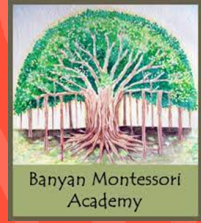


Banyan Montessori Academy

Newsletter

January 2026



Toddler Montessori Classroom

Dear Toddler Families,

January was a month full of exciting and meaningful experiences for our toddlers. Throughout the month, our friends engaged in hands-on activities that supported curiosity, language development, coordination, and growing independence, all within a calm and nurturing Montessori environment.

Transportation Our friends explored transportation through a variety of engaging and purposeful activities. They worked with transportation puzzles and vocabulary cards to build language and recognition skills. Our friends also practiced counting vehicles and classifying them based on their characteristics, such as size, type, and how they move. Through matching and sorting activities, they learned to group transportation by air, land, and water, strengthening early math skills, observation, and logical thinking.

Rolling & Not-Rolling Through hands-on exploration, our friends worked with materials that focused on rolling and non-rolling objects. They observed how shape and movement are connected, experimented with cause and effect, and practiced problem-solving through trial and discovery. These activities also supported concentration, coordination, and fine motor development.

Art Activities Art experiences allowed our friends to express their understanding of transportation in creative ways. Using paint, stamping tools, and sensory materials, they explored textures and movement while strengthening fine motor skills and creativity. Each art activity emphasized process over product, giving our friends the freedom to explore and create.

Independence – A Big Step Forward This month, we observed significant growth in independence among our friends. They practiced choosing their own work, completing activities from beginning to end, returning materials to their proper place, and communicating their needs by asking for help when necessary. These small but important steps build confidence, self-awareness, and a sense of responsibility.

Winter, Snow & Winter Clothes As part of our seasonal exploration, our friends engaged in sensory and observational experiences related to winter. They observed the snow, the bare trees, and changes in the outdoor environment, noticing how winter looks and feels. Through conversations and hands-on exploration, our friends described how the cold air feels on their skin and compared warm and cold sensations. They also practiced identifying winter clothing and worked on putting on and taking off items such as coats, hats, and mittens, supporting self-care skills, coordination, and independence.

We are grateful for the curiosity, effort, and joy our friends bring into the classroom each day. We look forward to continuing to support their growth, independence, and love for learning in the months ahead.

Warm regards, Toddler Montessori Staff

Pre Primary and Kindergarten Montessori

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We are excited to share the wonderful learning and growth that took place in January in our Montessori classroom. Here's a look at the activities we explored:

Public Presentation:

The public presentation was a wonderful success. The friends confidently shared their knowledge and proudly presented a variety of topics, including vertebrates and invertebrates, oceans of the world, and Antarctica. They demonstrated great enthusiasm, confidence, and understanding throughout the presentation. We were extremely proud of their efforts and growth.

Practical Life

In January, our friends worked on a variety of practical life skills that helped them build independence and coordination. Some highlights include:

Matching Socks – A fun, seasonal activity that helped the children strengthen their matching skills.

Liquid Transfer (1 to 3) – Using small pitchers and containers, children worked on transferring liquids, refining their hand-eye coordination.

Funnel Transfers – With different sizes of funnels, children practiced transferring small objects, deepening their understanding of volume and size.

Food Tasting – Pan cake: A sensory activity where our children explored new flavors and textures, expanding their taste awareness.

Table setting. Friends learned how to set their own table space.

Math Curriculum

In Math this month, our friends engaged in a variety of hands-on activities.

Fraction Cones with Bases – Our friends learned basic fraction concepts by using cones with color-coded bases to represent parts of a whole.

Odd and Even/teens boards /45 layouts

This month, we reviewed many math concepts, with special focus on odd and even numbers, the teen boards, and 45 layouts. Through repeated practice and hands-on work, the child is developing a stronger understanding of number concepts and building confidence in math skills.

Addition Strip Board – For our friends who are already working on an advanced Math curriculum, the addition strip board helped reinforce additional concepts with visual aids and interactive play.

Sensorial

This month, we continued exploring the World of sensorial materials to enhance our friends' perception of their environment:

Trinomial cubes

We reviewed the Trinomial Cube and Blue Triangles. Through repeated hands-on work, the children strengthened their visual discrimination, concentration, and problem-solving skills while gaining a deeper understanding of patterns, shapes, and spatial relationships.

