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Porirua Montessori  
CONNECT | EMPOWER | GROW

# Pānui Principal's Pen

Week of Feb 22

Kia Ora

It is great to be involved in so much learning and enjoying the beautiful weather. Have you noticed the new kura signs the council has placed up on Cleat St?

We have been engaging in a huge range of learning activities such as:

- Chemistry
- Montessori stories around creation and the solar system
- Learning about animals and biomes of Oceania
- The scientific method
- Continents
- Nouns
- Improving our reading skills
- Learning self regulation tools
- Discussing different brain types, skills and the benefits of having people with different skills and talents.

As we navigate through another busy school year, I wanted to take a moment to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your invaluable support and assistance. We have families helping with grants, providing resources and popping in to help with a range of tasks. We are also thankful to Mana Montessori for a recent donation of books!

## NEW ENROLMENTS

We are a private school with some distinct differences. We welcome enrolment from all families who are on board with our kaupapa. Your child doesn't have to have attended Montessori or be financially wealthy to come.

We have a diverse roll and would love to have the opportunity to show your whānau/fanau around our kura.

## Upcoming Events and Dates

Pie Delivery due Feb 29  
for pick up 2-4.30pm

## Maria Montessori Quotes

It is interesting to notice that where life is simple and natural and where the children participate in the adult's life, they are calm and happy. |

The 1946 London Lectures, p. 153

It is not yet realised that there are two powerful forces in human life: that which drives the formation of man (childhood) and that which drives the construction of society (adulthood). These forces are so closely meshed that, if one is neglected, the other cannot be attained. There is no awareness that the rights of the adult are necessarily dependent on those of the child."

Citizen of the World, p. 54

# WHAT DO MONTESSORI KAIAKO DO?

A Montessori primary teacher typically works with children aged 6 to 12 years old, guiding them through a curriculum that emphasises self-directed learning, exploration, and hands-on activities. Here's what they typically do:

- 1. Facilitate Learning Environment:** The teacher sets up the classroom environment to encourage independence, curiosity, and collaboration among students. They ensure that materials are accessible and organised, and that the classroom promotes exploration and discovery. This includes multiple hours of work outside school hours.
- 2. Observation and Assessment:** Montessori teachers observe each child's interests, strengths, and challenges, and use this information to tailor their instruction and provide appropriate materials and activities. They assess students' progress through observation, projects, and discussions rather than traditional testing.
- 3. Lesson Presentation:** Teachers introduce new concepts and materials to students through individual or small group lessons, demonstrating their use and providing guidance as needed. They encourage students to explore and experiment with materials independently once they understand how to use them.
- 4. Support Student Independence:** Montessori teachers foster independence by encouraging students to take responsibility for their learning, make choices, and manage their time and tasks. They guide students in setting goals, solving problems, and seeking help when needed.
- 5. Promote Social and Emotional Development:** Teachers create a supportive and respectful classroom community where students feel valued, heard, and safe to express themselves. They help students develop social skills such as cooperation, communication, and conflict resolution.
- 6. Collaborate with Parents and Colleagues:** Montessori teachers work closely with parents to share information about students' progress, discuss goals and concerns, and provide support for learning at home.



# MONTESSORI AT HOME

Montessori education is all about celebrating your child's independence, curiosity, and love for learning! Bringing Montessori principles into your home for elementary-aged kids is like creating a magical space where they can explore, learn, and grow in their own unique way. Here's a friendly guide to what Montessori looks like at home:

- 1. Freedom to Explore:** Let your child choose activities they're interested in and encourage them to work independently, while still providing gentle guidance and boundaries. Watching them immerse themselves in their chosen tasks is truly a joy!
- 2. Life Skills Adventure:** Get ready for fun and learning with practical life skills like cooking, cleaning, and gardening. Not only do these activities boost independence, but they also build confidence and responsibility.
- 3. Cherishing Childhood Moments:** Let's keep childhood magical! Encourage outdoor play, creativity, and limit screen time. Share stories about your family and traditions, creating a warm and loving atmosphere.
- 4. Respect for Individuality:** Honour your child's unique pace and learning style. Take cues from their interests and tailor their environment accordingly, showing them that their choices are valued and respected.
- 5. Nature's Playground:** Dive into the wonders of nature together! Spend time outdoors, exploring and discovering the beauty of the world around us. It's a fantastic way to spark curiosity and appreciation for the environment.
- 6. Moments of Peace:** Encourage quiet time for reflection and mindfulness. Create a cozy corner where your child can unwind and recharge, fostering inner peace and emotional well-being.
- 7. Guiding Light:** As a parent, your role is to be a supportive guide on your child's learning journey. Offer encouragement, celebrate effort, and show them that learning is a lifelong adventure.

By embracing Montessori principles at home, you're nurturing a love for learning that will last a lifetime. Here's to creating beautiful memories and meaningful experiences together!

