

# HAPPY TOTS MONTESSORI

## NEWSLETTER

Dear Families—  
Happy New Year! We are off to a roaring start!

### Important Morning Drop Off Policy:

Please remember that all drop offs must be done before 8:50.am At 9:00am the teachers are starting the routine of our day and all teachers are assigned to specific duties at this time. Drop offs after 9:00am is harder on your child and are disruptive to the other students as well as the flow of our morning schedule. We appreciate your understanding.

### **VALENTINE EXCHANGE:**

**Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** is our Valentine Party. Children may wear festival valentine clothes.

**Please send in your Valentine's cards by the 12<sup>th</sup> with your child's name written only.**

**Parents please do not forget to check the Pot luck sign-in sheet.**

### **Thank You!**

I want to thank all the families for attending our holiday party. This event wouldn't have been possible without your help and support.



The Pink Tower consists of ten graduated cubes, the smallest, one centimeter cubed and the largest, ten centimeters cubed. The first use of the tower is to gain the awareness, through touch and sight, of the different sizes of the cubes, and then to stack them, largest to smallest. This awareness of dimensions leads to more observations of the child's environment. The work is self-correcting because it will fall down if not stacked correctly.

The next use of the tower is to count the cubes as they are stacked, first 1-10 and 10-1 as the stack is taken apart. The concrete difference between 1 and 10 is a first step in understanding addition and subtraction.

This may seem obvious and simple, but there is more!

The large cube is 1000 of the smallest; the small cube is a representation of cube roots. Eight of the smallest cube makes cube # 2. Twenty-seven of the smallest makes cube #3 – 64 of the smallest makes cube #4 and 124 of the smallest cube makes up cube #5 and so on.

The Pink Tower is a simple yet powerful tool in the Montessori Classroom. It teaches spatial awareness, counting, addition and subtraction and introduces the concept of cubing. Imagine preschoolers learning algebra! That's the Pink Tower.

**Field trips** are an integral and enjoyable part of the Happy Tots Montessori School curriculum and therefore participation is expected!

Thanks to our fundraising we are able to rent a bus to go to California Natural History Museum on March, 11th there will be a \$4.25 per child admission fee.

## MS PERLA'S CORNER

The last two months of 2014 we covered many subjects and we prepared to say good bye to this year.

We focused on many subjects in our program and part of November we learned about the 7 continents, practicing singing songs and working with the Montessori work. We discovered things about North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Australia, Antarctica, and Africa. We created a book about the continents and the animals that live in each of them, we painted and used our Montessori work to provide the entire learning experience.

Also as part of this month we learned about the Native Americans and the Pilgrims, we created this experience by making a book, reading it in our circle time and making our hats to look like them for our potluck.

We celebrate Thanksgiving creating a great environment and our class were the Pilgrims, and thanks to the parents that brought some food, drinks, dessert, appetizers we had a wonderful Thanksgiving at our school. The kids learned to be thankful for everything that they have.

After our great month of November we welcomed December, a great month for the kids, we started with our wintertime creating snowmen for our board talking about holidays and perfect clothes to wear, making Christmas cards to share in the circle time, and the most important we practiced a lot to make our Holiday program become great.

Before Christmas we had our Holiday program, and the kids were looking wonderful, and more then that they did an awesome performance, singing and dancing our songs: I'm the happiest Christmas tree and holly jolly Christmas.

With this beautiful celebration we closed 2014 with great dancers and singers ready to start a New Year 2015

## MS ROMAN'S CORNER

Hello everyone! November is here. The most popular works in class for our older ones are rug works in the sensorial and math areas. This work keeps the children calm and their minds busy. As the older ones settle down, the younger ones follow. I am amazed at the progress of the children. Each day they settle in to a busy routine and show us how much they have learned. At the end of our morning circle we dismiss each child by asking what he or she would like to work with. If they don't know the name of the material they have chosen one of us will tell them so we can help them learn the correct names such as Practical Life instead of "I want to work with water". The children are very proud when they complete a lesson on their own and are eager to show one of us. In our classroom, we have continued to grow and learn. Our students have been presented with new and challenging works. Some of these are the: Brown Stairs, Color Tablets, Triangular box. November is a wonderful time for us to talk to the children about being thankful.

