



# Lakes Area Montessori Center



Fall Issue-2018



**PARENT CONNECTION**

*From Ms. Suha's Desk:*

## Our partnership, our children...

On behalf of our LAMC family, welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! We have a brand new school year ahead of us, where we will be working together to ensure your child(ren) can reach their highest potential in their growth and learning. For them to be successful in our school environment, they need support in both the home and the school. I believe establishing this partnership right from the beginning will make a positive difference in their success. As LAMC staff, we will fulfill our responsibilities to teach and guide every child's learning in our peaceful Montessori atmosphere. Together we can guide and support your children by teaching them patience, peace, kindness, and love.

Every year, we create a "theme of the year" which encompasses the Montessori curriculum and provides the teachers an opportunity to incorporate it into their activities and projects. Reflecting on the rich diversity of families at LAMC, I chose Cultures as this year's theme under the title, "Our Cultures United." Being from the Middle East myself, my parents taught my siblings and I the many traditions from our culture, which I have passed down to my own children. I strongly encourage every family to do the same and cherish their heritage and teach their child(ren) the importance of knowing who they are and where they come from. There is nothing more important than being surrounded by family and friends and learning about one another. Therefore, in our Montessori classrooms, using our Geography curriculum, we will introduce the children to a variety of cultures by studying about the different countries and their cultures. Moreover, we encourage and welcome any of you to come out and share your culture with our students through classroom presentations.

I'd like to leave you with a quote from Maria Montessori, she said "The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of Responsibility and the wings of Independence." Together we can unite and guide our children through this journey of life and learning so that they may achieve their highest potential.

It is an honor to be working with you and your children!

Suha Zablock  
Administrator



## OFFICE NEWS



### Notes/Payments:

Please hand important papers to a staff member at pick up or drop off. Please check your child's backpack daily for notes that we are sending home.

### Parents and Visitors:

All parents and visitors coming into the school **MUST** sign in and out. The binder is located outside of the office.

### Uniforms:

Please ensure your child is in **full uniform Monday-Thursday**. This includes solid color shoes and socks (black/navy blue) and LAMC sweaters/cardigans which can be worn indoors. Shorts must be worn under skirts/jumpers.

### Change of Clothes:

(For Toddlers, Pre-School, and Kindergarten students) Please make sure your child has a complete change of clothes in his/her box. If your child uses these clothes on one day, please send in replacements the **very next day**. Please make sure **all clothes are labeled and updated for the season**.

### School Spirit:

The school T-shirt or sweatshirt can be worn each Friday and **MUST** be worn on all field trips.

### Children's Belongings:

It is very important that you label your child's belongings including the lunchbox, backpack, shoes, coats, mittens, hats, sweaters, and anything else that you would like returned. If it is not labeled, we cannot assure its return. Thank you!

### Lunch:

Students who stay for lunch should bring a complete, healthy meal including a beverage. Please do not freeze the beverage since it may not be thawed by lunchtime. Please pack warm or cold items in an insulated container to maintain the temperature. All containers, water bottles, thermoses, and lunchboxes **MUST** be labeled with your child's name. Hot lunch is also available for all students who stay for lunch. Log into the Homemade Lunch Service portal to place your orders.

### Snacks:

Due to State regulations, the snacks that parents provide need to include at least two food groups.

### If Your Child is Absent:

Please call the office to let us know if your child is sick or going to be out of town.

### Health Policy:

Please **do not send a sick child to school**. Children with fever, severe cough or cold, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, or ear infections will be sent home. Children must be 24 hours symptom free before returning to school.

### Medication Policy:

Please do not send medication, hand sanitizers, cough drops, Chapstick, sunscreen or vitamins in your child's lunch or backpack. You **MUST** come into the office to fill out a medication release form before we can give your child any of the above mentioned.



### **Allergy Policy:**

All 'Special Medical Needs and Allergies' MUST BE reported to the office. For students with food allergies, parents will be asked to provide snack every day. IT is NOT possible for the school to monitor the preparation and/or ingredients that parents may bring into the school; hence, we CANNOT guarantee a 100% nut free school. If your child suffers from an allergy or other medical need, please provide ALL information on care, symptoms, medication, etc. to the school office.

