##### Related image**March 2017 Newsletter**



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**INTRODUCING OUR**

**NEW TEACHING ASSISTANTS**

Most likely you have already seen some of these wonderful young ladies, but we would like to take this opportunity to introduce:

**Kennedy Critch** is working primarily in classroom 3. Kennedy is completing her Bachelor in Psychology at McGill and has worked with children for several years as a one-on-one aide and as camp counsellor for children with special needs. Kennedy has made friends with all our children in classroom 3 and we are very happy to have her with us at Montessori.

**Kayla Hadatoglu** is at John Abbott College in Commerce, she has tons of experience babysitting and loves children and animals (she has volunteered for years at a dog shelter and loves horseback riding). Kayla has travelled extensively and lived in many parts of the world. She has been working with us on Monday afternoons in classroom one and occasionally classroom 4, and is very interested in the international aspect of our curriculum.

**Alexandra Hansen** is in the science program at John Abbott College. She has experience as a Camp counsellor and enjoys acting. Alexandra was part of the John Rennie Actors Studio and hopes to introduce some acting fun into our program a little later this spring. “Alex” has been working in all our classrooms.

**Jana Nguib** is studying towards a Bachelor of Education at McGill University. She has tutored children for several years, and is passionate about teaching. Jana is working with us in classroom 4 at present, and her smiles bring everyone extra happiness when she is here. Jana has done volunteer work raising funds to build schools in Africa, and wishes to convey the feeling of helping the world to everyone in the classroom.

**Kaylee Seroussi** has worked as a camp counsellor and as a dance instructor. Kaylee works in all our classrooms and will be starting her degree in Education this fall. Kaylee adores being with children and loves being at Montessori.

**Jessica Tsounis** is finishing her diploma in nursing this year and is absolutely wonderful to have working with us. She has experience teaching English as a second language to children. Jessica is working primarily in classrooms 1 and 4 and we all love her!

Finally, we are also very happy to introduce **Sijia Hao** who is currently doing an internship with us. Sijia is a student in psychology and is thrilled to be spending time at Montessori.

**SKATING**

The indoor skating program has been fun and successful. Parents are invited to come to our final class on March 15 at 10:00am to see their child. The arena is: Bob Birnie Arena, 58 Maywood Ave, Pointe-Claire, QC H9R 0A7

**SWIMMING LESSONS and WIMGYM CLASSES**

Our Spring Wimgym session starts on Friday, April 5 and swimming lessons start Tuesday, March 26th. These programs are for children in classrooms 1 and 2, 5 and also classroom 4 for those children who are 3 years old (by the end of the session) and completely toilet trained. Your child’s registration forms for these programs are attached. If you are interested, we urge you to register right away as places are limited for both these activities.

**PARENT MEETING**

Our fourth parent meeting was held on February 1, 2019. Here is a brief summary of what we discussed during this meeting:

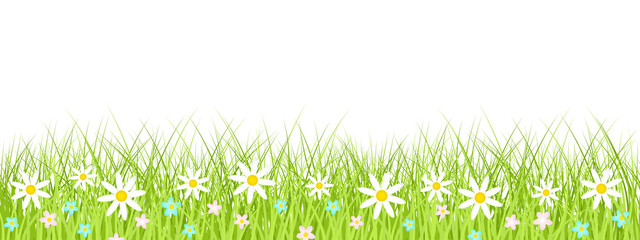
**Toni Vriniotis (Administrative Assistant) – Upcoming Events.** Toni shared some of the upcoming events planned at the daycare during the month of February and over the next couple of months. Toni also welcomed parents to submit any ideas that they may have.

**Artemis (Daycare Director): Siblings without rivalry.** Based on the studies conducted on this subject, the worst thing a parent can do is to dismiss your child’s feelings! The way in which to make this a teachable moment for your child is to first calm them down and then talk with them. Secondly, as parents we must avoid comparing our children to one another. Everyone is different, with different needs and each child is treated differently. Artemis continued by stating that at Montessori, our philosophy is directly based on treat child as an individual. Sibling rivalry is to be expected, but as Educators and parents, it is our job to navigate through the process.

**Herla (professeur de la prématernelle): Le jeu, au cœur des apprentissages à la maternelle.** It goes without saying that imagination and play are critical in the development of a child, both in and out of the academic environment. When a child is playing, he is creating, exploring and discovering new things. Actually, this

can also apply to Moms and Dads. Here at Montessori, every activity is designed with that mindset as the basis. Children are learning while playing.

**Tanya (Classroom 3 teacher): Ask your questions and get lots of answers about classroom 3.** Unfortunately, Tanya was unable to attend this meeting as initially planned**.** Artemis took the liberty of sharing with the parents a typical day in Class 3 and opened the floor to any questions.

**Open Discussion –** This evening’s discussion centered around the development of each child. When should they start walking? When should start reading? When should they start writing? So many questions, but ultimately, as long as your child is engaged and has the willingness to learn, all is well. The speed in which that happens, is not important.

**Our next parent meeting will be held in April. We welcome you to attend the meeting. Wine and cheese is served and it is a pleasant and informative evening. Meetings adjourn at 9:00pm.**