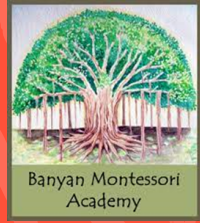


Banyan Montessori Academy

Newsletter

September 2026



Toddler Montessori Classroom

Dear Toddler Families,

September was a wonderful and busy month in our Toddler classroom! We welcomed new friends into our classroom community and spent time helping everyone become familiar and comfortable with our daily routines and Montessori environment. Throughout the month, we continued introducing and practicing our classroom ground rules, encouraging independence, and learning how to care for ourselves, others, and our environment.

Our friends have been busy exploring, learning, and building relationships through hands-on activities, books, songs, conversations, and everyday classroom experiences. It has been wonderful to see them becoming more confident and comfortable in their classroom each day.

Apples

During our apple theme, friends explored different types of apples and learned about the different parts of an apple. Through real apples, books, conversations, and hands-on activities, they were able to explore this topic using their senses. Friends also tasted different varieties of apples and noticed differences in color, texture, and flavor.

Weather

Weather is part of our regular classroom conversations, especially during circle time and our calendar activities. Friends practiced observing the weather outside and identifying different weather conditions such as sunny, cloudy, rainy, snowy, windy, and foggy. This helps them connect what we discuss in the classroom with what they observe in their everyday environment.

Nutrition

Throughout our nutrition theme, we introduced the difference between healthy and unhealthy food choices through books, conversations, and matching activities. Lunchtime also provided a wonderful opportunity to talk naturally about the foods our friends brought and how different foods help our bodies grow and stay healthy.

Children of the World

During this theme, friends were introduced to different cultures, foods, clothing, languages, and traditions from around the world. We also took advantage of the wonderful diversity within our own classroom community to help friends recognize and appreciate the different cultures represented around them. Through books, picture cards, matching activities, songs, and conversations, friends had opportunities to discover both similarities and differences and develop an appreciation for the world around them.

Autumn

As autumn began, we explored some of the changes that come with the new season. We talked about cooler weather, changing leaves, and changes we can observe in nature. Books, classroom conversations, observations, and fall-themed crafts provided hands-on opportunities for our friends to discover and experience the season.

Peace

Throughout September, we introduced the concept of peace in our Toddler classroom through conversations, books, and songs. Friends especially enjoyed singing "Light a Candle for Peace."

We also celebrated International Peace Day with a special classroom experience using peace symbols. This gave our friends an opportunity to begin experiencing and understanding the values of peace, kindness, and community together.

We are so proud of all the learning, exploring, and growing our friends experienced this month. We look forward to another wonderful month together!

Warm regards, Toddler Montessori Staff

Pre Primary and Kindergarten Montessori

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of September! We are so happy and proud to see how much our friends have grown and settled into our Montessori environment over the past few weeks.

We continue to reinforce our classroom ground rules every day, and we are happy to see our classroom becoming increasingly normalized. Our friends are learning to follow the routines, make independent choices, and take responsibility for their classroom environment.

In our Montessori environment, we place a strong emphasis on Grace and Courtesy, teaching our friends to be respectful, kind, patient, and considerate toward one another. Our mixed-age classroom also provides wonderful opportunities for learning from each other. Our older friends are beginning to take on leadership roles by helping and giving lessons to their younger friends, which helps build confidence, responsibility, and a sense of community.

We are also very happy to see our Kindergarten Montessori friends progressing academically. They are working on forming sentences, learning grammar concepts, reading books, and developing their mathematical skills through addition, subtraction, and other activities.

It has been a wonderful month of growth, individualized learning, independence, and community building. I am excited to see what the coming months will bring for our friends!

We present general lessons at the circle and give individualized lessons by following the child. The following are some of the lessons given at the circle community time at school from various different curriculum areas:

Everyday Living

In our Everyday Living curriculum, our friends enjoyed a variety of hands-on food preparation activities. They practiced peeling oranges and peeling a muffin activity which strengthened their fine motor skills and independence. Along with these, they engaged in practical life exercises such as rolling napkins and using napkin rings, hand transfer, pouring, spooning and tonging all of which build concentration, coordination, and independence. We also tasted apples (red delicious, granny smith, pink lady, honey crisp and gala apple). We are also focusing on caring for the environment, caring for plants and animals.

