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Porirua Montessori
CONNECT | EMPOWER | GROW

Pānui

Week 6 Aug 24

Upcoming Events and Dates

28th August

Calendar Art orders due

Week 10: Zoom parent
teacher conferences.

No school Friday of week
10.

Montessori Quote

The laws governing the universe can be made interesting and wonderful to the child, more interesting even than things in themselves, and he begins to ask: What am I? What is the task of man in this wonderful universe? Do we merely live here for ourselves, or is there something more for us to do? Why do we struggle and fight? What is good and evil? Where will it all end? **Dr. Maria Montessori** | To Educate the Human Potential, p. 6



Principal's Pen

A huge thank you to all of our whānau who have been helping in a myriad of ways to keep our small school growing. It is great for the tamariki to have a positive community role modelled to them and I am thrilled that the children have opportunity to benefit from your collective skills and talents.

Thanks to Wilmeri and Hendrik for their recent help with housekeeping, safety, and cleaning.

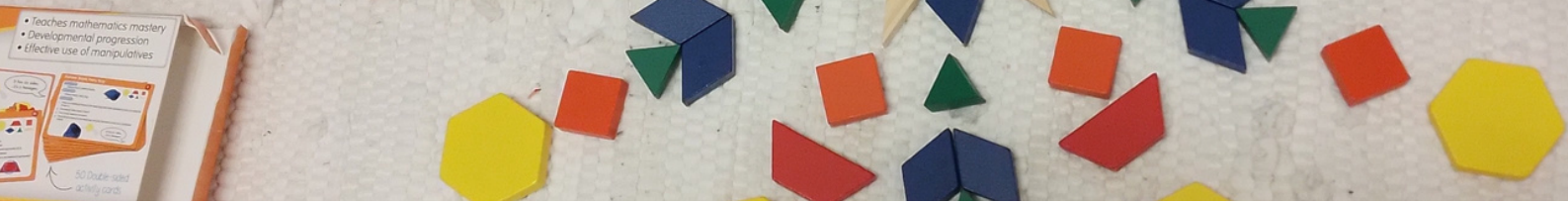
A huge thank you to Fiona for her help with writing a myriad of applications for grants so that we can have money for staffing and the building.

Thank you to Nate and Rachelle for their work as trustees and the hours of work they have put into helping get the school started.

IMPORTANT

-To help with a civil defence emergency each child needs to bring a small sealed box or bag with some snacks they like to eat. Lisa will keep this in a safe place. A small toy that can be held in a hand can also be included if wanted. This will be kept at school and returned at the end of the year.

-A 1.5 or 2 litre bottle of water.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

We have been working on sharing our feelings and needs in an assertive way.

Our younger children have been taught the phrase 'Stop it, I don't like it!' and then seeking help if the person doesn't stop. Our next step is for the children to say what they need for example 'I need space' or 'I need to be left alone'

CALENDAR ART

An email was sent home on Monday with an order form for Calendar art. The school gets some money for each order. We will be using this money to help pay our expenses such as our lease and .power bill. The children were shown an example of the art and took the art in a variety of directions with their use of materials, colours and patterns.

FUNDRAISING

We had hoped to do a soap fundraiser but the company had no soap left! A group of whānau have got together and are putting together another couple of fundraisers, we will keep you posted with dates and the actual event. Thanks in advance to our fundraising team!

ENROLMENT FOR 2024

We are currently taking enrolments for 2024 for all year levels, ages 5-13. If you know of a whānau who are interested please put them in touch. Money is not a barrier, all whānau who are on board with our kaupapa (way of doing things and philosophy) are very welcome. I can be contacted at 021 0842 7037 or poriruamontessori@gmail.com

FAQ

I've heard that Montessori teachers don't really teach. Is this true? If so, what do they do?

When you observe a Montessori teacher at work you may be surprised! You will not see her standing in front of the classroom teaching the same lesson to the entire class, because the Montessori curriculum is individualized to the needs, interests, and learning style of each child. Often you will find her on the floor, working with an individual child. With the older children, she may be giving a small group lesson, or demonstrating a lesson or activity that the students will then complete on their own.

One of the many roles of the Montessori teacher is to observe each child and the classroom community as a whole and make adaptations to the environment and lesson-planning as needed to support each child's development. As the Montessori teacher observes, he is determining when and how to introduce a new challenging lesson to a student, and when to review a previous lesson if a skill has not yet been mastered.

While a Montessori student may choose her activities on any given day, her decisions are limited by the materials and activities in each area of the curriculum that the teacher has prepared and presented to her. The teacher's observations inform each child's personalized learning plan and allow each child to move through the curriculum at an appropriate pace and level of challenge. - Taken from

<https://amshq.org/Families/Why-Choose-Montessori/Montessori-FAQs#reallyteach>



BIG MONTESSORI LEARNING

We have been continuing our learning around the connection of all living things. Every Thursday the children can choose if they want to hear a 20 minute live web presentation from the SPCA about animals. The children have been learning about how animals have feelings , what animals need and the work of the SPCA.

We have also been doing more learning around what all people need and how although we all have the same needs, such as the need for food, we meet this need in different ways. We have also introduced the idea of how factors such as climate and soil mean that people have different foods available to them.

Our younger children have been doing diligent learning on their phonics and we have recently introduced 'heart words' which are words that are used a lot in English that have 'wild' spelling and can't be easily sounded out. The younger children have also been working on correct letter formation and writing sentences with words they can sound out.

Meanwhile our older children have been assigned a month long work plan which they have used to help them plan their learning each day. The month long work plan covers all the curriculum areas such as arts, health, social studies, science, language and maths. The children regularly meet with me to discuss their learning, the support they need and get lessons.

FOCUS ON OUR SCHOOL VALUE:

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE & COMMUNITY FOCUSED

Our curriculum actively teaches about cultures, society, social justice, and peace. We help the children develop an awareness and knowledge of human values, social systems, and ideology (including different religions).

Children grow to understand what it means to be empathetic, thoughtful, and active as people of change in Porirua.

We are responsive to the life experiences our tamariki and whānau have and ensure that children have opportunities to share their expertise, ideas and theories throughout their learning.

Ngā mihi

Lisa Dei Gratia

