

THE TREEPOST



NEWS & NOTES FROM COUNTRY MONTESSORI SCHOOL | FALL 2017

CMS takes center stage



By Joshua Rehkopf

I was given only one requirement, to incorporate the Country Montessori logo. The freedom to create something whimsical and fun was right up my alley. The spacious skies, and kids blowing and popping bubbles represents CMS as an inclusive community. The movement in this piece allows students and visitors to look from one bubble to the next, and appreciate each animal individually just as they do each classroom.



RINGING IN A NEW TRADITION

A classic school bell donated to the school by a CMS Family inspired a new tradition on campus. Hanging just outside the Bumblebees classroom, the bell is now rung when an Elementary student brings the American flag to fly outside the classroom in the morning, and again when they remove the flag in the afternoon. The bell features an inscription of the school name.



CALENDAR ITEMS

OCTOBER

28 Halloween Carnival

NOVEMBER

2-3 Parent Teacher Conferences

10 Veteran's Day -
No School / No Childcare

15 Walk-a-thon

17 Thanksgiving Feast for students

20-24 Thanksgiving Break -
No School / No Childcare 21 & 22

 **Like us on Facebook!**



The *Treepost* is sent to families four times a year. For weekly updates, photos, and timely reminders, like us on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is also a great way to share CMS with friends and family and prospective families.

HELLO from The Head of School

What a wonderful first two months of school we have had! All of the classroom environments are full of learning and are already what we call in Montessori, normalized. Normalization describes the process that occurs in the Montessori classroom, where young children learn to focus and concentrate for sustained periods of time, while deriving self-satisfaction from their work.

EVENTFUL EVENTS

The beginning months of every new school year brings several events and meetings with the purpose of welcoming new and returning families, and being as informative as we can to assist our families. The PTC opened the school year with a Meet and Greet which was a wonderful time for parents, teachers, administration and the board of directors to mingle. Classroom weekend parties were successful and hopefully the beginning of new relationships.

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Meeting and Ice Cream Social. As a non-profit school, it is required to hold an annual meeting every year to inform our community and introduce new board members. Years ago, we partnered with our PTC and Upper Elementary students to add the Ice Cream Social. This year we were delighted to have the PTC add an interactive opportunity for parents to get to know others in their classrooms. By the laughter, this was certainly a hit. Thank you to all who attended, it was a great day!

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

Each year we continue to make sure that our communication to our community, from your classroom teachers to the administration, continues and grows. The school takes a proactive approach that may seem elevated in the first months of school, but ensures reaching out to all of our families.

PARENT EDUCATION NIGHTS

Our two parent education events, The Montessori Journey and Curriculum Night were well attended. The parent participation and insight were very much appreciated by the staff, the group discussions were enjoyable and valuable. Thank you for attending.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING



Prior to the school year starting the staff attended two outstanding in-services that were very useful and practical for our teachers. Reena Patel, Licensed Educational Psychologist, and Susan Whitacre, a long term AMS Montessori trainer, gave their time due to their relationships with the school.

Helping Hurricane Victims

Some people asked if the school was doing anything to help people in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. Country Montessori School, through The American Montessori Society, has donated to schools that were affected and our donation was generously matched by AMS and Heutink, a Montessori materials company.

As part of our emergency preparedness for earthquakes, we participated in the Great California Shake Out on Thursday, October 19. All classrooms practice earthquake and fire drills throughout the school year.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES COMING UP

Parent/Teacher Conferences are on November 2 and 3. This is a special time for you to meet with your student's teachers and learn about their school experience. The teachers look forward to these days. Your report card will be available on Wednesday, November 1 on your parent portal on Renweb, in the late afternoon. If you need assistance with RenWeb, you can contact Mr. Bolaños and he will be happy to assist you.

SEE YOU AT THE HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL!