Language

Language development was in full swing this month:

Sight Words Matching Activities – The friends used flashcards to reinforce sight word recognition, improving their reading skills.

Sentence Formation – For our kindergarteners, we focused on helping them form complete sentences, enhancing their written expression.

Language learning focused on understanding opposites in a fun and engaging way through songs. We also introduced writing skills by practicing their first and last names.

At the writing table, children began early storytelling activities. Along with this, the special “All About Me” project encouraged self-awareness as they observed and drew themselves, noticing details such as their skin color and eye/hair color

Geography

In Geography, friends traveled to South pole to discover the cold continent and animals:

Antarctica: Our friends learned about the continent of Antarctica, exploring its famous animals through hands-on activities such as creating their own animal booklets.

Pushpin Penguins Friends used pushpins to trace the penguins from Antarctica.

Antarctica Animals Coloring Activity: We wrapped up our Geography exploration with a creative coloring activity featuring animals from Antarctica.

Science

This month, we introduced the concepts of vertebrates and invertebrates through a variety of hands-on activities. The children explored matching and sorting cards along with engaging puzzles, which helped strengthen their understanding of animal classification, observation skills, and concentration.

We are so proud of all the progress our friends have made this month. Their curiosity, enthusiasm, and dedication to learning continue to inspire us every day. We look forward to the exciting adventures and learning opportunities February will bring!

Warm regards,

Pre Primary & Kindergarten Montessori Team



Enrichment and Educational Programs

Hello Everyone!

In this exciting edition, we have elaborated on different International Languages and Science sessions:

Hindi

This month in our Hindi class, children enjoyed learning the names of birds in a fun and engaging way. Through pictures, repetition, songs, and matching activities, our friends practiced identifying and pronouncing common bird names in Hindi.

The birds we learned include:

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तोता (Tota) – Parrot

मोर (Mor) – Peacock

कौआ (Kaua) – Crow

बतख (Batakh) – Duck

मुर्गी (Murgi) – Chicken

Spanish:

During Spanish class, our friends explored Transportation through intentional, hands-on language activities designed to support early Spanish exposure in a natural and engaging way. Using vocabulary cards, our friends were introduced to transportation words in Spanish, practicing listening, recognition, and pronunciation through repetition and conversation.

Our friends also participated in picture-to-picture matching activities, focusing on visual discrimination and attention to detail while reinforcing vocabulary recognition. Through sorting and classification work, they grouped different types of transportation by air, land, and sea, strengthening cognitive skills while building connections between language and real-world concepts.

In addition to transportation, our friends continued to practice Spanish numbers through counting activities and daily routines. They were also practicing to the days of the week using songs, repetition, and group conversations to support language rhythm, memory, and confidence in Spanish.

Science based Art session with Ms. Anuja :

This month, as we welcomed the new year, friends explored science through hands on learning with the solar system and magnetism. The magnetic session was held in the library in the evening so families could join and work alongside their children. It was also open to library patrons, allowing many other children in the community to benefit from this wonderful science based art experience. Since not all children have access to hands on science - art learning, we wanted to create a meaningful opportunity for everyone.

Ms. Anuja introduced magnetic and non magnetic objects in a fun and engaging way, followed by a superhero story that helped friends understand the concept even better. Our toddler friends enjoyed fishing for paper clip fish using magnetic fishing rods and decorating their fish with glitter alongside Ms. Patty.

Our Pre Primary friends explored magnet painting by moving paper clips, screws, and balls across paper using magnets underneath while painting on top, creating swirls, racetracks, and creative designs. They also experimented with different types of magnets toward the end of the session. It was truly a super duper hit!

Earlier in the month, friends also learned about the solar system by creating planets using coffee filters and markers, spraying water to watch colors blend and spread, connecting art with scientific observation in a beautiful way.

Physics Exploration This Month: Simple Machines in Action

This month, Ms. Bhargavi introduced our friends to the six simple machines: the pulley, lever, inclined plane, screw, wedge, and wheel and axle. The children were excited to explore how each machine

works and how they help make everyday tasks easier.

Ms. Bhargavi guided the children in discovering simple machines all around them in our classrooms, throughout the school, and in their everyday environment. The children enjoyed hands on experiences working with all six simple machines and went around the school identifying real life examples.

We encourage families to continue this learning at home by talking with your child about simple machines and pointing them out wherever you go, such as in the home, kitchen, garage, or outdoors.

