

# PATHWAY MONTESSORI



# October – Pathway's Month of Transitions

Sept was a time of settling in, making friends and learning routines. We, as Montessori teachers (or, as Maria Montessori used to say, gardeners) learned what captures various interests and encouraged them to become active learners.

Children are more self sufficient at cubbie time and everyone has been exploring our refreshed Practical Life area. Some favorite songs this month were "One Little Finger" "Baby Beluga" and "The Wheel on the Bus" We read "The Peace Rose" which explains how to use our classroom peace flower. Our new classroom pet is a Beta fish and we have had requests for the name "Blue" and "Freddie". I guess we will see what sticks! Children created an All About Me rainbow craft using handprints and made ripped paper apple collages.

To acknowledge Truth and Reconciliation Day we wore orange shirts, read an ageappropriate children's story "Learning my Rights with Mouse woman" and colored authentic Indigenous art coloring pages. They learned that Fort Langley is on the traditional territory of the Kwantlen First Nation people and a little of its history. This month we continue to strengthen socialization skills and practice what the Montessori method calls "Grace and Courtesy lessons".

We will be learning about what happens to the weather as we move into fall and will talk about the fruits and vegetables that are harvested such as apples and also look at the life cycle of a pumpkin. For Thanksgiving, we will hear what everyone is thankful for and make a special craft.

On Tues Oct 31st we will carve pumpkins and wear costumes! It is optional for your child to wear a costume but for those who do we ask you to leave scary masks and weapons at home; Children will also go home with something special from the Teachers.

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#### **Dates this Month**

**Oct 2** Truth and Reconciliation Day (Closed)

**Oct 4** Class Photos (group and Individual) 10:30 a.m.

**Oct 9** Thanksgiving – Pathway closed

**Oct 20** Pathway closed. PD Day/Field Trip (details to follow)

**Oct 31** Halloween – Regular day – costumes optional

### **Happy Birthday!**

No birthdays this month!

## **Sound Basket this Month**

Children love to share. One way that they can do this is to bring an item to school that starts with the sound of the week. These items will help introduce and reinforce the phonetic sounds of the letters. The item is placed in the sound basket, and when it is circle time, we look at all the items that start with

that sound of the week. Children love bringing something, so please take some time to find a small item or object and place the item with their name on it.

Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> "a" as in atlas
Oct 9<sup>th</sup> "b" as in book
Oct 16<sup>th</sup> "c" as in camel
Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> "d" as in drum





The Trailblazer

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### Pathway Montessori Children's Center

P.O. Box 85008 Willoughby PO Langley, BC V2Y 0W3

Phone: (604) 644-7547

E-mail: pathwaylangley@gmail.com

#### www.pathwaymontessori.com





#### **REMINDERS**:

#### **Rainy Days**

Please bring rain gear for the rainy days, labeled with your child's name.

#### Sign-in Sheets/ Changes to Info and Immunization

Please let us know of any changes to contact info, pick up authorizations or immunization status to be added to your file. In an emergency, you may telephone the center with instructions to release your child to another individual. ID will be checked. Teachers will sign you in and out on the sign in sheet each day.

#### **Healthy Snack and Lunch**

Please send your child with a separate snack from their lunch labeled with their name and please send foods that emphasize good nutrition. Healthy foods are a hallmark of Montessori philosophy. In fact, Montessori was one of the first educators to recognize the connection between nutrition and the developing brain.

#### Request

If anyone has the head of a sunflower, they would like to donate it would be much appreciated! We use them for various practical life and counting activities.

#### **Special Classroom Number for Parents**

If your child will be away or you will be late for pick up, please call or text us on the parent line that connects directly with the classroom, that number is (778) 872-8537

#### **Missing Pieces of Equipment**

Please help us by sending back any items that make their way into your child's pockets or bags that may belong to school. These small items are sometimes very attractive to children and difficult to replace; it is not a big deal, as long as we can get them back so that everyone can enjoy the activity again.

# Field Trip / Photo Day / Thank You

#### Field Trip/Professional Dev Day

For the convenience of our parents, we are trying to combine our PD days and field trip days together onto one day as much as possible. There will be a field trip on Friday Oct 20<sup>th</sup> and afterwards the teachers will return to the class for their professional development day. There will be no regular class on this day. We are still waiting for field trip confirmation and will keep you posted.

#### **Class & Individual Photos**

Peggy Wynne Photography will be at the center on **Wednesday Oct 4th**. She will be taking a group photo and individual shots so that every family will have the opportunity to purchase photos if they choose.

#### Thank you!

Thanks to Ciana and family for the easel! Thanks to Poppy and family for the jars! Thanks to Arti for the bracelets and candies form India!

Thanks to Colby and family for the donation! We purchased a scale for weighing, a set of insects with matching cards, miniature set of planets, a puzzle and famous landmark figurines with matching cards for the classroom!

Thanks to Jocelyn and Emmett for the dump truck puzzle! Thankyou to Lexi and family for the lovely bouquets of flowers and big bunch of carrots from her garden! The children loved washing, chopping and serving the carrots!



"Any child who is self-sufficient, who can tie his shoes, dress, or undress himself, reflects in his joy and sense of achievement the image of human dignity which is derived from a sense of independence.

Maria Montessori