I hope that everyone is ready to go the the PTC hosted Halloween Carnival on Saturday, October 28 from 3-5. This is a fun and exciting family event, I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Cheers,

Adela



ABOUT ADELA

- At CMS since it opened in 1989
- BS in Human Services and an Early Childhood 3-6 Montessori Credential
- Positions held at CMS: Child Care, Classroom Assistant, Spanish Teacher, Early Childhood Teacher, Early Childhood Curriculum Director, Head of School
- Passion for Montessori education began 1988 while substituting in a local Montessori school and saw a child doing sock folding in the Practical Life area - an "a-ha moment" that continues to this day
- Inspired by CMS because of the authenticity and commitment to Montessori education, the positive internal culture, the community collaboration, and it's a FAMILY
- Member, Montessori Administrators' Council of San Diego (MACSD) - AMS Liaison and Co-Chair of Speakers; Co-Chair, Annual American Montessori Society's conference in San Diego; Member, Poway and North San Diego Business Chambers
- Two daughters - Victoria, 25, and Katherine, 22, who attended CMS from 1995-2006
- Loves her Cocker Spaniel, Rosie Marie, and is of Peruvian descent

Ms. Adela Corrales,
Head of School, CMS

Message from the Board President

Thanks to all of the families who attended our Annual Meeting and Ice Cream Social on September 16. It was wonderful to meet all the new families and welcome back returning families. One of the highlights was PTC's M&M activity, which allowed parents to share and get to know each other better.

During the meeting, I shared information about the school's Strategic Plan which we hope will ensure that CMS continues to thrive as an educational institution in Poway for decades to come. There are four facets to this plan:

1. to provide a vibrant, sustainable and enriching campus environment;
2. to ensure active engagement between our families and the school;
3. to maximize child development with the authentic Montessori curriculum, while also infusing progressive techniques and technology; and
4. to increase community awareness of how Montessori education develops the whole child.

Here are a few examples of the strategy in action:

- Addition of the new elementary building and improvements to the Early Childhood classrooms. We upgraded the playground environment and equipment, created a serenity garden, replaced the stage and fencing, added turf, and installed shade structures.
- Our technology committee has worked with the teachers to assess and purchase new tablets, charging stations and robotic coding equipment. We have increased involvement in the local community and businesses to share the Montessori philosophy.

President	Nina Kim, Owls
Vice President	Joy Hou, Owls
Secretary	Chris Zedelmayer, Owls
Treasurer	Kathy Rogers, Community Member
Owls	Kalyan Kuppuswamy
Eagles	Sean Gailey
Eagles, Ladybugs, Bumblebees	Peter Townsend
Staff	Adela Corrales, Head of School Vicki Rehkopf, Owls teacher Wendy West, Bumblebees teacher

PTC NEWS

The PTC and Classroom Ambassadors strive to ensure that CMS students and their families have every opportunity to become part of our CMS community. Our goal is to provide communication and social opportunities to forge lasting friendships and memorable experiences. This year's Meet & Greet and Ice Cream Social were great opportunities to begin those connections. If you were unable to attend, our upcoming Halloween Carnival will be a frightfully good time!

President	Gilda Reeves – Bumblebees, Dragonflies
Vice President & Outreach	Eva Rayburn – Eagles
Ambassador Coordinator	Kerstin Kirchsteiger – Bumblebees
Social Chairs	Kelley Swaine – Owls Dragana Kotokovic – Bumblebees
Staff Appreciation Chair	Cheryl Schneider – Eagles
Ladybugs	Marea Ortiz Anny Kuo
Bumblebees	Rebecca Colman Jenni Nguyen
Dragonflies	Alaina Beaudette MaryAnn Malvig
Eagles	Monica Scott
Owls	Lisa Wood Corinne Fond Ana Garza-Beutz

DEVELOPMENT NEWS Annual Walk-a-thon NOVEMBER 15

We are very excited to host our annual CMS Walk-a-thon on November 15th. This event is a wonderful way for students and families to get involved and help support our fundraising efforts that benefit the "Building Our Future" campaign and investment in new technology for CMS students.