Sensorial:

Big and small - In this Sensorial activity, children explore the concepts of big and small by comparing and sorting objects according to their size. This work helps develop visual discrimination, concentration, coordination, and size-related vocabulary.

Rough and smooth - In this Sensorial activity, children explore different textures by touching and comparing rough and smooth surfaces. This work helps develop tactile discrimination, concentration, sensory awareness, and vocabulary.

Blue constructive triangle: The Blue Constructive Triangle activity helps children explore how different geometric shapes can be combined to create new shapes and patterns. Children manipulate and arrange the blue triangular pieces to form various geometric designs.

Monomial cube – Our friends learn to observe the different sizes and colors of the cubes and carefully arrange the pieces to form one complete cube.

Binomial cube - This activity also prepares our friends indirectly for mathematical thinking and algebraic concepts by helping them recognize patterns, relationships, and spatial arrangements.

Trinomial cube - This activity strengthens the child's spatial awareness, attention to detail, coordination, and ability to recognize patterns and relationships.

Cube of trinomial - The Cube of Trinomial is a Sensorial activity that encourages children to develop concentration, visual discrimination, logical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Triangle box - Children carefully observe the shapes and sizes of the triangular pieces and arrange them together to create a complete geometric form.

Geometric cabinet – Our friends learn to match each shape to its corresponding frame and carefully trace the shapes with their fingers.

Geometric cabinets with cards - Matching the geometric shapes with their corresponding cards and learning to notice the similarities and differences between each shape.

Mathematics:

Numerical rods associated with printed numerals - The Numerical Rods with Printed Numerals activity helps to connect quantity with its corresponding written numeral.

Sets basket - Through hands-on practice, friends gradually build a strong foundation for understanding quantities and early mathematical concepts.

Mystery number – This activity helps to improve their counting skills.

Memory game - This is a hands-on Math activity that helps to strengthen their memory, concentration, counting, and number recognition skills.

Odd numbers - Arrange counters in pairs and observe whether all the counters have a partner or if one is left without a partner. If it doesn't have a partner, then it's an odd number.

Even numbers - Arrange counters in pairs and observe whether all the counters have a partner or if one is left without a partner. If it has a partner, then it's an even number.

Beads stair – Our friends arrange the colored bead bars in numerical order and connect each bar with its corresponding quantity and number.

Hanging beads – Our friends count and arrange the bead bars in the correct sequence, helping them recognize quantities and notice patterns as numbers increase.

Teens board - Friends use the board along with number tiles to build each teen number, helping them recognize that a teen number is made from one ten and additional units.

Tabletop rods - Children arrange the rods in order from shortest to longest and explore how each rod represents a different quantity.

Language:

Our friends are learning matching, sorting, and sequencing through our pre language activities. Also, they are taking individualized phonics lessons along with the booklets. We have introduced opposites through fun activities and songs. They are developing their public speaking skills by participating in the circle , waiting for their turns and participating in the public presentation day. Friends are preparing their writing muscles through play dough, easel and other activities from the Sensorial shelf. They are tracing metal insets that have the shapes of all the alphabets. Friends who are ready are blending, writing and using moveable alphabets to build sentences. We are reading lots and lots of books from our classroom library. We are practicing comprehending skills.

Science:

Food and Nutrition: We learned about food groups and healthy eating. We tasted varieties of apples and we enjoyed healthy snacks at our snack table. We learned about the parts of an apple. Community snack basket was a great learning experience.

Geography:

Children around the world – We learned how the culture, food, language around the world by matching picture cards, puzzles and by reading books. Solar system - Our friends explored the

Solar system through hands-on and fun activities. They learned that the planets revolve around the Sun in orbit.

Peace: We read a lot of books on peace. We prepared for the International peace day making lots of posters and we did a community parade.

Public Presentation: This months public presentation was on 9/ 25. Friends presented on various topics including seeds, fruits, plant life cycle , houses around the world etc . Parents please work with your child for October public presentation . Date: 10/23

The topics for October are : Land/Air/Water, Plain-sphere, Living/Non-Living, Cardinal Directions, Fire safety.