Thank you for supporting their hand on learning .

Art, Music and Theater

In art, music, and theater, the children began working on the play The Very Hungry Caterpillar with Ms. Nancy. They enjoyed acting activities such as the dog and bone game, creating beautiful butterfly art projects, and singing joyful songs along with the guitar.

In the toddler room, our younger friends had fun playing hide and seek, participating in action songs, and working together on a group art activity that encouraged creativity and teamwork.

It has been a wonderful month filled with movement, imagination, and artistic expression!

Amazing Athletes – Pre-Primary & Kindergarten Montessori Friends

In January, our Amazing Athletes were on the move nonstop, jumping into a whirlwind of fun with football, hockey, soccer, golf, volleyball, lacrosse, track and field, and tennis! Each week was filled with action as athletes ran, jumped, kicked, caught, threw, and struck their way through exciting drills that built strength, coordination, speed, and teamwork. With imaginative “power foods,” silly Muscle Zoo movements, and energetic motor development games, every class was bursting with laughter, learning, and full-body fun. It was a high-energy month packed with big smiles and even bigger moves!

Rishtaya

Time : 1 hr 20mins

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pack brown lentil
- 1 pack pasta any variety
- 5-7 garlic cloves crushed
- 6 tbsp olive oil
- 2 onions
- 1 lemon
- 1 bunch cilantro chopped
- Salt
- Pepper
- 1-2 pomegranate

INSTRUCTIONS

- Rinse lentils and boil in salted water until tender (not mushy). Drain and set aside.
- Cook pasta in salted boiling water until tender. Drain.
- Heat 3 tbsp olive oil in a pan. Add onions and cook slowly until deep golden brown and sweet. Set aside.
- Mix cooked lentils and noodles together. Season lightly with salt.
- In a separate bowl squeeze lemon, add remaining oil, crushed garlic, and salt, pepper and mix.
- Place lentil-pasta mixture on a plate, top with caramelized onions and pour the garlic mixture on top.
- Garnish with chopped cilantro and pomegranate on top.
- Enjoy!



Parent Education

[Nonviolent Communication: Nurturing Connection, Understanding, and Respect at Every Age | Banyan Montessori Academy](#)

Upcoming events

Upcoming Events in January/February :

Important dates

February

Feb 10 : Webinar – 6 PM (Benefits of Mixed-Age Classrooms)

Feb 16–18 : Mid-Winter Break – No School

Feb 23 : Final Day to Submit Enrollment Forms

March

Mar 12 : Spring PT Conferences – Zoom

Mar 13 : Spring PT Conferences – In-Person (No School)

Mar 19 or 20 : Tentative Professional Development

April

Apr 1–3 : Spring Break & Good Friday – No School

Apr 7 : School Picture Day

Apr 14 : Picture Retake Day

Apr 17 : Gardening Outdoors with Dr. Christina

Apr 20 : Webinar – 7 PM (Montessori Games)

Apr 25: Presentation on Attention Deficit Disorder, and Vision Problems -11:15 am at Canton Public Library

May

May 6 : Webinar – 6 PM (Parent Q&A & Info Sharing)

May 8 : Book Fair

May 9: Entrepreneurs Market (All Ages)

May 25 : Memorial Day – No School

May 29 : Hurray! Yellow School Bus Field Trip! (Venue to be decided. Extra Fee of \$30/child Applies+ signed permission form required. Date Tentative)

June

June 11 : Summer PT Conferences – Zoom

June 12 : Summer PT Conferences – In-Person (No School)

June 19 : Half Day – Year-End Event (Tentative)

June 23 : Food Drive Donations Due

June 24 : Half Day – Last Day of School

June 29- Summer Montessori begins

New & Exciting Events Ahead!

💡 May 9 | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Young Entrepreneurs Market – Encouraging Entrepreneurs of All Ages

Children (and parents!) are invited to sell crafts, handmade items, any of your useful creations or a product that you innovated. This is a wonderful opportunity to nurture creativity, confidence, responsibility, and real-world skills.

Please invite your friends and family to come support our young entrepreneurs and their hard work.

✓ Free Registration

✓ A registration form will be sent home in February, along with the pre-conference questionnaire

We are incredibly excited to celebrate creativity, curiosity, and leadership within our community!

Thank you for your continued support!