PLEDGING

In the weeks leading up to the event, each student will receive a pledge sheet to request **pledge donations from friends and families**. Donations can be made in a flat dollar amount, or they can pledge to donate based on the number of laps

a student completes in 20 minutes. For per-lap donation pledges, on the day of the Walk-a-thon all students' lap counts will be recorded and then per lap donations will be collected based on their lap total. Many companies offer **corporate matching** for non-profit organizations, which CMS qualifies for. **Our goal is to raise \$300 per student**, but any amount raised is a valuable contribution!

DAY OF THE EVENT

On the day of the event, each student will receive their CMS 2017 Walk-a-thon T-shirt and a card to record their lap count. The

event will begin at **10 a.m. for the Dragonflies, Bumblebees, and Ladybugs** classrooms. At **11 a.m. the Eagles and Owls will take their turn** on the track. We invite family members to attend the Walk-a-thon and help cheer on our CMS students!

GET INVOLVED!

If you are looking for a fun way to get more involved in the CMS community, please contact me: joseb@countrymontessori.org

We look forward to seeing you all on November 15th!

{...EXCERPTS FROM CLASSROOM NEWSLETTERS...}

BUMBLEBEES

PRIMARY | AGES 2.5 - 6



The Bumblebees have been busy bees! They have been enjoying their friends and receiving lessons from their teachers.

We have been amazed at how well they have transitioned into the daily routine, and their work.

All children have started their enrichment classes and are enjoying them. During circle times we have been focusing on feelings, emotions, body parts, and senses. In the upcoming month we will be focusing on the World Map, trees, plants, and seeds.

A few reminders ...

- As the weather is getting colder in the morning, but still hot in the afternoon we ask the children to dress in layers
- Please bring lunchboxes everyday including Friday. Even if your child is hot lunch, we ask that you bring fruits/vegetables in their lunch box to supplement their lunch. This also allows them to bring home any food they do not finish
- If your child comes home with small objects, beads, or anything you know doesn't belong to them PLEASE RETURN

DRAGONFLIES

PRIMARY | AGES 2.5 - 6



The Dragonflies are off to great start in the school year with new beginnings, new friends, new classroom arrangement and new lessons.

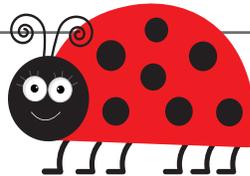
As we have all found our rhythm in the classroom, the children are getting familiar with the work around the classroom and staying very busy.

Music and Spanish classes have started and are highly enjoyed by all. In the afternoon circle time we have been focusing on autumn, explores, transportation, and grace & courtesy.

This month the Dragonflies are focusing on kindness and taking care of ourselves. We are teaching the children to use kind words and kind hands with others. We are also having children focusing on themselves when doing their work.

LADYBUGS

PRIMARY | AGES 2.5 - 6



SHARING DAY

Every Tuesday is sharing day. This gives your child the opportunity to bring something they love and talk about it with the other children. It also gives them public speaking practice. For the youngest child, that may be just holding up their item for the other children to see, and by the time they are older it is our goal that they be comfortable and confident as they give more details and answer questions about what they have brought. Ideas for sharing day are books (with their favorite page marked), a souvenir from a trip, a special shell they found on the beach, a Lego creation, a favorite toy, or an item related to our monthly themes. Please encourage your child to choose something that is meaningful to them on Monday evening so Tuesday morning it is ready to go. It is also helpful to bring the item in a bag for easier carrying. We begin at 8:40, so be aware if your child is late they may miss sharing.

MORNING LINE TIME

Each day we come together in two groups in the morning. We call this line time. We do a variety of activities, like reading books, singing and movement, and walking on the line. Dr. Montessori was a careful observer, and she noticed that

children enjoyed walking along a line and she realized that they were perfecting their sense of balance. The young child is in a sensitive period for the perfection of movement.

