

February 2016 – July 2016



FATIMYAH
education network

Fatimiyah Montessori System

Registered with Sindh Education Board and Pakistan Montessori Association

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Annual Sports Day - February 2016

Welcome to the new Academic Session 2016-17

Dear FMS Families

Assalam-o-Alaikum

Alhamdulillah-e-RabbilAlameen, for this relaxing and enjoyable holiday. Allah SWT has blessed us with the holy month of Ramazan in these holidays that helped us to concentrate on spiritual development of ourselves and of our children. Our young ones got a chance to complete their fasts peacefully and in a relaxing mode. We all have celebrated our Eid-ul-Fitr in a pleasant and cloudy weather. Now it is a time to come back to our regular schedule of teaching and learning process. Thank you to all the parents, teachers and community members for participating positively in making Fatimiyah Montessori System effective and successful. With the blessings of Almighty and 14 Masoomeen, FMS has now successfully implemented Montessori system in grade 1. It is a pleasure to announce that FMS has published the first volume of its integrated curriculum book for grade one. More books are under publication.

Wishing you peace, health and prosperity in the new academic Year!!

Afsheen Agha



Highlights

- Sports Day
- Farewell to Class 2
- Beginning of new Academic session 2016-17
- First day of our youngests
- Inauguration of new classes for Class 1
- Orientation meeting for parents of FMS 1 and Class 1
- Printing of Integrated curriculum book for Class 1
- Birthday celebrations of Imam Ali AS, Imam Hussain AS and all the birthdays falling in the months Rajab and Sha'aban.



Development of Mathematical Mind in Montessori

Children in a Montessori environment, work with beautiful and scientifically designed Montessori material. They work with their hands sensing the world around them. They receive the sensorial impression of all the mathematical concepts like shapes, dimensions, mass, and their relationships through concrete objects that prepare their minds for deep Mathematical understanding. Montessori Method believes that preparation of mathematical mind is important before the beginning of formal mathematical teaching. All the concepts learnt through Montessori practical life and sensorial material provide the basis for strong Mathematical minds.

Montessori Method believes that all the practical life exercises teaches mathematical skills of judgment, precision, calculation, exactness, accuracy, estimating, analysis and evaluation. The simplest exercise of pouring beans from jug to jug makes the child to think how to accurately hold the jug, how much hand to rise and when to tilt the jug to be able to pour beans with perfection. Advance exercises focus on learning more challenging skills. Sensorial material provides experiences of discrimination of length, breadth and height found in cylinder blocks, pink tower, brown stairs, and red rods, exploration through constructive geometrical material, and preparation for Algebra through its fascinating exercises of Square of decanomial, and cubes of binomial and trinomial.

Montessori Method makes the student learn and recognise the quantity of 1-9 as a whole. It begins number learning by making the children sense the whole quantity of the number. Symbols are not shown until the child understands the meaning of each number. It is done through number rods. The children look at each number as a whole quantity.

Whereas, in traditional schooling system, learning of Mathematics begin with the memorization of number names and their Abstract symbols. The sequence of symbols 1 to 9 is memorized through poems. Recognising the symbol and counting up to ten does not imply an understanding of what these numbers mean; they are simply symbols and words to be said in sequence. Traditional method relies on one to one counting. If a child is using beads to count, he or she puts finger on each bead saying a number for each bead. Here each bead is a separate unit. It does not help the child to build the concept that how is 7 different from 1. For him every bead is same.

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Dr. Maria Montessori wrote, 'In ordinary schools, to make the calculation easier, they present the child with different objects to count, such as beans, marbles etc., and when, he takes a group of eight marbles and adds two more marbles to it, the natural impression in his mind is not that he has added 8 to 2, but that he has added 1+1+1+1+1+1+1 to 1+1. The result is not so clear, and the child is required to make the effort of holding in his mind the idea of a group of eight objects as one united whole, corresponding to a single number, 8. This effort often puts the child back, and delays his understanding of number by months or even years.'

Formation of large numbers



Montessori Method follows the philosophy of experiencing the whole first. Children at Montessori learn to make 4 digit numbers right after learning the symbols from 1 to 9 and getting the sensorial impression of unit, tens, hundreds and thousands. They learn all four operations; addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with four digit numbers through collective exercises.



Montessori Method builds child's understanding of quantities through number rods, spindle boxes, counter and cards and gradually help him develop abstraction of number names and symbols. This basic understanding is carried forward to the understanding of Decimal system where every number has a place and a value. The students first work with the beautiful golden bead material and move on to abstraction level through stamp game and dot game. A very special aspect of these material is to provide the child concrete experience of making large numbers and solving four operations involving 7 digit numbers.

Linear counting goes simultaneously with decimal system. The students learn counting from 1 to 1000 with the help of ten and ten boards, chains of 100 and 1000. Skip counting is also done through colourful bead material, each colour representing a specific number.

Montessori does not believe in making the child fill the books and copies with numbers without experiencing and developing the concept. Number facts or families are practiced through snake games and strip boards which help them bring fluency in addition and subtraction sums.

It sounds unbelievable when people come to know that Montessori prepare its students for Algebra. Yes! It is absolutely true that our young children of 4 to 5 year olds work with squares and cubes of numbers with the help of square and cube chains, square of decanomial and cubes of trinomial.

Hierarchy material gives the visual experience of numbers till 1 million. Large and small bead frame help the child to do addition and subtraction in millions.

Not everyone loves Math, but if you had learned Math this way when you were young, you would have probably actually loved it.

Events from February' 16 till July'16

FMS' students celebrate Wiladats of our Massomeen AS and important dates which develop their vocabulary and spiritual learning. Following are the event celebrated by our young children during the past six months.



Visit by GB Members – 23rd February 2016



Last Day of School – 8th March 2016



Farewell to Class 2 – 3rd March 2016



First Day of School – 6th April 2016



Montessori Material in new Classrooms of Grade 1–April, May 2016



Professions Open Day – Class 2
13th May 2016



Rajab and Sha'ban Celebrations



Experiential Learning in Montessori Classrooms



Spring and Summer Teacher Training