Warm regards, Pre Primary & Kindergarten Montessori Team

Enrichment and Educational Programs

Hindi with Ms.Nazia :

This month, Ms.Nazia introduced friends to the theme of colors and gave them an opportunity to become familiar with new vocabulary in Hindi. The colors introduced were red, yellow, and green (laal, peela, hara). Through matching activities and repetition, friends practiced recognizing these colors while being introduced to a new language in a fun and age-appropriate way.

Spanish with Ms.Patty:

Spanish class is led by Ms. Patty. This month, friends had the opportunity to become familiar with Spanish vocabulary related to their classroom environment. Friends practiced mesa (table), silla (chair), lapiz (pencil), and mochila (backpack) through picture cards, repetition, and matching activities. One of the highlights was matching the pictures with the real objects in our classroom, allowing friends to

make a meaningful connection between the Spanish vocabulary they were learning and the familiar objects they see and use every day.

Peace Makers Session with Ms.Indu :

We learned to use peace rose to resolve conflicts and to walk inside our classroom to keep ourselves and others safe through fun role playing.

Around the World with Ms.Nadia :

We learned that Earth is a planet and we were introduced to other planets too , we acted out a play pretending to be planets and a sun and we went around the sun. The we learned concepts such revolving and orbits through fun activities. Ms.Nadia helped us memorize the planet names through fun activities and games.

Cookery with Ms.Naga and Ms.Nadia:

We cooked delicious squash soup and apple cinnamon sauce along with Ms. Naga and Ms. Nadia. We harvested the squash from our school garden and we cooked it. We all loved it .

Date : 09/24/26

Summer squash soup

Time : 20 mins

INGREDIENTS

- 3 medium summer squash cut into half-moons
- 1 medium onion diced
- 1 medium potato peeled and diced
- 2 cloves garlic
- 4 fresh thyme sprigs leaves removed from stems
- 1 Tablespoon coconut oil or olive oil
- 4 cups vegetable stock
- ½ cup coconut milk canned
- 2 Tablespoons lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

- Set the Instant Pot to Saute. Add the oil.
- Add the diced onion and saute for 2–3 minutes until slightly softened.
- Add the garlic and thyme leaves. Saute for about 30 seconds.
- Add the potato and summer squash. Stir everything together.
- Pour in the 4 cups vegetable stock and season with salt and pepper.
- Cancel Saute and secure the lid. Set to High Pressure for 5 minutes.
- When cooking is finished, allow a 5-minute natural release, then carefully quick release the remaining pressure.
- Use an immersion blender to blend until smooth. You can also transfer it carefully to a regular blender.
- Stir in the ½ cup coconut milk and 2 tbsp lemon juice.
- Taste and adjust salt, pepper, or lemon juice as needed.

Date : 09/24/26

Cinnamon Apple

Time : 20 mins

INGREDIENTS

- 4 medium apples
- 1 tsp cinnamon powder
- 1-2 tbsp maple syrup
- 1 tbsp butter

INSTRUCTIONS

- Wash, peel and cut the apples into bite-sized pieces.
- Melt 1 tbsp butter in a pan over medium heat.
- Add the apples. Cover and cook for 5-7 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- Add the cinnamon powder and maple syrup.
- Stir well and cook uncovered for another 2-4 minutes, until the apples are tender and coated in the cinnamon-butter mixture.
- Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly before serving.

Parent Education

Montessori made simple with Simone Davies

<https://blog.lovevery.com/podcast/montessori-made-simple-with-simone-davies/>

A Montessori Approach to Toilet Learning

<https://www.banyanmontessori.com/a-montessori-approach-to-toilet-learning/>

Upcoming events

October

- Oct 7: Firefighter Visit – 11 a.m. (In-house field trip)
- Oct 9 :Professional Day (No School)
- Oct 14: Police Visit on Safety & Awareness – 11 a.m. (In-house field trip)
- Oct 29: Posture & Exercise Presentation by Chiropractor at 2:15 p.m. (In-house field trip)
- Oct 30: Halloween Crafts & Parade – Half Day (8:45–11:30 AM). We will have before care.

Parade: 10:45–11:30 AM. All Parents, friends and family are invited. Educational treats can be brought by families on Oct 30 to give to all friends . Preprimary parents can bring 17 educational treats ; Toddler Montessori Parents can bring 17 educational treats. Can label your goodies with your child's name.