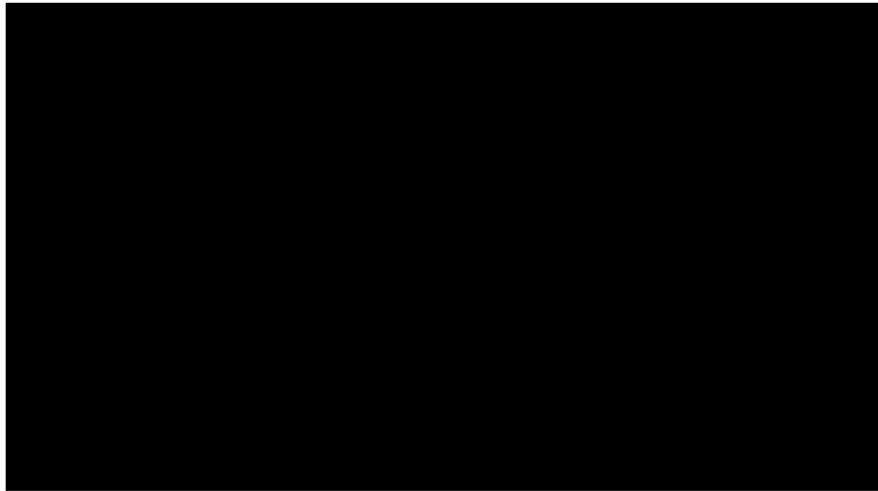


## Montessori Center of Downriver - May Newsletter

Can you believe it's now May, and we're going into our last full month of the school year? This year is flying by!

Thank you so much to everyone who was able to attend Parents' Day and the art show. We love the opportunity to come together as a community; we're hoping that we can plan another event for this school year, and we're looking forward to additional events next school year as well.

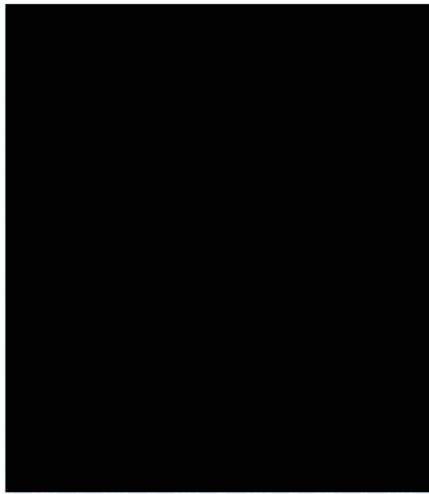


At this end of April, we said goodbye to our old friend, Vincent the Turtle. He was affectionately known as "van Gogh" by Ms Paula, and he was a classroom pet to many children over the years. Vincent was with MCOD for nearly 20 years, first in Mrs. Melissa's toddler class and then into one of the preschool classes (what is now Ms Mandi and Ms Donnette's class). He died after a brief illness, and we want to thank Ms Destiny for all the care she gave him.

The children have been talking about Vincent together, sharing stories and making art. If your child is having a hard time, please do let us know.

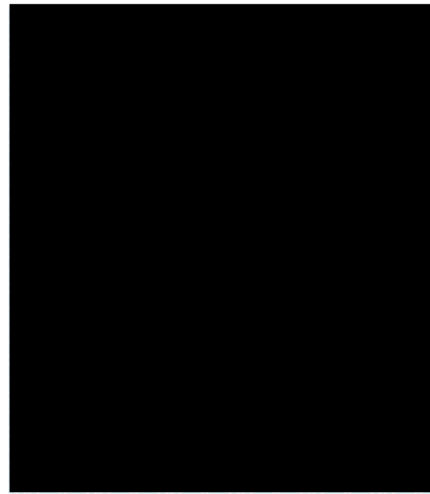
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### In the Classroom



**Mrs. Ashley's Class**

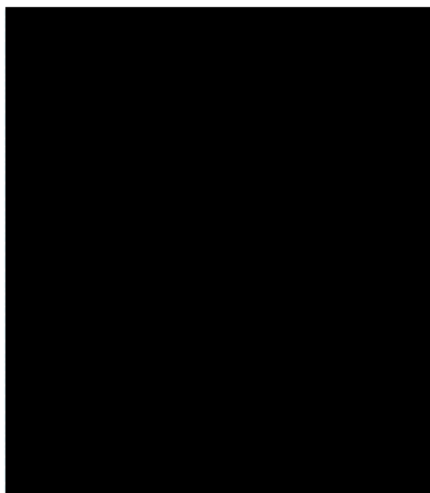
Maria Montessori believed that "There must be provision for the child to have contact with nature; to understand and appreciate the order, the harmony and the beauty in nature. We should take the child out into nature." We are very excited for the warmer Michigan weather! Playground time is our favorite time! We will be starting a garden this month as a community.



