

Montessori Academy Newsletter



Upcoming Events

Last Day of School

May 26th
(Early dismissal 4:00 pm)

School Closed

May 29th-30th

First Day of Summer Camp

May 31st

School Closed

July 3rd-4th

Donations

Plastic Supermarket Bags

Empty Cardboard
Egg Cartons

Old Keys

Thank you.

Volume 7, Issue 4

April 2017

April showers bring May flowers. Can you believe it is almost May and the end of the school year. The children have grown and accomplished so much this school year. I must say, I've noticed an explosion of manners. I was in one class recently and as the children asked for things, they all said please first and when they got it, they all said thank you. I was so impressed (and not surprised because your children are truly amazing).

The April showers have certainly been helping our garden grow. The children planted several types of seeds in the garden and classroom during the month of April including cucumbers, butternut squash, zucchini, edamame, snap peas, cauliflower, and corn. Everyday they came out to the playground and ran to the rain barrel with their watering cans so they could water the seeds they planted. If you haven't seen the garden lately, come by and take a look. The vegetables are growing, growing, growing. We even dug up an area in the chicken coop and planted buckwheat for the chickens. We covered it with the pallet to give it a chance to grow before the chickens eat it all up. We had to work fast because the very curious chickens hung around to watch what we were doing and

when the seeds hit the dirt, so to did they and tried to eat them up. Thank you to all of you who came out and supported our book fair. Several parents attended our opening morning breakfast where we read books, ate chocolate chip pancakes with marshmallow topping and enjoyed hot chocolate. We are very excited to have surpassed our minimum goal for our book fair so we will be having it again next school year.

Pre-registration has ended. Thank you to all of you who turned your registration forms in time for the early registration. Registration for the fall is still open as long as there is space available in the class. Classes are filling up though so make sure you reserve your space soon.

The last day of school is May 26.

Summer camp begins May 31.

Currently over 70% of the spaces for camp are full. If your child is in the toddler or primary program and you plan to have them here during the months of June and July, please get your registration forms in as soon as possible. Summer camp applications can be found on the website as well as in the lobby.

Parents, this is a reminder that

on May 26, the school will be closing at 4:00 pm. Please make sure you make arrangements to have your children picked up on time.

Teacher appreciation week is coming!! Please try to reach out to the teachers and educators in your life and let them know how special they are or how much you appreci-

ate them. Please help us celebrate our wonderful teachers during the first week in May.

Top 5 Questions About Raising Backyard Chickens

Top 5 questions about raising backyard chickens:

1. Do I need a rooster for my hens to lay eggs?

Okay, stop laughing! You didn't always know the answer to this question. I will tell you that this is the most commonly asked questions, so no one should be embarrassed. The answer is no, unless you want chicks. If you're just looking for eggs to eat and /or some nice yard pets, hens minus the rooster can provide you with plenty of farm fresh eggs without a single crow to wake you up in the morning.

2. How long do chickens live?

The life expectancy of most standard chicken breeds shielded from predators and deep fryers can range from 8 to 15 years. There are many reports of pet chickens living as long as 20 years! Chickens are very hardy animals that rarely need a trip to a veterinarian, no matter how long they live.

3. What do I need when my chicks arrive?

Boil some water and grab some clean towels! With newborn chickens, we only need to boil water if we plan on cooking them. What you do need is a way to keep your

chicks warm without cooking them. Depending on the number of chicks and your budget there are several options. Most commonly used and most economical is a single lamp infrared brooder with a 250-watt red glass infrared bulb. Of course, you will need a perimeter to contain the chicks inside the heated area —something as simple as an 18" high corrugated paper chick corral will get the job done. Place a small thermometer inside to ensure the correct temperature of 95° F is maintained, dropping 5° each week thereafter. A proper chick feeder and waterer are also necessary and you should provide ample space for the number of



chicks inside. Pine shavings will work well as bedding.

4. How old do chickens need to be to lay eggs, and how many eggs will they lay?

Typically hens will start to lay when they are around 5- 6 months of age and will lay approximately 200 to 300 eggs annually, based on the breed type. Breeds like Rhode Island Reds, Golden Sex Links, and White Leghorns are considered some of the most prolific egg layers. Peak production generally occurs at two years of age and slowly declines thereafter.

5. How much feed do chickens eat?

Once you know what to feed hens, the question becomes how much do your laying hens need to eat?

The amount of feed a chicken will consume varies dramatically based on breed type, feed quality, climate, and other variables that make it difficult to provide one good answer. However, a typical laying hen will consume around 4 to 6 ounces of feed each day with an increase during cold months and a decrease during warm months. Many types of feeders available today are designed to prevent feed from being scratched out to reduce wasted feed and lower your overall feed bill. Depending on where you are located, your chickens can nearly survive strictly by foraging for their food on a good size piece of property. Forag-

ing for food is really the chickens' preferred method of eating because it makes life much more interesting for them as opposed to standing around the all-you-can-eat food trough. Even during the leaner times, you can promote natural foraging behavior by hanging a "Free Range" feeder in your yard. With a timer that can be set to release varying amounts of pelletized feed, you can provide your chickens the sustenance they require while still allowing them the opportunity to act upon their natural instincts.



