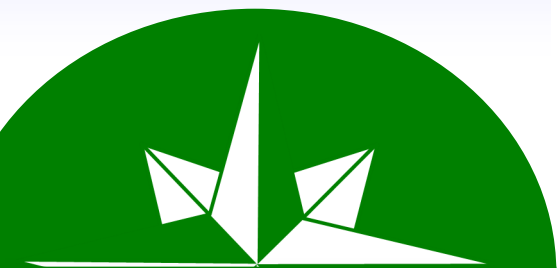


Montessori Pathways' News

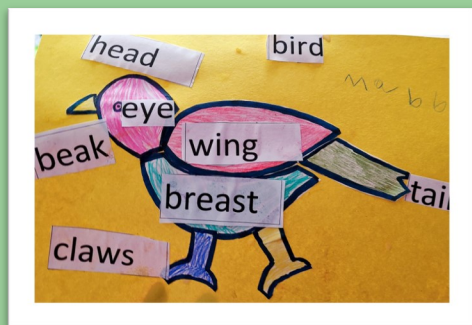


A hero is someone who, in spite of weakness, doubt or not always knowing the answers, goes ahead and overcomes anyway.

~Christopher Reeve



"Spring" by Ovia A. (5 y.o.)



"Part of the Bird" by Maddy T. (4.5 y.o.)

Montessori Pathways

The best way to discovery!
School

Notes from Ms. Alena (Head of School)

Three Teams of the Heroes

I found this quote from Christopher Reeve and thought about how well this quote describes our days. It is especially significant and symbolic considering he is the actor who played Superman. I feel that at Montessori Pathways we have three teams of heroes.

Team 1: Incredibles

This is our team of teachers, who are working so hard creating such a meaningful distance learning program that can allow our Montessori kids to continue their hands-on journey and keep enjoying their learning process.

But the most important goal that our teachers reached is to keep our little friends smiling and being themselves at this not so easy time.

Team 2: Spidermen

This is the team of our little hard workers who continue climbing up in their journey of education, avoiding all of the obstacles and hurdles in their way.

Team 3: Supermen

These are the people who have so much on their shoulders now. The people without whose help the first two teams would not be possible. The people who are fighting with their fears, but smiling to their kids, working from home, and taking care of their loved ones.

Watching more and more parents around the country become frustrated with distance learning education and giving up, I have to say how much I respect and am proud of our Montessori Pathways Families for helping in and supporting their kids' education, while still having the energy to smile with us during online meetings and sending a lot of warm words to our team.

I do not know how long this situation will last, but I surely know how strong our community is and that we will go through this difficult time together and become even stronger.

"One day the sun will be brighter!"

~ My Friend Melody



NOTE FROM MS. KATHY AND MS. URANA (SOUTH ROOM)

It has been an interesting few week to say the least. Not to mention a huge learning curve for all of us. We have noticed the children settling down on zoom more. The children are all being very patient and raising their hands more often. They all seem comfortable with the routine.

In the breakout rooms, a few children have begun to ask their friends questions and give virtual hugs to friends. Some of the children who were not initially comfortable speaking have started to engage as well by raising hands and sharing as well as answering questions.

It has been wonderful to see the children share their work from us and what they are doing at home. It seems that they enjoy sharing their work.

We welcome your feed back and suggestions to make this the most positive experience we can during these trying times. Please email any



NOTE FROM MS. ONDREIA (EAST ROOM)

First, we would like to thank each of you for your continued support in these trying times. We know it's just as hard for you as it is for us. As we continue to try to keep all lessons as simple as we can for you to prepare at home, please don't hesitate to let us know if we can make any changes.

From our end most children seem to be happy and engaged when we are doing our presentations. Sometimes we may stay from our plan a bit because someone ask a question about something. For instance, last week while doing our Rabbit and Q-tip art project, someone ask "how do you make orange" so we decided to mix red and yellow to see what color we came up with. This is Montessori Education; we follow the child.

The children loved it seeing the mixing of the two colors and seeing the result. Most of them to seem to be more comfortable with this whole thing now and participating more each day.



NOTE FROM MS. BRIDGET (ELEMENTARY CLASS)

Two and a half weeks in and it is beginning to feel pretty good. I think the kids have adjusted, as adaptable Montessori kids always do, and we are in the flow of routine. This new workplan seems to be working and I still enjoy the small group lessons and 1 on 1 time. Many of the kids just want to talk and to share, which is just fine. The more they speak, the more they can work on their oral expression. This will help with their writing and reading. I think the videos have been great because then your child can watch them anytime in the week. Flexibility is key.

The amount of work coming in has been good. I hope the workload remains manageable for the rest of April. I can certainly change it in May. I have mentioned to the kids that when we near the end of the school year, just like if we were in class, people who have accomplished their work, will have free choice of some items that I put on their plans. SO, encourage your child to turn in work to get signed off on my log. They will enjoy the last few weeks of school more. Here's to a great few weeks!



NOTE FROM MS. CAROLE (EAST ROOM)

As we began distance learning I wasn't sure what to expect. Our goal was to provide academic resources but also a place where we could simply see each other once again. I personally have enjoyed watching the relaxed atmosphere evolve. Regardless how your child joins us in the morning, some may be finishing up breakfast, others in their pajamas and cozying with their pet or in soft comfy chairs and couches, it's all good. We simply enjoy seeing their smiles as they greet us and their friends.... We feel the love!!