This year has gone by so fast, we can't believe it's already December! Thank you for taking the time to come in and talk to us at conferences. December was busy month for us. The children were filled with the holiday spirit through the songs and art projects. Their performance for the holiday program was just AWESOME. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the goodies and gift cards we received over the holidays. Thank you for thinking of us! I hope that you all has a great holiday season, once again I wish you a new year filled with joy, health peace and love.



### MS KARLA'S CORNER

Hello parents, these last two months were full of many celebrations. In the month of November we celebrated Thanksgiving we had our yearly thanksgiving feast. Thank you so much to the parents who brought food, drinks, and yummy desserts. During that month we spoke about the pilgrims, Mayflower, Native Americans, and what it is we were thankful for. We also talked about and practiced addition problems. For the month of December we were preparing for our Holiday program. Your children were practicing everyday until it was the day of the program. They did such a wonderful job I was very proud of them. Thank you for joining us that day. During that month we talked about the winter season and we also talked about subtraction and work on some problems. Your children ended the year having learned many new things. Your kids have already matured so much from the beginning of the school year to the end of the first semester. Parents you should be very proud.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Karla

### MS ANNA'S CORNER

**November:** Hello parents. In the month of November we talked about Pilgrims, and the Native Americans, we watched fun videos on how Thanksgiving started. It's amazing how much knowledge they gain after we are done talking about a topic and to see how much they remember. The children had a blast making their hats for our feast. Our feast had a variety of foods from different cultures witch everyone enjoyed!

**December** was a busy month for us! We filled Happy Tots with plenty of holiday spirits with songs and art projects. We also did a lot of preparation for our annual Christmas party. The children practiced very hard to put on a great show for their parents. We sang "Santa Clause is coming to town" & "Rudolph the red nose reindeer." They truly did an awesome job with their performance. We hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did!!

Ms Anna

## BABY ROOM CORNER

The end of the year already oh wow!!!! Seems like I just did our January and February news letter of 2014.

As we come to the end of this year 2014, I realize how fast our babies are growing. NOVEMBER... We learned how to be thankful for all that we have. At the same we were able to continue our goal of helping our little friends develop their senses and all of their motor skills...Painting, dancing, reading, and counting, singing and even learning about the history on how the pilgrims came to the United States, using their little hand prints, we made the Mayflower ship, they painted using Q-tips, Marble painting and finger painting to decorate Pilgrims hats, feathers for our Native American head bands, we were able to decorate too, feathers for our big turkey using different colors for each feather. We made corn on the cob, turkeys with their hand prints and other different arts that gave us the opportunity to learn different colors, like white, black, yellow, brown, green, orange and experimenting mixing colors. DECEMBER.....The month of joy, giving, happiness and the last month of the year. We were so busy getting ready for our yearly X-mas program, we practiced and practiced every day our FELIZ NAVIDAD song and MOVE IT, MOVE IT, dance, they did so good!....This month as the same of others gave us the opportunity to make more art projects, like our reindeers, our decorated gifts for our X-mas tree, candy canes, ginger breads. Our ginger bread houses were given the final touch with colorful, FROOT OF THE LOOPS cereal, and their Santa Clause X-mas card for you. At the same time we continued to reinforce our colors, numbers, new words to build up their vocabulary, because for our age group, REPETITION, REPETITION, REPETITION is one of the keys that help our little ones to develop MENTALLY, PHYSICALLY and COGNITIVELY.... We are learning more Spanish and sign language words. These last two months were the months of some of our friends that graduated from the babies room on to the two year old classes, giving the opportunity to continue to learn on a more advanced level with challenging learning materials. We welcomed our class to Niko, Kailyn, Noah, Roman, and Ahmed, Lanie, Carly, Tina, Kory, Amir, Ivie, Ethan T and Christian which were our graduates. We want to enormously thank our parents for all their support by attending our X-mas program, and for your generosity and most of all, for trusting us with your treasures..... Your children. HAPPY NEW YEAR.

