



# Olympic View Montessori Newsletter

## January 2009



### Future Events:

Thursday, February 12th...Valentine's Day Exchange Party

Thursday, February 19th.. Morning and Afternoon Class Field trip to the Dentist

Monday-Tuesday, February 16th & 17th...No School President's Day Break



### January 2009

A note from Ms. Kait

**Practical Life:** Big and small button frame

**Sensorial:** Hexagon Box

**Math:** Golden Bead Material

**Language:** Sounds and Letters m, n, o . (next month p, q, & r)

**Geography:** Australia Unit

**Science:** Solar System

Next Month we will focus on Teeth and eating healthy food.

### Kid's Tidbits:



(To Gillian)

**Avalyn :** "Look at my picture"

**Gillian:** "That's the most beautiful picture I have ever seen in my life"

**Valentine's Day:** We will celebrate Valentine's Day on Thursday, Feb. 12th. We will have a Valentine's art project and a Valentine's exchange. Your child may bring cards if they choose. The easiest way to exchange Valentine's is to **NOT** put the recipients' name on any cards or envelopes **Just your child's signature is all that is needed.** Leave the envelopes or Valentine's blank where the TO; portion is. Be sure to have enough for all children attending that day..... That is 20 for each class (morning and afternoon , 30 kids total in the school) students. If you would like to help with the art project and the exchange let us know. Thank You!

**Reenrollment forms :** They are due on February 5th. To save your spot for the 2009-2010 return with your nonrefundable reenrollment fee by February 5th. All new applicants will receive a registration form on February 15th and have until March 20th to register.



**Volunteers:** We always appreciate and welcome for art and reading in the classroom. See the volunteer sign up sheet on the parent volunteer board. Sign up for art on "art days" and reading any day that is not marked off. Times for volunteers should be listed on the sign up sheet. Thanks!

### Out of Class:

I will be gone from February 23rd-26th on a trip with my extended family. Ms. Megan, Ms. Cheryl, and Ms. Nicki will be here to answer any questions. I am always accessible by phone, in case of emergency. Thanks for your understanding

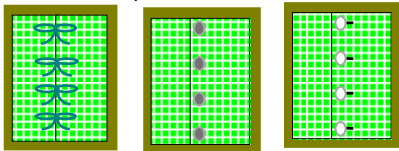
The Planet Song: (to the tune of "Doe and Deer")

- Mercury the closest one
  - Venus cloudy overall
  - Earth the place we call our home
  - Mars the reddest of them all
  - Jupiter a ball of gas
  - Saturn well known for it's rings
  - Uranus is third from the last
- And that leaves Neptune and Pluto.

# Mrs. Graham's and Miss Shannon's Class

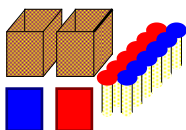
## Practical Life

During the course of this school year, we have been using dressing frames in Practical Life. Each month a new frame is introduced. As illustrated, these are wooden frames of fabric demonstrating different clothing notions. They allow the children to practice using buttons, snaps, zippers, buckles, lacing and tying. The newest frame for February is the tying frame to help the children learn to tie their own shoes...very important for those entering kindergarten! Encourage your child to show you how much they have progressed with this important skill.



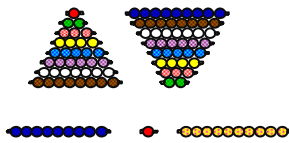
## Sensorial

It seems the sensorial material, Sound Cylinders, has been very popular this month. The sound cylinders are 2 boxes of 6 colored cylinders, graduated in sound from soft to loud. The purpose of this work is for the children to first graduate the red box of cylinders by sound. (From soft to loud) Then match the 6 blue cylinders to the 6 red cylinders by sound. They shake each cylinder next to their ear in order to hear the sound and compare it to the others. This lesson helps to increase auditory discrimination and it also helps with identifying the literary meanings of soft and loud compared to sound.



## Math

Many of the children have been working on the double bead stair from our math shelves. This is their introduction to the use of the plus sign, and equal sign; as well as the concept of simple addition. By using pre-assigned bead bars from each stair they add the combination and then write their answer next to the problem.



## Lan-

## guage

Our language sounds for this month were a review of "l" as in lion, "m" as in monkey, "n" as in nut and "o" as in octopus. We will review "o", and learn "p" as in pig, "q" as in queen, and "r" in rabbit.

The children also have been using many phonetic works in the classroom and are enjoying learning the sounds the letters make as well as the sign language symbols for each letter.



## Geography

This month we have been focusing our study on the continent of North America. The children having been learning about the three major countries that are a part of North America; Canada, Mexico and The United States. They have also had the chance to work with the map of North America, learn about the

flags of these three countries and make their own flags. As well as, use flag puzzles of North America and Central America and parts of the Caribbean. The Central American flags consist of Guatemala, Nicaragua and Honduras. The Caribbean flags consist of Haiti, The Dominican Republic and Cuba. We will continue focusing on North America next month and continue with a different continent every 2 months until the end of the year.



## Science

This month in Science we learned about the Solar system. The children loved learning about the sun and the 9 planets of the solar system. We will keep out some of the most loved projects from this unit for next month for further exploration.



We will be studying our teeth next. We learn how to keep our teeth clean and healthy, as well as the different part of our teeth!



Until Next Month!!

Happy Valentine's Day!!!