### **Missing Items:**

If you find borrowed items in your child's backpack from school, please return them right away. They may be an important part of a Montessori material.

### **Parking Lot:**

Parents we need your help! For the sake of our children, please be patient and do not cut in front of other cars, knock down, or move the cones! \*Please do not park in the drop-off/pick up line and come into school.\* This delays drop-off/ pick up procedure. If you need to come into the school, please park in a parking space. Please do not leave a child in your car while you are in the school building. Also, please remember that staff members cannot buckle your child/ren into their car seat.

### **After School Programs:**

If your child/ren participate in any of our after-school programs, and they are not signed up for afternoon daycare, please arrive five minutes before the class ends to pick them up. The instructors do have to leave on time to attend to their next classes. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Pest Management:**

We will give parents advance notice of pesticide applications during the school year through the "Pesticide Notification" letter and an easel note. Notification will include the target pest or purpose, approximate location, and date of application.



Welcome Back & Happy Fall

*Ms. Colleen and Ms. Suha*

Go to our website at [www.lakesareamontessori.com](http://www.lakesareamontessori.com) and read the newsletter, check out upcoming events, learn what is new in the school, etc...



***Stay connected!***





## ELEMENTARY CLASS NEWS MS. ROXANNE



We would like to welcome back all our returning children and families and extend a warm welcome to all our new children and families. Each child will feel empowered and learn how great it feels to do things on their own. We are here to nurture, support and guide your child each day and are committed to making your child's elementary experience productive, stimulating and fun.

During the first few weeks of September we spent time getting to know each other and the classroom. Once again, the children have amazed us with their resilience, independence and enthusiasm. They quickly began to settle into the classroom routine and are already displaying a wonderful desire to explore and learn. We're off and running, and looking forward to a fabulous year of growth, joy and discovery.

The school theme this year is "Our Cultures United". The students have been introduced to our theme with an understanding that the culture of a group of people is the traditions and beliefs that they practice in their daily life. We have discussed the special foods, beliefs, traditions, language, clothing and history of a few of the cultures of our students. The fact that there are different cultures found throughout the globe is what makes our world so wonderful.

In math, the class has been working on reviewing and refreshing math operations and processes with the Montessori materials. Math fact memorization through Montessori materials, time tests, and practice at home will enable students to move to abstract work. Your student is working on telling time with the use of a clock with the hour hand and the minute hand. Please help your child by practicing telling time at home. An analog clock is the best kind to use.

In language, the students are reading daily and have learned how to use a dictionary. They are beginning work on Grammar and Journal Writing. Handwriting is practiced every week with an emphasis on correct letter starting points and neatness. Please help your child's reading improve by establishing a daily reading routine with him/her.



The Montessori Great Lesson on the Development and Scientific Creation of the Universe will be followed by lessons in both Science and History. We will study the planets, the inside of the earth and the Five Kingdoms. The History of the development of the Calendar and Days of the Week will be part of our history lessons.

We invite you to observe our class from the office. Communication between your student, the teachers and you is a very important part of your child's education. Please direct any questions or concerns to your teachers.





*Ms. Roxanne, Directress and Ms. Sue*

**PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN NEWS**  
**MS. NEEYATI'S CLASSROOM**

Hello, and welcome to a new school year! We are delighted to have your child in our class. We look forward to new beginnings, new friends and new experiences. The start of school is an exciting, joyful time as well as an anxious, apprehensive time for you and your child. Some children enter this new adventure without a backwards glance. Others need a helping hand. Smooth transitions are as important to us as they are to you.

During the months of September and October children have been learning new rules, establishing routines as well as building new friendships.

**Grace, Courtesy and Ground Rules** are taught everyday as part of our daily lesson. Each child's skills have been carefully evaluated in order to choose lessons to fit their individual needs. It is wonderful to be working with the children. We are looking forward to a very productive year! The children will be involved in very active work and discussion in the classroom.