The past two months we have been learning about manners, feelings, family and friends, the 5 senses, autumn, what is living and non-living, the differences between plants and animals, and the continents of the world.

Looking ahead to the next couple of months we will be studying trees and leaves, fish, amphibians, reptiles, North America, Europe, and of course will continue to learn about grace and courtesy throughout the year.

We learn about these different subjects with activities such as singing, movement, books, finger plays, flannel board stories and discussion. During this time we also talk about the calendar and weather.

AFTERNOON LINE TIME

For children who stay full day and do not nap, we have an additional group gathering at 12:30. We are having fun doing science experiments and going into greater detail with our morning themes. Get ready to hear all about these exciting activities from your child!

(...EXCERPTS FROM CLASSROOM NEWSLETTERS...)

EAGLES

LOWER ELEMENTARY | AGES 6 - 9



Engineering is a new addition to the Eagles Classroom. The first levels are working on a unit about creating the perfect play dough recipe. They are currently learning about what a chemical engineer is while they survey the class on the best color for a new kind of juice. The children are learning about the design process. They are currently in the ask and imagine stages. The second levels are working on a unit about creating the best mortar for a wall. They have been experimenting with different mortar samples and testing

for strength and stickiness. The third levels have been learning about bridges. They have tested three types of bridges for strength and are now drawing their own bridge creations that they will test next week with weights and toy cars.

In coding classes, the students are learning about algorithms, and persistence. During our unplugged lessons (lessons that do not require computers); the first and second levels identified and fixed bugs in a marble run that they made. They also followed an algorithm for planting a seed. The third levels followed an algorithm for folding a paper airplane. During our computer coding lessons, the students

work independently or in pairs to create code that allows a character to move throughout a maze to reach a destination. One third level student said, "I'm going to tell my mom I got to play video games at school." Each computer lesson has 10-15 parts/mazes to complete on a given subject. If students get stuck they may click on the hint button that will walk them through each part of the code until they identify the problem (bug) and fix it so it will complete the required task. Teachers have access to student progression and can see which mazes were completed, incomplete, used too many blocks of code to complete and which ones were troublesome.

OWLS

UPPER ELEMENTARY | AGES 9 -11



In the beginning of the school year, the students gave reports on famous monuments in the United States. A few were the Supreme Court, the Alamo, and the Lincoln Memorial. All the students were happy to present and did an excellent job. Later, we prepared to make a fun book report. We typed a report and presented our book reports to the class. Some of the books were, *Death of a Princess*, *Warriors: Into the Wild*, *The Tale of Despereaux*, and *Percy Jackson and The Lightning Thief*. The fifths made amazing mobiles. The fourths made detailed paper posters. These reports were fun to present and make.

The elementary classes of 2017 have gotten new curriculums; including robotics and coding. Now that the 4th and 5th levels started robotics early this year, we can move on to harder tasks in our program. We have now included coding in our weekly schedule using our new Chromebook. On code.org there are many different levels and special videos. "I think that this is a great, new improvement for our school," says Oliver B.

The Owls classroom experienced new things on the field trips. The 4th went to the amazing Archaeological Center for their field trip. Meanwhile the 5th levels had a dangerously stinky experience handling a chemical reaction of iron and

sulfur. After the smelly experience, the 5th made their own perfume out of citrus and spices. Now they will wait until December for the alcohol to extract the oils. While the 5th level students made perfume, the 4ths journeyed to the Archaeological Center. They learned about what things early people used and found out a lot about animals. They learned how to take notes like an archaeologist. They learned a lot about rocks. In the museum, the 4ths did an archaeological dig where they graphed and drew what they found. Since they had extra time, the 4th levels got to see a surprise; the vault that preserves bones! Both grades had a fascinating experience.

