



ALPINE MONTESSORI

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled"
— Plutarch

Notes from 908

DATES TO REMEMBER

11/1

November

Food Drive begins

11/22- 11/26

School closed

11/29 - 12/3

Adolescent program field trip to Nature's Classroom Institute

This month is an exciting one around the school as we move closer to much cooler temperatures and the busy holiday season. The students love the change in the air and the fun activities that crop up all over town at this time of year. We're also reminded to stop and think about the many things for which we are thankful. For the staff at Alpine Montessori, we are all incredibly grateful for the wonderful families that are such a huge part of our success. Your children thrive because they have been given the chance to grow into their fullest potential through meaningful work that fulfills their interests, and that all begins at home. We cherish each personality, every triumph, and even the challenges. The children actually teach US something new many times a day! Our work means nothing without the support of the families, immediate and extended, that make up the most important part of the child's world. So we thank you... for entrusting us to care for your children, for

supporting the importance of a Montessori education, and for your patience during this cardinal journey in your child's life. We are always here for you if you ever have any questions, concerns, and/or ideas. To get in touch with your teacher, please email them at [name]@alpinemontessori.org. You can always call the office, too, to set up an appointment to meet.

Each November the Montessori school sponsors a food drive to help supplement the shelves at the Food Pantry of Alpine. Please refer to the back page for more information on how you and your family can help feed our friends and neighbors who may need some help with groceries. We wish you a lovely and peaceful Thanksgiving!



From the Elementary

The elementary students have been working on family trees in conjunction with their studies in taxonomy. Montessori classrooms work hard to make connections between the work given throughout the year, and this is especially true with the Great Lessons. Learning about our place in the world and where we come from is an important process in realizing our vast potential. The children will begin this month constructing and presenting the classroom ofrenda. An ofrenda is a memorial displayed to honor lost loved ones and a tradition in the celebration of Día de los Muertos. Offerings and photos are placed upon the ofrenda to honor our lost loved ones and to help us remember and celebrate their lives. Ms. Elena taught the students how to make traditional paper flowers to decorate the ofrenda and everyone in the classroom is invited to bring a photo or symbolic item representative of a lost love, be it a family member, friend, or cherished pet.



In lieu of our traditional school-wide Thanksgiving pot luck luncheon that we have held in years past, the elementary class has elected to share a meal together of their own creation, the theme of which is still being decided. This repast will take place the Friday before Thanksgiving break.

The Primary Side



These beautiful days are filled with so much creativity in our youngest students at the Montessori school. The children have been enjoying lessons in art and language inspired by autumn and the fantastical holiday of Halloween!

We will soon see cooler temperatures so now is a good time to replenish the extra clothes your child keeps at school to ones that are better for the changing season.

The teachers would like to provide lunch for the classroom on the day we release for Thanksgiving break. We'll order pizza as a special treat, so no need to send a lunch that day with your child. Please let a teacher know if you can provide a fruit tray for the class. :)

WE THANK YOU!

We get by with a LOT of help from our friends. We would like to thank the following people and businesses for their contributions to our school.



Katie and John Ray, Etta's and Paul's parents!... for providing lunch for the primary class!

Rob Matthews, for his counsel on the school's financial future!

Bret Scott, for giving so much weekend time to our outdoor classroom construction!

Roux Alpine, for surprising the staff with Pumpkin Panna Cotta!

Amy Oxenham, for hosting the 7th graders at The Brick Vault in Marathon!

Joanie and Chris Weber, for the donation of books and materials!

Around the AP

Students in the adolescent program are working very hard this month to get all of their class work completed before they embark on an adventurous field trip to Nature's Classroom Institute (NCI) in New Ulm, TX on November 29th. There they will meet up with other 7th and 8th grade Montessori students from around Texas for a week of immersive outdoor lessons in science and art. They will also enjoy fun and challenging team building exercises, all the while making new friends. This is the third time we have taken Alpine Montessori students to NCI and everyone is really looking forward to the change of pace and the excitement of travel.

The sixth week in every cycle is a time that the kids now refer to as 'Out in the World Week', when they explore places outside of the classroom for practical implementation of the previous 5 weeks' lessons. Many thanks to Amy Oxenham and The Brick Vault in Marathon for hosting the class and presenting a very interesting lesson on fermentation. After the demonstration, the students enjoyed a picnic at the Gage Gardens.

It was also a great week to visit Prude Ranch for some time exploring trails in their vast acreage on horseback. Afterward, students had a great time learning how to read a compass while practicing the art of orienteering with instructor Kristi Kinucan. A picnic on the ranch ended a great sun shiny day.

Vive le France! The classroom is abuzz in anticipation of an overseas trip to the French countryside in February of 2022. This trip will not only be an incredible educational experience but as well an unforgettable bonding experience with their peers, one we hope to repeat for years to come in the adolescent program.



Alpine Montessori will host a month-long **food drive** beginning November 1st. Please bring non-perishable food items to the office and place in the collection boxes. We will deliver these to our local food pantry during the first week of December.



Food pantries are always grateful for any donation to help feed the community. We have learned that certain items are desired for the shoppers of the pantry. When buying canned soup or other canned items, consider pop-top lids. Flavorful cooking oils, sauces, and spices help transform a bland meal into something more appetizing. Juice boxes containing 100% fruit juice can be a real treat for the children of a family that shops at the food pantry. Dried beans and rice are often delivered to local food pantries by regional food banks, but crackers and canned fish aren't in abundance and much desired. To be sure, **all donations are greatly appreciated** and will help brighten the season for more of our neighbors in the Big Bend region.

Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 7th!



clocks turn back one hour

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