Well it's almost the end of the school year and so much has happened from teaching and learning to implementing and mimicking.

Our babies can now sign milk, all done, and bye. They can also recognize verbal commands such as eat, lie down, or no thank you.

Spring has brought new growth in Infant 1. We welcome our newest addition to the class, Zachariah. Congratulations to our newest crawler, William. We also have

three children who are transitioning to solid foods, Amari, Zachariah, William. And movement of all ages, shapes, and sizes.

Reminders:

- As the weather changes, please check your child's cubicle for clothing to ensure they have a long sleeve outfit and a short sleeve outfit for hotter days.
- Parents now is the time to

bring in sunscreen for your little ones as well as a light jackets for our spring showers.

Thank you for entrusting us with your beautiful gifts as they flourish and grow at Montessori Academy.

Infant 1 Growing and Learning



This month we had several lessons on shapes. The shapes we focused on were ovals and circles. The children used their fingers to trace oval and circle shapes on paper. The children did mess free art in which they rolled a ball inside a container. We also made eggs for spring. On the playground the children helped us count how many eggs the chickens laid.

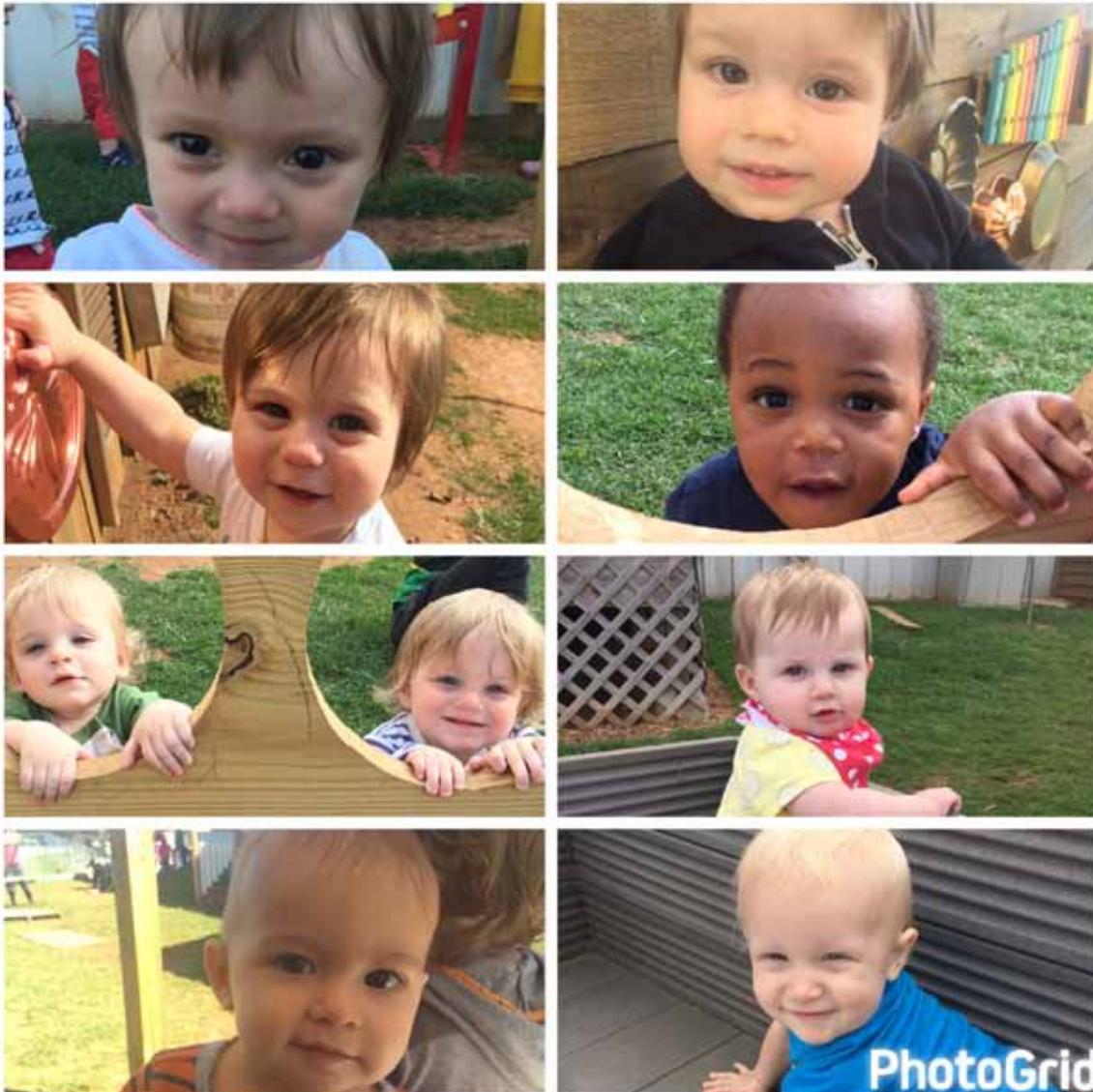


The children in the Infant II class have reached many wonderful milestones. Fox is walking and Brooks is taking steps. Way to go! Infant II students are learning, exploring, and having fun. We are listening to messages in English and Spanish. We are

