



Verde Valley Montessori
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The mission of Verde Valley Montessori is to create a learning environment which provides a balance of intellectual, physical, social and emotional maturity, fostering the holistic development of each child through the Montessori philosophy of education.

Verde Valley Montessori is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization. VVM is committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination.



November 2017



THE ANNUAL VV MONTESSORI HALLOWEEN PARTY



This year's Halloween Festival was a huge success and we received a lot of compliments. It truly would not have been possible without everyone who came out and put in a helping hand - from the Haunted House, to decorating, to running games, cleaning up and of course the great food. We all worked hard and it showed. I would like to give an extra thanks to a few individuals who deserve much more than just this thank you:

- Arielle Beaumier for the wonderful donation of the paintable pumpkins, decorations and games.
- Valentina Meraz for volunteer recruiting, helping with the haunted house, and donations of supplies and glowsticks
- Ashley Rounds for all the time helping decorate for both the event and haunted house, clean up, the guess boxes, volunteer recruiting and much more!
- Doug Von Gausig for the fundraiser items and doing the raffle.
- John Harris and Chris Rosas for their time and hard work and especially donating the lights to keep the party going.
- Alberto Lopez for his wonderful vision and all his help in making the haunted house come alive.
- Connor Hale for stepping up and making the haunted house extra scary and unforgettable!
- Miss Maryann, Miss Teri, Miss B, Miss Angie and All of the teachers and staff who dedicated themselves, once again for our children, even on their time off!!

To all the other parents, children and family members who dedicated themselves in one way or another...Thank you!
(There really are too many to list...and that's a good thing)

Rachel Harris – VVM PTO President / Secretary

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH!!!! ❤️

PTO: UPCOMING EVENTS

Just in case you haven't heard it in a while, *Thank you* to all of you who made this Halloween Festival such a great success. We are now gearing up for two programs in the winter and are hoping to get even more support from our wonderful Montessori community.

First, we will participate in the city's Christmas parade where this year's theme is "Magical Christmas". We have a truck and trailer already donated, but we will need all hands on deck in creating a magical float and getting our students safely through the parade.

Second, we close out the semester with our annual Winter Program held at Mingus Union High School on Friday, December 15th. This will be a fun, family friendly evening full of performances, fundraisers and food! The parent teacher organization welcomes participation from any Montessori community members at any time.

We are hoping that more parents will join our meetings as the planning commences for the winter programs. Meeting times will be on the white board and sent out in emails, and anyone is welcome to show up with ideas or just sit and listen and offer support. If you're unable to come to meetings, please make an effort to sign up on the volunteer sheets whenever they come around (usually during student pickups). As an organization, we have committed ourselves on behalf of our children's education and their growing sense of service to our community.

Next meeting is Thursday November 9th at 6:15

CLASSROOM UPDATES

PRE-K AND KINDER CLASSROOM UPDATE:

October has been a busy month! We have settled in nicely to our routine and the students are continually choosing challenging work.

This month, we introduced Place Value by using the seeds from pumpkins. We had the kids clean out the inside of some pumpkins and pull the seeds out. We cleaned and dried off the seeds, so we could use them to count by 10's. They placed the seeds in circles of 10 seeds to show 100. We marked how many each student had collected, then we used our 1's, 10's, 100's and 1000's to trade in and add our total. We had collected a total of 2,601 pumpkin seeds. This Place Value activity has led to our bank game, which is becoming very popular!

We have also transplanted our seedlings that the kids planted a few weeks ago, into our raised garden beds and they are growing nicely. It has been a great opportunity for the students to see firsthand, the life cycle of a plant. We will hopefully be able to enjoy Peas, Green Beans, Lettuce, Squash, and Zucchini in a short while.

Ms. Colleen and Ms. Angie

1st thru 3rd GRADE CLASSROOM UPDATE:

This past month the children built a Tasmanian devil out of all recycled material. They used a bucket, some dowels, a coat hanger, a bag of fake fur, and lots of hot glue. The students loved this project, and it was a great example of how we can "Re-use" and "Recycle" everyday items.

The first graders are still working on telling time, decimal places, and subtraction, along with working on the noun and verb parts of speech.

The second graders are engrossed in learning about dynamic operations for subtraction and geometry. In Writing Workshop they are working on learning how to compose sentences.

The third graders are working on multiplication, division, and learning measurements. They are enjoying the parts of speech as they work on writing narratives.

Everyone is excited to learn about the planets, the tectonic plates, and the land masses.

Next month we will delve further into permaculture as we have already learned about the three sisters, parts of a seed, and the life cycle of a pumpkin.

Ms. Vena, Ms. B, and Ms. Ginny

4th – 6th GRADE CLASSROOM UPDATE

Upper Elementary students enjoyed an educational field trip to Montezuma Well, Montezuma Castle, and Tuzigoot last month. They learned about the trading patterns of the indigenous people throughout the west and southwest of North America 600 to 1,000 years ago. One of the interesting facts that the students learned, was that salt was one of the most valuable items the Sinagua people used for trade.

With Wendy's help, the students made a worm composting bin, and have been successful in our first attempt at Vermiculture.

Neal from the Pippin Museum in Prescott did a presentation in our classroom. He taught us about frontier math, and showed us some of the sculptures and artifacts from the museum. It was a wonderful presentation, and we all learned a little more about our history.

Mr. Allen and Ms. Ann

UPCOMING EVENTS & EXCITING HAPPENINGS

CLASSROOM FRIENDSHIP LUNCH DAY - NOVEMBER 21ST:



On Thursday Nov. 9th we will be sending home requests for 1 item from each student - to be sent in by Nov. 16th - to contribute to the Fantastical Friendship Soup, the Marvelous Moist Muffins, and the Charmingly Hand "Churned" Butter.

Each class prepares a portion of this delectable feast, and then they get together in one of the classrooms and share the meal at lunch time. NO ACME ORDERS THAT DAY! The children do an amazing job of preparing this meal and are really proud when they finally get together and share it.

GIVING:

Our school will be collecting canned foods for the local food bank in order to help families that are in need, especially at this time of the year. From November 9th through November 17th we invite you to bring canned foods and non-perishable items to the school.



VERDE VALLEY WINTER PROGRAM

When: Friday December 15th at 6:00pm

What: Premo Performances, Fantastic Food, and Rowdy Raffles

Where: Mingus Union High School Auditorium & Cafeteria

NOTICES AND REMINDERS

REMEMBER:

End of year AZ Tax Credit donations - due by **February 28th**. A single person can donate up to \$200.00 and couples up to \$400.00. Your donations are fully deducted from your 2015 AZ taxes and all of the donations stay with our school





Regular dismissal times: Pre-K & K: 2:45

1st - 8th grade: 3:15

Early dismissal times: Pre-K & K: 1:00pm

1st - 8th grade: 1:30

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Please be careful and pay close attention when entering and exiting the school driveway.

DONATION DEPOT:

We are in desperate need of **PAPER TOWELS** and **TISSUES** at this time. If anyone could donate some, that would be awesome!!

