

Montessori Center of Downriver - January Newsletter

Happy New Year!

Welcome back, families!

We hope you had a wonderful, fun, and (hopefully) restful winter break! We are so happy to be back, and we're ready for a great start to 2025.

The Importance of Being On Time

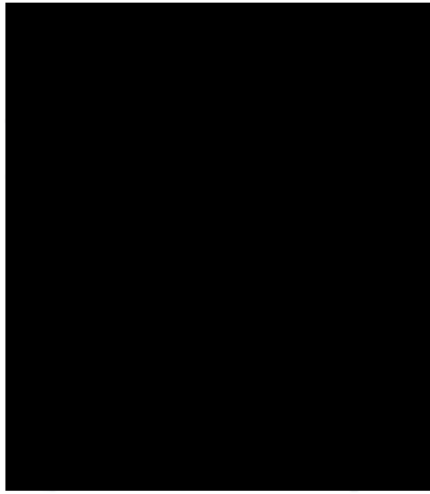
Imagine you're late for an important meeting, and it's already in full swing when you have to open the door and walk in. The meeting is disrupted. People stop to look at you. You have to find an empty seat, and then you need to try to figure out what's being discussed and what your role is.

We're all late sometimes, and in situations like that above, it can make an already stressful or nerve-wracking experience even worse. This is how children can feel when they have to enter a settled classroom. Nearly every student who comes in late wants to stop and watch through the classroom door to see what they're going to walk in on.

Being late can mean missing the morning greeting and important class time, or depending on the schedule, fun time outside with friends. Being just 10 minutes late daily equals nearly 30 hours of missed class a year! Late arrivals are also disruptive to the children who are having lessons or working, and it disrupts the overall flow of the classroom.

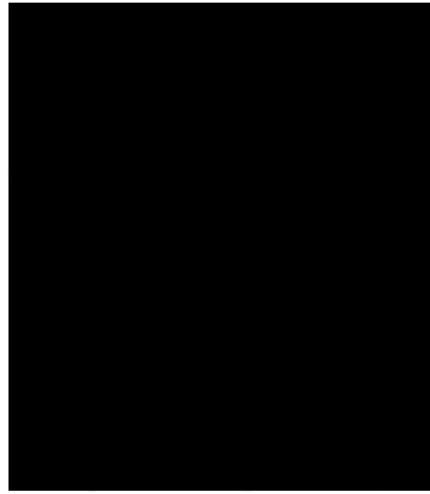
We understand that life (and children) happens. If you are struggling with getting out the door on time, please let us know if there is anything on our end that we can do to help!

In the Classroom



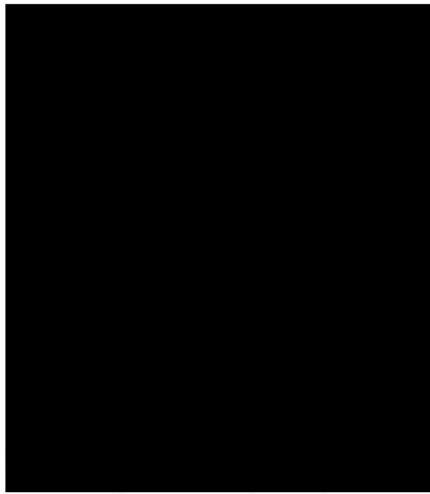
Mrs. Ashley's Class

"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence" (Maria Montessori). In our classroom, we teach the children to be responsible for not only themselves but also for their community. Growing from this are beautifully independent toddlers. We have seen so much growth in every child we share our days with. We hope you are able to see these small and big areas of growth at home as well!



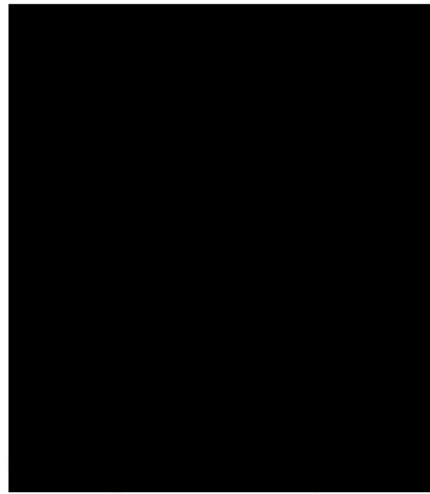
Mrs. Stephanie and Mrs. Dona's Class

In January, Mrs. Dona's and Mrs. Stephanie's class will begin studying Antarctica, including people, animals, and geography. They'll be making snowflake art and doing ice, snow, and water experiments. They'll also be building snowmen--hopefully it will snow!



