace for additional dino crafts and activities.

4. Wyandotte Tree Lighting
November 19th, 6pm

5. Wyandotte Christmas Parade
November 19th, 10am-12pm

6. Allen Park Lighted Parade
November 18th, 6:30-7:30pm

7. Riverview Tree Lighting
November 19th: 5-9pm
Free admission: Toy train rides, hayrides, visit Santa, animal show (5:15-6:15pm), and fireworks at 9pm.