

J A N U A R Y - M A Y 2 0 1 5



Fatimiyah Montessori System



Welcome to the new academic session 2015-16

Dear FMS Families,
Assalam-o-Alaikum

It's wonderful to see how well our Montessori Juniors have settled into their new school routines. They come to school smiling, and sometimes, ask to stay just for a few minutes longer at the end of the day. They are developing their concentration through practical life exercises, which is an essential element required for reading and writing.

Regularity and punctuality are the two important and basic elements to help the child retain and improve the learnt knowledge. Child's progress is greatly affected by frequent absences. I have observed some students remain absent without any genuine reason. Hope to see our children coming to school regularly and in full strength.

Afsheen Agha
Academic Coordinator FMS



Why Montessori?

Maria Montessori was a revolutionary and a visionary in the field of education. She shifted the attention away from the traditional teacher-directed learning model to a learner-centered one. By recognizing a child's natural desire to learn and providing them with scientifically designed materials, each child develops concentration, coordination, independence, and a regard for order.

At Fatimiyah Montessori System, our prepared environment describes much more than just a classroom and the work on the shelves. It includes our physical surroundings, which are child-sized and child-focused, authentic Montessori materials to facilitate a child's learning, and an experienced, enthusiastic, trained guide who observes and facilitates each child's natural progress. All this happens in a peaceful, joyful, respectful community of peers.

4th April 2015 Last Day of the session 2014-15



With the help of Almighty Allah (SWT) and the blessings of Ahlul bait Alaihimussalaam, we were successfully able to complete our first academic session of Fatimiyah Montessori System on 4th April 2015. It was through the endless effort of our entire team of FMS administrative staff, teachers and support staff that we were able to implement Montessori Philosophy into our preschool system.



"The first essential for the child's development is concentration. It lays the basis for his/her character and social behaviour."

By Maria Montessori

Concentration

Students at work

Concentration is crucial to learning. We need to provide activities, which engage a child so that they reach a deep level of intense concentration sustainable over an extended period of time. Dr. Maria Montessori believed that one of the best gifts we can give children is an environment that enables them to develop their ability to concentrate. In fact, one of the aims of the Montessori Practical Life Activities is to develop strong concentration skills.

When a child is busy with some work we must not interfere because something is happening inside that child. This concentration, which is so complete that it often 'isolates the child from his/her environment', is a biological phenomenon.

Montessori writes in her book "The Child, Society and the World"

"...never interfere when a child is working by himself. Don't be preoccupied about whether he is making mistakes, you must not correct him at this moment. The important thing is not that the child should handle the material well, but that this material has attracted the attention of the child."

How can you help your child in building his/her concentration?

Parents can develop concentration in their children by involving them in daily routine tasks. These daily routine tasks include picking and throwing of trash, pouring and transferring liquids and

dry ingredients without spilling, stirring of food, using of scissors, opening and closing lids, squeezing of wet clothes or sponges, sweeping the floor with a broom and dust pan, mopping the floor, folding clothes and napkins, matching socks, sorting laundry, watering plants, dressing oneself, peeling of fruits and vegetables and many more.





Montessori Junior and Senior



Class 1 & 2

We have 12 mixed age classes of Montessori junior. Each class comprises of 12 FMS 1, and 12 FMS 2 students. Montessori focuses on developing cooperation among the students instead of competition. Competition develops element of jealousy among the students. As the new academic session has started, our FMS 2 students have started helping their new classmates and are acting as helpers and leaders in the classroom. Six classes of Montessori Junior on the first floor (Yellow) are named Sunflower and six classes on the second floor, (Orange) are named Marigold.

Our FMS 2 students recognize almost all the letters of English and Urdu Alphabet and are writing more than 10 letters of English in cursive. Some students have also started writing two letter words. Our group lessons are also focused on value integration and Islamic events of each month.

Montessori Senior classes are located on the third floor, (green). We have named it as Butterflies. Our Butterflies have started writing two letter cursive words. Some of them are also reading and writing three letter phonetic words.



Our Butterflies, promoted to class 1 are provided with active learning opportunities through Montessori Material of Language and Maths. Classroom set up has been changed from traditional to student centered. The students are not made to rote learn but are encouraged to write their own thoughts. For developing fluency in writing they are asked to write sentences and stories in which spellings and grammar are not corrected and marked. The purpose of this kind of writing is to increase their fluency in writing.

Class 2 also follows the same pattern of creative writing. Class 1 and Class 2 are given spelling list each week and their assessment takes place on weekly basis. Morning assemblies are conducted twice weekly. It is very important for our students to be regular to achieve high standards of learning.



Remedial Classes 1st April – 10th April 2015

At FMS our aim is to ensure that no child lags behind and is able to achieve grade level's standards. To be able to achieve this objective a team of our specialist teachers arranged a special classroom with the required material for our at risk students. During the academic session 2015-16 our focus will be to penetrate Montessori principles into the classrooms of grade 1.

Event Celebrations at FMS

Wiladat of Masoomeen Celebrations

We celebrated wiladat of our Holy Prophet (SA), Imam Jaffer-e-Sadiq (AS), Imam Hasan Askari (AS), Bibi Syeda Zahra (SA) and Imam Ali (AS). Wiladat of Imam Hussain (AS) will also be celebrated on 3rd Shaaban. During these celebrations our students cut the cake, prepared cards and souvenirs, recited manqabats and performed tableaux.



Flowers and Birds Week

The students of Montessori Junior, Montessori Senior, Class 1 and Class 2 celebrated flowers and birds week by observing the real flowers and birds, by drawing, colouring and creating crafts. They were also provided videos to watch for increasing their knowledge about the theme.



Fruits, Vegetables and Professions Week

Our young learners celebrated these events by presenting tableaux on fruits and vegetables. They also tasted fresh fruits like strawberries, oranges, tangerines, bananas and apples, and prepared fruit salads. Montessori Senior students enjoyed squeezing juice of oranges. They were allowed to bring oranges from home and squeeze juice independently to prepare their own drink



Orientation meetings and Workshops for parents



Earth Day Celebration

The students went for a nature walk and collected different kinds of dried leaves for using as art activity, they picked trash, watered the plants, planted seeds; did assembly presentations, had discussions on globe, world maps, ways of protecting earth, energy savings, and made souvenirs to take home.

