

# MONTESSORI SCHOOLS of Central Texas



## CONTENTS

Director's Note	1
Important Dates	1
Classroom News	2-3
Birthdays	4
Important Notes	5

## IMPORTANT DATES

12/18	Elementary Service Project Ends Last Day for McLane Donations
12/20	Christmas Celebration 10:30 (Toddler, Primary, Elementary) Early Dismissal 12:30 (all classes)
12/23-1/6	Christmas Break - No School
1/7	First Day of Spring Semester

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the staff and my family to yours, may you have a beautiful, memorable Christmas, surrounded by your loved ones! May we never forget, Jesus is the reason for the season.

I hope you will join us at our Christmas celebration on December 20th. We can only host this event if we have enough parent volunteers from 8 am – 1:30 pm.

\*\*\*PLEASE let me know if I can count on you!\*\*\*



“The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind.”  
—Maria Montessori, Education and Peace

## INFANT 1



Throughout the month of December, we'll be preparing for Christmas by reading from Luke 2:6-7, *The Birth of Jesus*. In circle time we'll sing Christmas carols, read stories about bears and hibernation, and we will strengthen our ASL skills by continuing the use of the signs for "please" and "thank you." In keeping with the

season, we'll introduce the color green and the shape and sound of a bell.

Thank you much for trusting us with your beautiful children. We hope everyone has a blessed holiday!

-- Mrs. Terri Wallace

## INFANT 2



December will be an exciting month for our infant class! We will learn about the birth of Jesus, make Christmas crafts, and listen to Christmas songs. We'll also be tasting gingerbread cookies! Take a look at what else we have in store:

### GROUP LESSONS

The story of Christmas and the birth of baby Jesus; Christmas around the world

### PRACTICAL LIFE

Decorating a Christmas tree; serving snack; self-grooming; putting on coats and sweaters; watering plants

### COGNITIVE MANIPULATIVE

Bow matching (colors); spooning cranberries; paper tearing; opening and closing containers

### LANGUAGE

Read aloud book: *The story of Christmas*  
Spanish: *Feliz Navidad* (Merry Christmas); *Feliz Año Nuevo* (Happy New Year); *campana* (bell); *pan de jengibre* (gingerbread)

### BIBLE

Verse: Luke 2:1-7  
Story: The Birth of Jesus

### ART & SENSORY

Christmas tree and ornament crafts; sensory bin: red and green colors with pinecones and other textures; ice cubes

As a reminder, please make sure your little one has a jacket and warm extra clothing for the cooler weather days.

-- Mrs. LaDonna Ronelus

## TODDLER

Throughout the month of December, we will be embracing the Christmas season by singing carols, making crafts, and reading about the story of Christmas.

Here's a look at our full lesson plan:

### GROUP LESSONS

Discussions about Christmas and the birth of baby Jesus; Christmas program rehearsal

### PRACTICAL LIFE

Putting on coats; grooming; tending garden; making gingerbread cookies; sweeping and raking leaves

### MOTOR SKILLS

Decorating a Christmas tree; jingle bell spoon transferring; dancing to Christmas music;

### LANGUAGE

Singing and listening to Christmas carols; Spanish: *Navidad* (Christmas); *Arbol de Navidad* (Christmas tree); *copo de nieve* (snowflake)

### BIBLE

Luke 2:11- "A savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord."

### ART

Making Christmas ornaments and wreaths; Christmas-themed paintings

You can help support your child's growing independence over the break by allowing them to put on their own clothes and shoes, walk independently (no more carrying), and encourage them to clean up after themselves. If they are potty training, keep it consistent.

Merry Christmas! Mrs. Tammy Clausen





## PRIMARY

During December, the primary classes will be focused on Christmas throughout many aspects of the curriculum:

**GROUP LESSONS** Antarctica; animals of Antarctica; weather; temperature

**SPANISH** Feliz Navidad (Merry Christmas); Feliz Año Nuevo (Happy New Year)

**GRACE & COURTESY** Eye contact during greetings, "Merry Christmas" and "Happy Holidays"; how to receive presents; how to ask for help

**PRACTICAL LIFE** Cooking: South American dish  
Art: Christmas cards and ornaments

**CULTURE** Weight (heavy and light); vertebrate and invertebrate

**BIBLE** An Angel Visits Mary; Jesus is Born

Please consider supporting the elementary service project for McLane Children's Hospital and involve your child by letting them shop for donation items with you. This is a great opportunity to model and foster a spirit of giving! Your generosity will directly impact the children in McLane's care over the holidays.

God Bless,  
Mrs. Carmen Alvarado  
and  
Ms. Gwen Copeland

## ELEMENTARY

The joy of the season is upon us! We are looking forward to performing and celebrating the birth of Jesus at our annual Christmas party this month!

We have a lot planned for December. Take a look at our full lesson plan:

### MATH

Addition and subtraction facts; introduction to fractions (1st Level); multiplication facts  
Geometry: rectangles; triangles and angles; lines

### SCIENCE

Introduction to solar system; planet research; introduction to electricity and experiments

### CULTURAL STUDIES

Antarctica; amphibian research; parts of a stem and stem adaptations; age of the earth ("the long black line"); the golden timeline; introduction to the clock (1st level); the White House; writing thank you cards

### LANGUAGE

Verb lesson continued (1st level); punctuation (2nd level); interjection/conjunction boxes (3rd level)

### BIBLE

Luke 2:1-20, *The Birth of Jesus*; the shepherds and the Magi

### ART

Leonardo da Vinci - the Universal Genius; Christmas crafts; ornament sewing

Don't forget! Donations for the elementary service project, McLane Children's Hospital, are due to the office by December 18th. Thank you to all who have donated to this great cause!

Mrs. Dolline Abraham  
and  
Mrs. Monica Walker





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Fernando Castro	Primary 1	December 1st
Roman Bartha	Infant 2	December 2nd
Madison Dixon	Primary 1	December 2nd
Breece Conley	Upper Elementary	Decemeber 11th
Gracyn Glover	Primary 1	December 12th
Anders McGraw	Toddler	December 13th
Charlotte Rodriguez	Lower Elementary	December 15th
Paul Hauser	Primary 2	December 16th
Connor Golder	Infant 1	December 26th
Henley Crutchfield	Primary 2	December 28th
Arthur King	Upper Elementary	December 28th

Thank you to all who participated in our Thanksgiving celebration and helped make the day spectacular! It was filled with many special moments, from the heart-warming student performances to the delicious feast provided by our gracious parents!

## Christmas Celebration:

We will host our 42nd annual Christmas Party (for toddlers, primary, and elementary) on Friday, December 20th at the American Legion Hall next door. Performances start at 10:30 am sharp and lunch follows directly after. The school will provide lunch for all students and parents. Don't forget, early dismissal is at 12:30 p.m. for all classes.

## Elementary Service Project:

The deadline to participate in the elementary service project is Wednesday, December 18th. Please bring any donations to the office or drop them in the drop box located in the office foyer before that date. Thank you to everyone who has helped support this worthy cause!

We'll see you back in the New Year where we look forward to a successful Spring Semester ahead!

God bless,  
Mrs. Jennifer Watson