**Practical Life-** Most children are passionately interested in **practical life activities** because the activities respond to all the **sensitive periods** (important periods of childhood development). Practical life activities build a foundation on which the children will grow and carry over into the other areas of the classroom, and over into their everyday life. It teaches a sense of Order, Coordination, Concentration and Independence. The children have been working on pouring, spooning, tonging, lacing, stringing beads and push pinning.

**Math-** The children have started working on one to one correspondence and counting up to 30. They have been introduced to the red and blue rods, spindle box and table top rods. Kindergarteners have been working on the 100 board and the bead stairs.

**Language-** The 3-year old children have been working on Early language activities such as matching objects and pictures, Things that are same, and different. The children have been introduced to the red sounds group, a, b, c, n, s, and t. The 4 and 5-year old children are working on beginning sounds and blending. The kindergarteners have also started reading and writing.

**Science-** Living and Non-living, and Plants and animal

**Geography:** Introduction of the globe, Land, Air and Water, The Solar System and Transportation

**We are looking for parent volunteers to do a cultural presentation on different countries. It would be a small presentation with facts about the country, its culture, traditions, holidays, clothing, food etc. Please speak with Ms. Neeyati or the office if you are interested.**

**We are also looking for a parent volunteer to help with computers in our classroom. This will be 1 hour per week. Please speak with Ms. Neeyati if you are interested.**

**Snack-** We thank the parents who brought wonderful snacks for all the children.



*Ms. Neeyati, Directress*

Ms. Manju, Ms. Becky, Ms. Maha and Ms. Carol



## PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN NEWS

### MS. SUHA'S CLASS



#### Dear Parents

Welcome all new and returning families to our class. We are excited to have you on board. During the last few weeks, we have been getting acquainted with your children and helping them become comfortable in their environment. We are looking forward to seeing them flourish and grow throughout the year. As we prepare ourselves for the new season of Fall, I would like to remind you to share this special time with your children by allowing them to be involved in nature walks to see the color changes, or setting the tone at home by bringing in the smell of pumpkin bread and apple pie or by planning a peaceful time and enjoying what Mother Earth has provided for us. These are special times you will always cherish with them.

The children have also been busy exploring the classroom environment and reviewing the rules on a regular basis. They have started using the peace rose and learning to use compliments with their friends. By practicing such manners, reminds them to be respectful to one another and to use kind words. I encourage you to practice rules with your children daily to help reinforce what they are learning at school.

#### An Act of Kindness:

Two children in our class were racing outside, and one couldn't run as fast as the other. The child who is a fast runner stopped to give a lesson to his friend about how to run fast. So, they started racing again, and the one who gave the lesson purposely slowed down so his friend can win the race. He ended the race by telling his friend "Great job, you did it". What a thoughtful way to encourage a friend!

#### Practical Life:

The children always enjoy the Practical Life Area of the curriculum. It provides a variety of activities that aid in refining the skills of eye-hand coordination, concentration, order and independence. Some of the activities include; pouring, spooning, tonging, lacing, twisting, zipping and buttoning. Other lessons that we have introduced to the children include how to put a coat on, how to use the bathroom, handwashing, closing a door and using a Kleenex. Very soon I will be presenting how to put on our snowsuits, hats, gloves etc....



In the **Sensorial** area they have been working with the Knobbed and Knobless cylinders, pink tower, red rods, brown stairs, and the color boxes. These are materials that teach children about dimensions-diameter, height, length, width and color.

#### Math:

Some children in the math area of the curriculum are working on recognizing numbers using the one to one correspondence work and the sandpaper numbers. Others are learning to associate number and quantity using the spindle box and cards and counters work. The older children are practicing counting to one hundred using the hundred board.



I encourage you to practice proper number formation/writing daily with your child to improve their writing skills.

**Language:**

Some of the sounds that have been introduced are: **b,c,t,s,n,a,r,m,f,h, and i**. The children work with different materials that emphasize words/objects beginning and ending with those sounds. The older children have been reviewing blending and working on word and phrase building. Writing is also being practiced daily with all the children at their own level. We begin by introducing the children to the push pinning work and metal insets to assist home, by doing so will prepare them for the later years when reading and writing is required as homework.

**Geography/Science:**

We have introduced the children to the daily calendar. We are learning to name the days of the week and months of the year. We have also started learning about living/non-living things, and we introduced the sandpaper globe and learned the song about the seven continents.

