



Monte Tavor Newsletter

IN School Activities

Young to older infants are growing and achieving mile stones every day as they are no longer looking that small anymore. In just a few months they have acquired physical skills rapidly like seating up, crawling and cruising around. They are even starting to take toys from each other and are crying for specific toys that others are holding. They look for each other and enjoy each other's company "the 90% physical language" is in action all the time. They are eating well their solid foods or are just about to start having them, while others are about to have table foods! They seem curious and busy the entire day. They clap, laugh and smile when listening to songs, animal sounds or older children saying hello to them as many have learned to wave back. They are spending a great deal of time outdoors. They give hugs and smiles to their teachers. Liz and Yeira spend afternoons with them and all seem to love them both. They have big smiles on their faces when they see them. Naps for some are getting longer and for others are getting shorter after the time change.

Mobile, Older infants and Toddlers are getting well coordinated and being challenged daily outdoors with the different surfaces and areas. They love going to play and spend time in the fourth area where they have tunnels to go thru, waterfalls to climb up to, slides to go down, mats to tumble on, 4 wheels cars to get on or push around, a pool of balls, rocking horses, small kitchen with their refrigerator, oven, microwave, sink and stove top to pretend play cooking and more. Language skills among some of them are becoming clear and they are speaking a bunch! This is exciting because they seem to love books and are more attentive to when the teachers are talking, giving instructions for activities, reading, and singing. The sharing is still hard, but they seem more understanding about it when giving back toys and feeling proud and happy when doing this. They soon will be learning to trade with others, while waiting for a turn.

The Bag Pack morning reading program for older infants and toddlers has been a true success. Children's attention span has increased from a few minutes to almost 20 minutes of reading in just the last two months. Bag Pack reading themes include: Music, Sounds, Obstacles, Numbers, Sizes, Shapes, 5 Senses, and Rhymes among some. Emergent themes continue to be part of everyday activities. Physical games and outdoors are keeping children busy and motivated.

Bag Pack Reading for Young Preschoolers include: Environment, Health and Safety, Nutrition, Sequence, Plants, Alphabet Recognition, Shapes and Sizes. Older Preschoolers include: Climates, Writing, Adding and Subtracting, Preposition, Growing Plants, Environment, Health and Nutrition.

Children have been and will continue exploring and talking more about vegetables such as beets, kale, yucca, cilantro, sugar cane, the lettuce and family of leafy greens, and potatoes.

The October Newsletter had in detailed our fall and winter learning activities for the different ages (please refer to that Newsletter from time to time to ask your child).

Morning Circle time (children ages 3 and older) for public speaking and discussion of different topics will start in January. More details will be given.

Thanksgiving and Winter Holiday crafts will be part of the art activities for the remainder of the calendar year.

Children will learn some Christmas Carols in Spanish and English. Families are welcome to join us a morning with other traditional songs and celebrations like Hanukah, Kwanzaa or Christianity. Please let Liz or Yeira know if you would love to participate and bring items that represent the tradition.

Monte Tavor wishes you Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Winter Holidays!!!

May the New Year bring your family new hopes and new beginnings!!!

(Please Refer below for the Winter Break).

In-School Events

- The Science Fair was a success, children 18 months and older had an opportunity to play and do activities from 2-3 pm. Once parents started arriving children continued to participate in the activities or went to play with their specific group. Those who joined us and participated got to see the many hands on activities that children have been having during our science and discovery months (Sept-Nov) Bubbles, sink and float, gooey, corn and wheat flour, corn starch, rubbery eggs immersed in vinegar, volcano eruptions, food coloring added to bubbles and art painting activities, and painting with molasses on Plexiglas boards. The use of wood chips, bird seeds, soil and water, magnetic sand and magnets of all different sizes and shapes and much more were some of the awesome activities at the science fair this year and there are many more that children have been having their hands on since September.

- The fall display on the week of 10/7; children brought items for the second entrance and for their classrooms to help represent autumn. Many brought in dried leaves, pumpkins, or Indian corn to decorate. Teachers created a fall mural art work for each of the different groups. We loved the fact that each art work mirrored the season in a fun, age appropriate and creative way.
- Dia de los Muertos and Dressing up for Halloween were other fun and learning events, where children showed each other their costumes and honored their ancestors offering fruits, flowers and a larger tea candle that was light up.

Winter 2013 Calendar

November:

- 11/2 Dia de los Muertos Celebration (older children knowing and getting to talk about ancestors).
- 11/28-11/29 CLOSED for Thanksgiving and Day after.
- 12/23, 12/26, 12/27, 12/30, 1/2 Closed for Winter Break.

12/24 Closed for Christmas Eve
12/25 Closed for Christmas Day
12/31 Closed for New Year's Eve
01/01 Closed for New Year's Day
01/02 Closed for Veteran's Day
This holiday is always observed during this holiday break.

Winter Break

Monte Tavor will be closed from December 23, 2013-January 3, 2014 and will resume January 6, 2014.

We would like to welcome Riley who is our new student in the young 3 year old group and whom the children were excited to have as a new friend. Riley enjoys playing balls, reading books, speaking Spanish with his friends and the music and movement program at Monte Tavor. Please welcome Riley and his parents April and Nicholas!!!

Thank You Families!

Thank You for allowing us to be part of your child's life and discovery years and thank you for the continued support of our programs.