PARENTS' PERSPECTIVE

FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

Busick Family | DRAGONFLIES 2017



I attended Country Montessori in the school's inaugural year, 1989. I have so many fond memories from playing on the playground to doing many of the activities our children do today - cutting fruit and veggies, learning early math through the strings and blocks of beads, and the world map puzzles to name a few. To this day, I have friendships that began at Country Montessori. My husband and I are so excited for our son Owen, and

eventually our twins August and Eleanor, to attend CMS and experience the same great start to their education that I had. My parents still vividly recall the early days of the school.

From my mom Deborah...

I am thrilled to have our grandson Owen attending Country Montessori. When we first considered enrolling Kristen, the school had been in existence only a few months; and had been started through a joint parent-teacher collaboration. After meeting the staff, we immediately knew it was the right choice for our daughter; we weren't familiar with the Montessori approach but sensed that it would be the ideal environment for her to learn and grow.

We also liked the strong parent involvement. The families took turns tending to the farm animals on weekends; I remember Kristen being chased by a cranky goat!

LIKE A FAMILY

Fabienne & Roland El Ghazal

OWLS, EAGLES, BUMBLEBEES 2017



Our third child, Chelsea, started pre-school this year at CMS in the Bumblebees classroom. It was such a happy moment for us on the first day of school, seeing Chelsea holding her older brothers' hands as they walk her to her classroom at the same school they've been attending for six years.

Our journey with CMS started when we switched our oldest son Peter from the public school system to CMS in the middle of the 2011-12 school year, and our son Matthew joined CMS the next year. It was the best decision we made in our life. Peter and Matthew have different personalities, and the CMS teachers embrace these differences to provide the best educational experience for each of them.

THREE AND COUNTING Townshend Family

EAGLES, LADYBUGS, BUMBLEBEES 2017



Our family, like most, believes strongly in the importance of education. We also recognize that every child is different, and that education should be much more than simply learning a sequence of facts. When we first started looking for preschools for our son Benjamin, Priscilla and I were attracted to the Montessori approach because of its focus on independence, individuality and all aspects of development. Once we had decided on Montessori, the staff, facilities and professionalism of CMS made it an easy choice!

Benjamin, now almost 7 and in first grade, has thrived at CMS. He is a voracious reader, and has supplemented his learning with good character, humor and leadership. It was an easy decision for Benjamin's younger brother Peter Jr. ("Pepe") to follow him to CMS. Pepe is a Ladybug, and his approach to learning is different than Benjamin's. Pepe has matured greatly, learning that charm, while cute, does not get you everything in this world.

This year our youngest son Luke, age 3, started Bumblebees. We were worried that Luke wasn't ready, but the change in his attitude and maturity in just a few short weeks has been tremendous! Luke loves school, and is often the first one up and ready for each new day.

We are thankful for everything that CMS has brought to our three boys. So thankful that we are looking forward to having our fourth CMS child when our youngest, Valentina, is ready. Look out, CMS - that little one is a handful!

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



As traditional Montessorians in our early years, CMS did not have technology in the classroom environments. But as we evolved and the need became quite evident, we approached the integration of

technology as we thought Dr. Montessori might want us to do if she was alive today by preparing the child for life.

BUILDING ON MONTESSORI TRADITION

Nancy Rambush, the first President of the American Montessori Society in 1960 and founder of the first Montessori school in the U.S., firmly believed that aspects of the Montessori method had to be modified to accommodate the culture in America. In AMS schools, teachers continue the methods developed by Dr. Montessori while bringing in outside resources, materials, and ideas to extend or supplement the Montessori curriculum.

Over the years we have researched and discussed how and when we would begin introducing a technology curriculum to our students. We began with a computer lab and eventually the elementary environments received PCs, iPads, and Mac computers. In 2015, when we became WASC Accredited, one of our goals was to continue to expand our STEM program in the elementary program. Adhering to developmental needs and stages of children, we don't introduce technology until the children begin first grade.

NEW TECHNOLOGY & TOOLS

Through weekly computer class in the lab, students become familiar with the basics, typing skills and word processing etc. In the classroom, technology is used for research mostly with the cultural materials and lessons.