**Upcoming topics:**

Grace and Courtesy, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Cultures around us, Fall and Solar System.

**Thank you:**

Thank you to all the families for providing nutritious snacks for our class. Please have fruit cut up for that day. This will help minimize the time for staff to prepare snacks.

**Note:**

Remember "Book show and tell" day is every Friday. Gym will be on Tuesdays. All 4 and 5-year old children will participate.



*Ms. Suha, Directress  
Ms. Fran, Ms. Ann, Ms. Kristen, Ms. Monika*





## TODDLER NEWS

### MS. MICHELLE'S CLASSROOM

Here we are, another year upon us, and in the toddler room we have been busy getting to know our friends, our teachers and our routine. The children have adapted to the transition of "school" and have been learning some of the basic rules such as using a rug for floor work, rolling up the rug when finished, walking in the classroom and talking in quieter voices during work time. With our school theme being "Our cultures united", we are exploring the diversity of all the cultures represented in our class.



In Practical Life the children will be exercising their pouring, spooning and tonging skills using materials such as corn, beans, acorns, pasta and rice. This improves fine motor skills along with concentration. Along with these activities, we will also be working on basic food prep such as washing and peeling fruit. This helps prepare the children for basic life skills and of course, our group created "Spooky Fruit Salad" for Halloween. Since we participated in the all school field trip to Erwin's Orchard and Cider Mill on Friday, Oct. 12th, the toddlers have studied many kinds of apples and pumpkins. We discussed what is an apple? We felt it, smelled it and finally tasted it! We also used different size and shaped pumpkins to study and match together.

In Math we are working with the children on number recognition by helping them work with the number puzzles, rote counting and reading books with numbers. As of now, our Language consists mainly in the form of reading, singing, finger puppet songs and letter puzzle activities.

We are also engaging the children in object identification to further enhance their language skills along with imagination.

As we all know living in Michigan, Monday could be 80 degrees and Tuesday chance of snow, so please make sure your child comes to school with proper clothing, especially for outdoor play. We make the most of our outdoor recess time due to the fact that we cannot go outside if the temperature is below 30 degrees. Please be checking your child's daily sheet for items your child may need such as diapers, clothing, etc.

A big thank you to the families of Grant Clark, Sia Yarlagadda, Jude Pattah, Bella Haddad and Patrick Wright for providing us with Nutritious fruit and healthy snacks!

**Ms. Michelle, Directress**

Ms. Sherry, Ms. Debby, Ms. Valerie

Ms. Maha







### PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS

The beginning of the school year is always an exciting time to be exercising with your children again. I am excited to instruct your child; showing them exercising and playing sports, along with fitness being fun and healthy. The wonderful fall weather allows us to enjoy outdoor activities; relay races, and soccer drills. Each class begins with stretching, to help the children become more flexible and to prevent injuries. The children have been working very hard on the Presidential Physical Fitness Test. Your children are making good progress with all the activities including: sit-ups, push-ups, pull-ups, and the shuttle run. As your child participates in the Presidential Physical Fitness Program, they will acquire the skills to increase their endurance, strength, and flexibility, which can stay with them for a lifetime. We encourage each child to participate to the best of their own ability. Looking forward to a fun filled Physical Program.



Stay Fit,  
Mr. Roby



### SPANISH CLASS NEWS

Dear Parents:  
I am your child's Spanish teacher.  
My name is Melba Acosta and it is a pleasure to be teaching your child.  
Welcome back to the start of the new school year in Spanish class!!  
We are reviewing all the vocabulary with interactive language classes, songs, crafts and Games. Spanish is a lot of fun!!  
Please review the following vocabulary with your child:

#### **GREETINGS:**

Buenos dias - good morning  
Buenas tardes - good afternoon  
Buenas noches - good night

Como estas? - how are you?  
estoy muy bien - I am very good  
adios - good - bye

#### **THE NUMBERS:**

1.- uno	6.- seis	11.- once	16.- dieciseis
2.- dos	7.- siete	12.- doce	17.- diecisiete
3.- tres	8.- ocho	13.- trece	18.- dieciocho
4.- cuatro	9.- nueve	14.- catorce	19.- diecinueve
5.- cinco	10.- diez	15.- quince	20.- veinte