**Mrs. Stephanie and Mrs. Dona's Class**

In May, Mrs. Dona and Mrs. Stephanie's class will continue their study of butterflies, and they'll begin studying birds and making bird feeders. They'll also be learning about flowers, including the different types of flowers and their parts, and they'll be planting and experimenting with them.





#### **Mrs. Donnette and Mrs. Mandi's Class**

In Ms Mandi and Ms Donnette's class, children will be making bird feeders and experimenting with colors in May. Fluffy Puppy has been introduced to the class, and all children will have a turn bringing him home and then sharing his adventures with everyone.



#### **Mrs. Melissa's Class**

In May, Mrs. Melissa's class will be learning about insects, birds, and flowers. They'll also be doing flower arranging and orange juice squeezing.

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### **Dates to Remember**

**May 11th:** Mother's Day

**May 26th:** Memorial Day (*school closed*)

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### **Local Events and Resources**

#### **Annual Cinco de Mayo Festival**

May 3rd from 12pm-7pm

1681-1685 Fort St, between Arlington and O'Connor

#### **Riverfront Fish Fest**

Saturday, May 3rd

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Detroit Riverfront

1340 E Atwater St, Detroit

Join us for an exciting, fun-filled day on the Detroit Riverfront as we bring together two beloved events, Sturgeon Day and Kids Fishing Fest. This family-friendly event is FREE to attend and the perfect opportunity to explore the wonders of wildlife and conservation while also experiencing the world of fishing. Get up close and personal with live sturgeon, touch prehistoric creatures, and learn all about their fascinating life and vital conservation efforts to protect them.

[Registration is required](#) and will open the beginning of April. Loaner poles will be available. Fishing is free for kids 16 years of age and younger.

#### **NatureFest**

May 10, 1-4pm

Crosswinds Marsh Wetland Interpretive Preserve

Free event that includes live animal exhibits, canoeing, fishing (bait and a number of poles available to borrow), nature displays, games, crafts, scavenger hunt, face painting, and a bounce house!

#### **Brownstown Kids to Park Day**

May 17, 10am-12pm



Thorn Park  
Free family fun! Crafts, hot dogs, lawn games, and giveaways!

**Allen Park Memorial Day Parade**

May 18, 3pm  
Starts at the Allen Park Historical Museum on Park Ave, and ends at the Blue Star Memorial at Champaign Park.

**Lincoln Park Memorial Day Parade**

May 18, 1-2pm  
Southfield Rd & Fort St

**Trenton Memorial Day Parade**

May 24, 10am  
West Rd

**Family Nature Adventure: Over and Under the Pond**

May 24th, 2-3pm  
Belle Isle Nature Center  
Join us a to celebrate local nature through a story, short hike, and pond investigation.  
Register [here](#).

**Home Depot Kids Workshop**

May 3, 9am-12pm  
Join us the first Saturday of each month between 9 am – 12 pm for free in-person Kids Workshops. While supplies last. Register [here](#).

**Detroit Institute of Arts**

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

*Drop-in Workshop: Uchiwa*

Uchiwa is a traditional style of paper fan commonly found in Japan. Learn about the history and tradition of making uchiwa as you design and create a fan of your own.

Friday, May 2, 2025  
6 – 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday, May 3, 2025  
12 – 4 p.m.  
Sunday, May 4, 2025  
12 – 4 p.m.

*Drop-in Workshop: Shrinky Dink Key Chains & Charms*

Watch your colorful design shrink to nearly half its original size in a toaster oven, then use it to create your very own keychain or pendant.

Friday, May 9, 2025  
6 – 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday, May 10, 2025  
12 – 4 p.m.  
Sunday, May 11, 2025  
12 – 4 p.m.

*Drop-in Workshop: Tic Tac Toe Boards*

An early version of Tic-Tac-Toe was played in the Roman Empire around the first century BCE. Use a variety of art materials to design a unique game board and enjoy countless hours of fun playing with friends and family.