Ms Donnette and Ms Mandi's Class

In January, Ms Mandi and Ms Donnette's class will continue their study of Antarctica. They'll also be learning what snowflakes are and how they are formed, and they will be discussing Martin Luther King Jr.



Mrs. Melissa's Class

Mrs. Melissa's class will be learning about the earth, moon, and sun in January. They will also continue their exploration of color.

Resources

Fire & Ice Festival

January 10th-12th

Valade Park Detroit

Head to Winter at Valade's Fire and Ice festival--Friday, January 10 through Sunday, January 12--for tons of medieval fun with a winter twist! All weekend enjoy oversized fires, turkey legs, and an ice carving competition. Try your hand at ax throwing or take your picture on our Iron Throne--made of ice, of course! Frozen's Elsa and Renaissance Fair performers will be wandering the park for additional photo opportunities. The signature moment of the weekend is Fire and Ice Tower, a 7 foot ice structure that will become a giant bonfire once lit at 6pm on Saturday.

FREE Admission at the Henry Ford

January 20th

9:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Join The Henry Ford Museum for a day of free fun.

Detroit Institute of the Arts

General admission is free for residents of Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties.

Drop-in Workshop: Open Studio

Friday, Jan 10, 2025

6 – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 11, 2025

12 – 4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan 12, 2025

12 – 4 p.m.

Create something uniquely personal with a variety of fun and interesting materials in this open-ended session.

Drop-in Workshop: Patterns, Symbols & Designs

Friday, Jan 17, 2025

6–8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 18, 2025

12–4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan 19, 2025

12–4 p.m.

Use rubber stamps and fabric markers to give your own personal meaning to a decorated piece of silk fabric.

Drop-in Workshop: Lunar New Year Celebration Masks

Saturday, Jan 25, 2025

12–4 p.m.

Sunday, Jan 26, 2025

12–4 p.m.

To commemorate Lunar New Year, make your own lion or dragon face out of tag board, paper, and raffia.

Southgate Library

LEGO Palooza!

January 28 at 4PM

Join us for our National LEGO Day celebration! Builders of all ages are welcome to join us for free builds and challenges.

Scavenger Hunts

Grab a scavenger hunt list at the front desk and search for the pictures throughout the children's section. Bring your completed sheet up to the desk to be rewarded with a sticker!

Brighten Up the Southgate Library

Youth in grades 1 - 12 are invited to submit pieces of 8.5 x 11 artwork to display in frames in our youth section. The art may be created in any way, we just ask that it be flat so it can fit in the frame. We will be accepting submissions until Thursday, February 13. For more information, and a submission form, please see the front desk.

Dearborn Library

Bryant Branch Storytime (Families)

Tuesdays @ 6-6:30pm

Toddlers, preschoolers, and their families, join us for stories, songs, and rhymes to build literacy skills. No registration.

Bryant Branch Get Crafty (All Ages)

Thursdays @ 11am-7pm

Drop in for a new craft each Thursday. Available while supplies last. Younger children may need adult assistance. No registration.

Pop-Up Craft: SparkKit Extravaganza

Henry Ford Centennial Library

January 18 10:30am -3:30pm

Wanna make a cute quick craft but don't know where to start? Drop by the SparkLab during our open hours and pick up a SparkKit for free! You can either take some home with you or stick around the lab and work on them there. You do not have to sign a Maker's Agreement to participate.

Take Your Child to the Library (In Your Pajamas) Day

Henry Ford Centennial Library

February 1

All Day

Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day... IN YOUR PAJAMAS! Visit Henry Ford Centennial Library in your PJs and explore. Stop by Youth Services for special activities and giveaways and get cozy!

Gleaners

Gleaners provides boxes of food to anyone in need. No income or ID requirements.

Woodhaven (Drive-Up Only)


23101 Hall Rd

01/07/2025 9:00am - 11:00am

01/21/2025 9:00am - 11:00am

Wyandotte - Yack Arena (Drive-Up Only)

3131 3rd Street



01/10/2025 9:00am - 10:30am
01/24/2025 9:00am - 10:30am

Ford Community and Performing Arts Center (Drive-Up Only)
15801 Michigan Ave
01/14/2025 9:00am - 11:00am
01/28/2025 9:00am - 11:00am

Further Reading

[What is W-Sitting and How to Prevent It](#)