#### **LOS COLORES**

Rojo - red	azul - blue	verde - green	naranja - orange
Rosa - pink	café - brown	morado - purple	Amarillo - yellow
Negro - black		blanco - white	



## DAYS OF THE WEEK / THE WEATHER

lunes - Monday      martes - Tuesday      miercoles - Wednesday  
jueves - Thursday      viernes - Friday      sabado - Saturday  
domingo - Sunday

## EL CLIMA/ THE WEATHER

hace sol - it's sunny      hace frio - it's cold  
esta nevando - it's snowy      esta lloviendo - it's raining

## LA FAMILIA / THE FAMILY

papa - dad      mama - mom      abuela - grandmom  
hermana - sister      hermano - brother      abuelo - grandpa



We play making sentences with the days of the week and the weather.

We also play a lot of games, bingo, memory games and much more.

Spanish class is lots of fun!!

Songs: ' PULGARCITO " " 1,2,3 AMIGOS " " CHOCOLATE " " LA FAMILIA "

I recommended the app DUOLINGO. It has tools for leaning a language. It has easy, fun and educational games for kids and it's FREE!!

**BIENVENIDOS!! (WELCOME)**

Gracias, Senora Melba



## MUSIC NEWS



Welcome to music

Exciting news, the LAMC PTO purchased ukuleles for the elementary class. The children are having such fun with them.

This instrument is easy to learn and play. We bought one of every color. In the instructional book, the audio files are available for each of the students online. This really helps them to hear the instructions again at home. Several students have a ukulele of their own at home. Ukuleles are a reasonably priced instrument to have. The book also has some theory worksheets for those just getting started on an instrument and songs for those who have already tinkered around a bit.

In the toddler class we had so much fun getting out the international drums. They really enjoy getting to play these, and the other rhythm instruments. We have some really good singers in this age group as well.



In the Preschool & Kindergarten classes, they have their favorites- train songs with movement, autumn tunes, Halloween music, and of course songs of Thanksgiving. I have them doing some dancing, clapping, snapping and stomping. All classes love my slide whistle. I use it to give them a sound to know when to stand and when to sit.

Our theme for the spring program this year is, " Our Cultures United". It is interesting for the children to learn we all have special traditions in each culture. They are our children of the world and each one contributes their own uniqueness.

Musically Yours, Ms. Marianne

## BEFORE AND AFTERCARE NEWS



### Welcome Back!!

Welcome back to a new school year! So happy to see many returning students and how much they have grown over the summer! Both

Before care and Aftercare also welcomed many new faces and some new teachers. The weather has been great, so we have spent much of our time outside enjoying the unseasonably nice weather. As the weather cools we will be coloring, pasting, and creating fall crafts. Our theme this month is Halloween and the students have helped us decorate the room with fun Halloween decorations. We will also be playing dress up as part of our Halloween theme. After a long day at school, please remember to send a healthy drink and a snack for your child to enjoy in aftercare. We look forward to another great year!



Ms. Fran and Ms. Debbie (AM care)

Ms. Ann, Ms. Maha, Ms. Valerie, Ms. Carol, Ms. Becky and Ms. Sofia (Aftercare)



### *Morning Care & After Care Drop-Ins*

Please call the office to confirm there is space available for your child/ren to drop-in for morning or after care. We are required to meet ratios and we will try our best to accommodate your needs. Thank you!



### Don't Forget To Try Our Hot Lunch Program!

Homemade Lunch Service is our hot lunch provider. Teachers and students alike are raving over the delicious food. Lunches are healthy, fresh, arriving hot and on time. They offer a varied menu with several daily options including vegetarian, non-vegetarian, and dairy free items. All ordering takes place through an online platform and each lunch is \$4.75. They will do their best to accommodate any dietary needs. Please feel free to contact them with any questions at the number below.

Homemade Lunch Service Office: 248-642-8134 [LetsEat@HomemadeLunch.com](mailto:LetsEat@HomemadeLunch.com) Linda and Brett Stern.

