



### **A Special Message from our Teachers**

**Thank you so much for making it to parent teacher conferences and Thank you so much for trusting us in your child's learning and growing.**

**Our dedicated Montessori educators are eager to welcome your children back into their classrooms, creating environments that inspire curiosity and a passion for learning. Our focus as always will be on fostering a sense of responsibility, independence, and respect among the students. We encourage parents to reinforce these values at home to ensure a seamless transition between school and family life.**



## Happy January, Creative Minds Family!

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Happy New Year! A portion of the old Scots song “Auld Lang Syne” translated into English says, “And there's a hand, my trusty friend, and give us a hand o' thine...” May we begin this new year hand in hand for auld lang syne, or “for old long since”. May our community grow even closer together as the years pass, and may we always be the first to reach our hands out to help those around us! As we step into January 2025, we welcome each of you back to our Montessori community with open hearts and eager minds.

Reflection on 2024: A Year of Growth and Discovery

Before we embark on the adventures that await us in the new year, let's take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we shared in 2024. It was a year filled with growth, discovery, and countless memorable Montessori moments. Our children blossomed into independent learners, creative thinkers, and compassionate individuals.

Together, we celebrated achievements big and small, fostering a sense of community that makes our Montessori family truly special.

## Reminders

### Upcoming Events

- Please note that the semi-annual supply fee of \$150 per child will be charged in the month of January.
- January 1: New Years Day (School Closed)
- January 2: Back to School
- January 20: Martin Luther King Day (School Closed)
- January 29th: Chinese New Year



HAPPY  
Birthday

Jan 3rd	Filomena Bucinell (Koala class)
Jan 22nd	Ishaan Shankar (Leap Frog)
Jan 26th	Arsh Kilwani (Leap Frog)
Jan 26th	Julien Tezaguic (Kangaroo)
Jan 28th	Denna Bastani (Leap Frog)

# A New Chapter in Soccer at Creative Minds

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**Dear Creative Minds Families,**

We are thrilled to announce a fresh and exciting direction for our soccer program at Creative Minds! Starting Jan 6th we will be partnering with Little Champions to bring a vibrant, innovative approach to teaching soccer to our children.

### **Why the change?**

Our decision to transition from Soccer Shots to Little Champions reflects our commitment to enhancing the quality of our athletic programs. After thorough consideration, we are confident that this new partnership will offer age-appropriate training, qualified coaching, and a Montessori-aligned approach. We can't wait to see the smiles on your children's faces as they explore new skills, build confidence, and have a blast on the field!

### **About Little Champions:**

“At Little Champions, we specialize in creating engaging soccer programs tailored to the individual child, we adapt to the circumstances and prioritize building confidence, teamwork, and a lifelong love of sports. Our coaching philosophy aligns with Montessori principles by emphasizing individual growth, creativity and positive reinforcement. Our team brings years of expertise in coaching and blending skill-building with imaginative play. Through our programs, we aim to nurture not only soccer skills but also values like respect, perseverance, and joy in learning.” - Arun Subra



# Montessori inspired winter Activities

## Indoor Activities:

1. Winter Sensory Bin – Create a sensory bin with winter-themed materials such as cotton balls (snow), pinecones, small plastic animals, and spoons. Encourage your child to explore, sort, and engage in imaginative play.
2. Montessori-inspired Practical Life Activities – Buttoning coats, folding scarves, or sweeping up "snow" with a small broom. These tasks help develop fine motor skills and independence.
3. Nature Collage – Collect leaves, twigs, and other natural items during your outdoor walks, then have your child glue them onto a piece of paper to create a winter nature collage. This activity helps with focus, fine motor skills, and creativity.
4. Simple Winter Cooking – Get your child involved in making simple winter treats like homemade hot cocoa, baking cookies, or preparing a fruit salad. This helps teach them about measurements, sequencing, and kitchen skills.
5. Winter Books and Storytime – Share stories about winter, snowflakes, and animals in the cold. You can read books together or create your own stories, fostering language development and imagination.

## Indoor Activities:

1. Nature Walks – Bundle up and go on a nature walk with your child. Collect fallen branches, look for animal tracks in the snow, or observe winter birds. This helps foster curiosity about nature and the seasons.
  2. Winter Sensory Play – Let your child explore the cold by touching snow or ice, feeling the texture, and comparing it with other elements, like ice cubes. This sensory exploration promotes sensory development.
  3. Outdoor Sorting Game – Using natural elements like rocks, pinecones, or sticks, you can create a sorting game where your child sorts by size, color, or shape. This enhances cognitive and motor skills while enjoying the outdoors.
- These activities provide wonderful opportunities for learning and growth while nurturing your child's love for nature and discovery. Remember, the goal is to make learning enjoyable and hands-on. We encourage you to enjoy this winter season by connecting with your child through playful, enriching experiences both inside and outside. We hope these ideas inspire you to make the most of the winter months together.