Friday, May 16, 2025  
6 – 8:30 p.m.  
Saturday, May 17, 2025  
12 – 4 p.m.  
Sunday, May 18, 2025  
12 – 4 p.m.



### *Drop-in Workshop: Quilt Design*

Quilting has a rich and diverse history worldwide, with roots tracing back to ancient Egypt. Explore various quilt patterns and create your own unique design using fabric and glue on a board.

Friday, May 23, 2025

6 – 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 24, 2025

12 – 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 25, 2025

12 – 4 p.m.

### **Trenton Library**

#### *Stuffed Animal Sleepover*

May 12-13

Your best stuffie is invited to spend the night at the library! They'll meet lots of new friends and have a ton of fun with us for an all-night slumber party. Drop your stuffie anytime on Monday, May 12th. Join us for an evening Storytime on Tuesday, May 13th at 6:30pm to pick up your stuffie! You may also pick up the stuffies anytime on Tuesday, May 13th.

Register your stuffie by coming into the library and filling out the form. We promise to take extra special care of each of your stuffed friends.

### **Dearborn Library**

#### *Tool Time! Explore Woodworking at Your Library*

May 3, 2025, 10:30am - 12:00pm

Henry Ford Centennial Library

Ages Preschool to second grade can enjoy some "hands on" experience using measuring tools, a hand saw, a hand drill, driving a nail and more! Tools and supplies provided, while they last. The event begins at 10:30 with a story and ends at 12:00.

#### *Evening Storytime: Horses & Hats*

May 5, 2025, 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Henry Ford Centennial Library

Wrangle your family and your favorite hat for our special storytime! Stories, dancing, and crafts will be provided.

#### *Read with Pippin*

May 14, 2025, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

Henry Ford Centennial Library

Children are encouraged to read with our patient friend, Pippin, a trained Goldendoodle therapy dog. Pippin especially loves to listen to reluctant and shy readers. Pippin also appreciates belly rubs and cuddles. Come say "HI" to Pippin in the Quiet Cottage. No registration.

#### *Read with Wally*

May 20, 2025, 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Bryant Branch Library

Children are encouraged to read with our patient friend, Wally, a trained therapy dog. Wally loves to listen to all readers. Come say "HI" to Wally at Bryant Branch Library. No registration.

#### *Bryant Branch Storytime*

May 6, 2025, 6:00pm - 6:45pm

Bryant Branch Library

Join Ms. Michele for storytime fun! Storytime is for all abilities and will be filled with stories, songs, rhymes, and movement.

#### *Summer Reading Challenge Kickoff*

May 31, 2025, 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Henry Ford Centennial Library

Celebrate the start of summer reading with a fair at the library! Color our world with kites, artists, refreshments, and more! The event will be held in front of Henry Ford Centennial Library in Veterans Memorial Park. In case of rain, we will move inside to the first floor of the library and the auditorium. We will celebrate rain or shine!

### **Gleaners**

Open to anyone in need of food, drive-ups provide each family with over 35 pounds of food, including milk, fresh fruits and vegetables, lean protein, and shelf-stable items. You do not need to bring identification or proof of eligibility to receive food. You simply need to provide your full name, address, number of people living in the household, and number of children in the household.

Sign up for a free Link2Feed card that stores your household information making pick-up quick and easy! Sign up [online here](#) or ask a Gleaners staff member for a card when you visit a Community Mobile.

#### *City of Woodhaven (Drive-Up Only)*

23101 Hall Rd

05/13/2025 9:00am - 11:00am

05/27/2025 9:00am - 11:00am

#### *Ford Community and Performing Arts Center (Drive-Up Only)*

15801 Michigan Ave

05/06/2025 9:00am - 11:00am

05/20/2025 9:00am - 11:00am

#### *Kennedy Building - Central Office - Ecorse Public Schools (Drive-Up Only)*

27225 West Outer Drive

05/06/2025 2:00pm - 4:00pm

05/20/2025 2:00pm - 4:00pm

#### *NEW WYANDOTTE LOCATION (Replacing Yack Arena): Christ The King Church*

16700 Pennsylvania Road

05/02/2025 9:00am - 10:30am

05/16/2025 9:00am - 10:30am

05/30/2025 9:00am - 10:30am