Last year, the staff and our IT committee discussed needs, curriculum and goals. Our teachers researched what other schools both public and private were using and we decided, as a team, the direction we were headed. The classrooms now have Chrome books, more iPads and robotics. Coding which was already implemented in our 4th and 5th levels has now been extended to our 1st through 3rd levels. The teachers have been attending STEM and coding workshops for several years and added another workshop this summer. Specific technology and engineering lessons are now part of the weekly lesson plans, as we have also expanded our engineering curriculum.

The students and teachers are both excited about the new additions and will continue to build our curriculum.

ALUMNINEWS

featuring **Andy Altman**

How many years did you attend CMS? Preschool and kindergarten

What is your favorite memory of CMS? Playtime...having fun pretending to be a pirate in the ship, playing with the animals.

Do you remember your friends and teachers? I'm still close with a number of my friends and teachers from CMS, including Wendy West and Caitlin Bonacci.

What educational institutions did you attend after CMS?

Chaparral Elementary School, then La Jolla Country Day School for middle and high school, Stanford for undergrad, and USD for my MBA.

What is your current employment or business? I am the CEO and co-founder of GigTown, a local music app and website that makes it easy to hire local musicians for events. I also work for an investment firm doing social media and digital marketing.

What do you think you learned at CMS that has affected your education, career or interests? I learned that it's good to be curious. It's good to be a tinkerer. It's good to take an interest in new things, challenge yourself, and keep learning.

What do you think are the benefits of a Montessori education? You learn to learn. You learn to pick something up and figure it out, all while interacting with your peers.

CONFERENCE TIME! How we prepare & what to expect

Preparing for parent teacher conferences is a carefully thought out process in which the team of teachers meet and go over all their observations taken during one-on-one lessons, small group lessons, line times, as well as general observations during work time and outside play. Just like our lesson plans, we take extra time to individualize progress reports for each child.

Prior to your conference, please review your child's progress report, including the comments, and write down any questions you might have. Also, because your conference is only 20 minutes and the 10 minutes in between is used to prepare for our next conference, please be mindful of the time. The teachers try hard to stay on schedule.

If we need more time to discuss your child's progress, we will schedule another meeting.

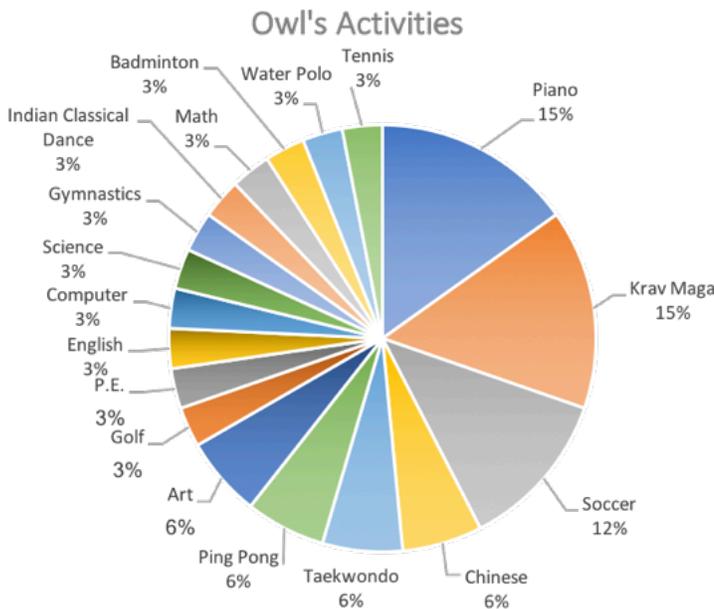
All teachers look forward to this special time to share our experience of your child!