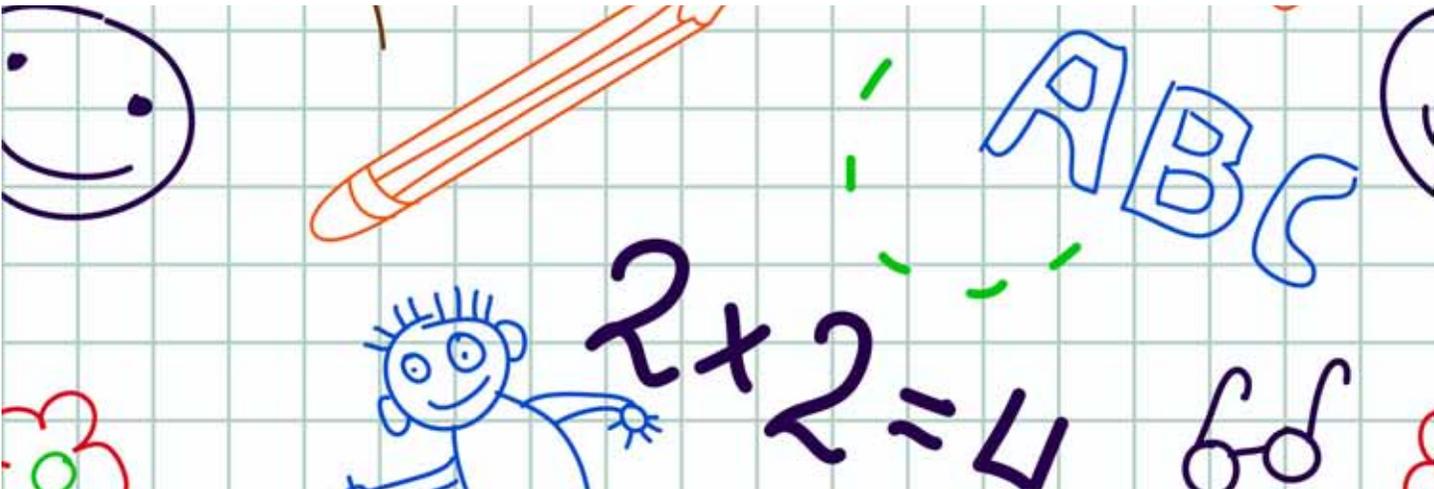
using more words and sign language. Great job!

Attention Parents: Please pick up your child's winter clothes and jackets and replace them with changes of clothing for the spring. Thanks for all you do!

Look at the smiles in Infant 2...



PhotoGrid



Greetings from the toddlers! Recently, we've been talking about animals. We've been learning the differences in where the animals live (zoo, farm, forest, etc.). The children have enjoyed learning about the animals, where they live, and the sounds they make. We seem to have some really good animal sound impersonators!

Also, the children have been



working hard to perfect using the materials around the classroom. I try to post pictures each day on the Toddler Facebook page exhibiting what work your kids have been using. I know it's tough on you guys not being with them majority of the day, so I like to give you all a look into their day.

Thank you to everyone that has bought or donated anything to our classroom, every little bit

helps A LOT!!

Things to work on in the home:

- Encourage the use of words (no screaming, whining, crying)
- Have the children clean up after themselves after meals
- Hygiene (washing hands)
- Allow the children to help with any household chores

Toddler Class Adventures in Learning







The primary 1 class attended their second field trip last week to Zoo Atlanta, yay!! The children did so amazingly well. All of us had a great time at the zoo. We looked at some wonderful animals although we could not take our eyes off of the cute baby pandas.

In class, we have been doing many

new things. The children are learning about different kinds of people with special needs and how we can help them and how we can be nice to them. The children have also learned about things at the zoo, things at the park, and things in the garden. The children are also learning about how to help their elders as well as their

younger friends.

I would like to thank all the parents for participating actively in our book fair and being so supportive in all our events, we really appreciate it.

**Be sure to like our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/#!/scott.montessori>**

Primary 1 Hard at Work



It has been a wonderful season for learning here in the primary two community. The children have really developed in the area of independence. They enjoy the freedom of choice that the classroom provides. We will continue to guide the children in their practical life skills such as their manners, how to care for themselves as well as their indoor and outdoor environment.

It has been a pleasure watching the language development of each and every child. From the youngest child to the oldest, we

have enjoyed learning through group discussions, one on one conversations with the teacher or by observing the children speak to one another. In the P2 classroom from the youngest child who is working on their beginning sounds to the oldest child who is mastering the mechanics of reading, we have all worked so hard.

In the math area we all enjoy the visual representation of numbers. We are counting from the time we enter the classroom in the morning to the end of each day. The month of May will be spent re-

viewing various concepts in math from the youngest child's love of counting with objects to the oldest child's memorization of addition tables.

Our classroom has 16 children who have enjoyed a "non pressurized" learning environment. We look forward to seeing you next year.

Primary 2 Kids Growing And Learning