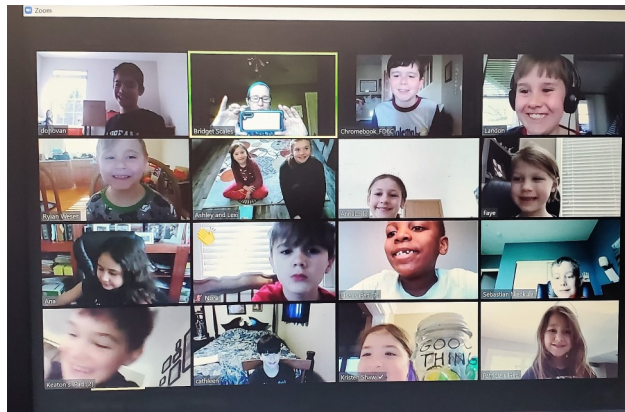
With so many uncertainties around us today the one thing that is certain is the joy your children give us. The photos you share with us are such an encouragement, please keep them coming

There still may be glitches that pop up but we are learning as we go. If there is ever a problem or concern that arises please let us know and we will be happy to address them. Although we may not see you daily, we deeply care about every family. We are in this together and truly want to help you in whatever way we can.



MARCH / APRIL PHOTO GALLERY

Distance Learning



From Montessori Pathways Families:

"Thank you everyone. Ali loved seeing everyone today. It made me so happy. The session really warmed my heart and it was good exposure for Conrad for him to see other kids showing kindness and courtesy."

~ Adrienne M.



"I wanted to thank the teachers for their patience today and encouragement! A conference call of adults is tricky enough, let alone with our excited Pre-K and K friends! We really appreciate the time and dedication."

~ Mary N.



"The girls like doing the work in the afternoon. They call it "big kid" work. After the session today they were both helping each other with simple addition for almost 30 minutes while Ryan was online with his class. It was great!"

Thanks again for all that you and the teaching staff at Pathways are doing to keep the kids engaged in learning. After chatting with several of my friends and co-workers who have their kids in public school, I find myself, again, being grateful that my kids attend Montessori. The one on one and classroom interaction is wonderful. Each day is carefully planned out and purposeful and it really shows how much time and effort that you all put in to make this program as successful as possible!"

~ Kristine S.



"Thank you! from our corner of the world.... Nathanael had some very serious business today digging a hole full of mud and slush - he said he was saving worms - whatever it was, he was very focused, very determined - it is good to have purpose! Is there anything happier than a 5yo in the muck? lol! All is well here, thank you for checking in!"

~ Colleen N.



"Someone has been missing making snacks at preschool :) ! Also, wanted to share her bird bath activity!"

Nora is starting to warm up to online classes as well. Thanks for all your continued hard work."

~ Natalie T.



Registration for Summer Camp 2020 and the upcoming 2020-2021 School Year is in full swing!

It is that time of the year when we begin assembling classes for the next year. We also begin to plan our staff and curriculum for the upcoming school year as well as for our Summer Camp.

Thank you to all of the families who have returned the re-enrollment application for the Summer Camp and next School Year.

Considering the current situation, we decided to extend our registration period. We understand that this is a time of uncertainty for many of us. However, waiting until the last minute will prevent us from being ready on time. The students' registration and preparation of the environment accordingly is a process that requires a specific timeline. Fighting with this unexpected situation and concentrating on creating a new method of education for our kids at this moment has already delayed the registration process for Summer Camp and re-enrollment process for the Next School Year. Yet, we have to continue and plan our Summer Camp and Next School Year Curriculum a Staff.

Therefore, we ask you to return Summer Camp Registration and/or 2020-2021 School Year Re-Enrollment forms no later than April 25th.

If you have decided to continue your child's education at Montessori Pathways, please

a. Complete the Registration Form for Summer Camp and/or Re-Enrollment Form for the 2020- 2021 School Year (both are attached)

b. Attach:

♦ **Summer Camp registration (\$30; \$15- for the second child);**

♦ **School Year Re-enrollment Fee (\$50; \$25- for the second child);**

♦ **or pay via QuickPay to montpathways@hotmail.com**

c. Include the 10% of annual tuition security deposit for the School Year (if possible, now).
(Ask Ms. Alena about payment plan if you need it)

The Due Date for Security Deposit payment is extended to May 15.

d. Return the paperwork and payment by mail to Montessori Pathways School, 133 Illinois St, Crystal Lake, IL 6004 **OR** scan your paperwork and email to montpathways@hotmail.com and inform us about your Registration fee and Security deposit payment method.

By submitting your 10% of the annual tuition deposit on time, you secure your child's spot at our school for the next school year, lock in your child's current classroom, and any other special schedules and arrangements made with the school.

All families enrolling and submitting 10% of the tuition **after May 15th** will be considered "newly enrolled" families and will be subject to a new enrollment fee of \$50.00 for Summer camp and \$100.00 for 2020-2021 School Year.

Spots are already limited and cannot be guaranteed -"newly enrolled" families will be enrolled on a first come, first serve basis. Classroom and any other preferences will also be up to administrative discretion based on availability.

Please do not wait until the last minute and help us and your family be successfully prepared for the Summer Camp 2020 and 2020-2021 School Year on time.

We really appreciate your understanding and cooperation.