

Our World at Small World



WHAT DID WE DO THIS MONTH? STEP INTO OUR WORLD AT SMALL WORLD!

Dear Parent(s),

During November headed into December, our students participated in all kinds of activities including partaking in our Thanksgiving Feasts, attending the Santa Breakfast and performing for our Annual Holiday Show! December's Newsletter will feature all of the Events hosted from November 15th- December 15th, 2021. At Montessori School of Miami Gardens, we celebrated the first Thanksgiving in America by having the students dress as "Pilgrims and Native Americans" as we hosted our traditional Family-Style Thanksgiving Feast in each classroom.

Additionally, at the beginning of December we hosted our First Annual Santa Breakfast, where families had the opportunity to eat breakfast together, decorate Gingerbread cookies & most importantly meet Santa Claus! It's clear that all the boys and girls at Small World Montessori made the Nice List this year! A huge thank you to everyone who attended in order to make this such a success.

Finally, we hosted our Annual Holiday Shows for both the Primary and Toddler Programs on December 4th and December 15th respectively. Our in-person Holiday Show for the Primary Program was a great success, and we were so proud to see our students' hard work and practice pay off on the Big Stage. Our Toddler Program's Holiday Show was launched on our YouTube Channel, which can be seen by clicking the YouTube Icon in this Newsletter.

It is our aim to provide parents with a monthly newsletter highlighting all the activities that happened during the previous month. In this month's letter, we have also included a featured article from the American Montessori Society entitled "Creating Emotional Safety around Tantrums and Crying," by K.T. Korngold, MA.

We hope you enjoy seeing all the activities your child took part in. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. This newsletter is for parents, and we are open to suggestions including Article Selections. Join us in January to see our Polar Express Pajama Party & all the activities of the New Year!

Sincerely,
Ms. Bonnie Lynch
Administrator of Communications and Marketing

CLICK ON ICONS BELOW
to follow the classroom fun...



Small World Montessori
School- Miami Gardens



@smallworldmontessorimg



Small World Montessori TV

Important Dates

Tuesday, November 23rd:

Thanksgiving Celebration

Saturday, December 4th:

Santa Breakfast

Friday, December 10th:

Toys for Tots Drive Ends

Saturday, December 11th:

Primary Holiday Show

Wednesday, December 15th:

Toddler Holiday Show Premiere

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FEATURED ARTICLE— “CREATING EMOTIONAL SAFETY AROUND TANTRUMS & CRYING”

BY K.T. KORNGOLD, MA

Sometimes children cry. Sometimes children have tantrums. What causes these outbursts, and how can we best support our children during times of stress and upset?

First, it is important to give children positive information about crying— and to let our children know it is okay to cry. We have seen that there are benefits to crying and tantrums. While it is true that a long cry or temper tantrum is not very agreeable to adults, and can be difficult and draining, it seems that after a good cry or a tantrum, children typically become happier, more cooperative, and ready to meet the day. The transformation can be dramatic. The child who was moody or inflexible before the cry or tantrum becomes a delight to be with and seems relaxed and easygoing.

Stay close and pay attention when a child cries. Pat her back or give her arm a gentle stroke. Give a hug if she will let you. Try one or more of the following phrases:

“Crying makes you feel better.”

“It is okay to cry.”

“I am right here.”

“I am here for you.”

“I will stay with you while you cry.”

“I am with you.”



You do not have to give into a child’s demands as a vehicle to stop the tantrum or crying, but you can support children as they express their frustration. Children need to release tension and stress, and temper tantrums are a way to help them do this. Be near and attend when a child has a tantrum. Sit right beside him; often your presence will allow the child to let it go. Use the phrases I mentioned. However, there is a lot of energy exploding, so be very careful. Sometimes children appreciate a comforting hug after a tantrum has passed, while other times they may not want to be touched afterward at all. It is important to respect the needs of the child.

For a child who frequently cries or engages in tantrums, there are ways to provide support when he or she is not crying or having a tantrum:

1. Give the child plenty of physical closeness: Pat, hold, hug, hum, sing, give a gentle cuddle, and smile.
2. When you are with the child, be fully present and available. Keep outside distractions to a minimum.
3. Pay close attention to the child. Look into his eyes; look at his face; let him know you are there. Take your time; do not rush.
4. Listen respectfully when the child talks. Wait for her to speak, don’t ask too many questions, and stay with her while you are waiting for her to speak. Let the child lead the way. Do not interrupt. Repeat what the child says back to her so she knows you hear her.

Sometimes something specific triggers crying or a tantrum (being tired, hungry, hot, cold, frustrated, or interrupted. Or it can be due to sensory issues, change of directions or plans, or a transition). Sometimes stresses build up over time, and the trigger is just what causes the outburst. Remember, children need to release tension and stress, and a temper tantrum or crying enables them to do that. Try to let go of your own feelings about a child crying or having a temper tantrum. We don’t need to control children; we need to control our own feelings and our own behavior. Our job is to guide them, to be with them, and to support and enable them to feel safe while they release what they need to release.

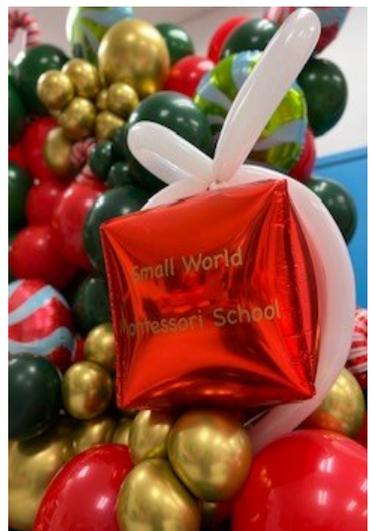
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THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION



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SANTA BREAKFAST 2021



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DECEMBER 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