OWLS AFTER SCHOOL

by Ava Zedelmeyer

CMS has a rich curriculum and a great study environment. It offers many after-school activities, but most children have out of school hobbies too. I took a survey of the Owl's classroom (4ths and 5ths) about what they do outside of school for fun. The most common answers were Piano, Soccer and Krav Maga. The most unique answers were Badminton and Indian Classical Dance. Krav Maga is a form of self-defense and Badminton is similar to Tennis, but is used with a shuttlecock instead of a ball. Many students do more than one activity throughout the week.

I interviewed 19 students in the Owls class. Below is a chart of how many students do which activities.



Why should you do after school activities? Well there are many reasons. When children find a hobby that they enjoy, they have much more confidence and self-esteem. It can also help with time management skills and lets them socialize more freely.

After school activities provide positive experiences to grow mentally and athletically. Broaden your horizons! Do an after-school activity and have some fun!

Our Montessori Journey



Our Montessori journey began in Winter 2016 when we decided to relocate to San Diego from San Francisco. We began searching for a school that offered challenging academics, individual instruction and social/emotional development. In the spring of 2017, we chose Country Montessori because it met all of our criteria and provided an environment that we thought would help our son thrive academically and socially.

We eagerly anticipated the start of the year and the opportunity to see the school in action. Lucas is discreet about his life at school. Getting information from him is very challenging (he would make a great secret agent), so we were excited to participate in the Montessori Journey training. We looked forward to gaining a better view into how our son spends his days and, more importantly, his future at CMS.

We walked away from the training that evening with our intuition about CMS confirmed. Completing some of the sample work assignments was a total sensory experience! We had never touched and seen multiplication and geometry. It was a revelation and definitely more fun than we experienced during our own schooling. We are thrilled that this will be his norm.

There is no question that Lucas will be challenged at CMS and that those challenges will encourage him to grow as a student and a person, which is what we want. We are looking forward to being his partners with CMS on his journey.

Cristopher & Diana Crews
Parents of Lucas, Ladybugs - Kindergarten

MEET THE TEACHERS

BRITTANY TITUS

EARLY CHILDHOOD / LADYBUGS

Where did you live as a child?

I grew up in Roseville, California, near our capital Sacramento.

How many years have you been teaching at CMS?

It will be a year in February.

What did you do before you came to CMS?

I worked in childcare and other preschools for about 10 years. I found my passion for Montessori when I worked as an assistant at Montessori School of San Diego and decided to do my Montessori training at the AMS Training Center in San Diego.

What do you enjoy about teaching Early Childhood?

I love how excited they are to learn at such a young age and it also amazes me how fast children can learn. Teaching is the most rewarding job and I am excited to come to work each day to teach my students.

Which is your favorite material in the classroom? Why?

I enjoy many of the Montessori materials, but my favorite would have to be the trinomial cube. Before I did my training, I was so curious how to put it together. When I did my training I learned how it was actually algebra, $(a+b+c)^3$, and was even more amazed by the trinomial. Now that I have my credential I love giving lessons on it.

What is a favorite memory from your childhood?

My sister and I are only 17 months apart and we have always been pretty inseparable and I have many memories of us playing outside and jumping on our big trampoline.

What are your interests?

I love going to the beach to go swimming, kayaking, boogie boarding, and I am starting to learn how to surf.

What is the most important thing you would like parents to know about Montessori education?

I love that it encourages teachers and parents to foster independence for their children. Before I was a Montessori teacher, I used to do everything for the children and they became so dependent on me. I learned the hard way that I wasn't helping them. Once a child becomes independent they are more confident, secure, self-aware, and able to solve their own problems in the real world.



RANU HUQ

EARLY CHILDHOOD / DRAGONFLIES

Where did you live as a child?

I was born in a little village in Bangladesh where I lived there until I was 4 years old. Then we lived in Islamabad, Pakistan until I was 9 years old. The rest of my childhood was in Alexandria, Virginia, just outside of Washington, D.C.

How many years have you been teaching at CMS?

This is my second year in the span of 10 years.

What did you do before you came to CMS?

I was lead teacher at Pines Montessori School in Kingwood, TX, the first time I came to CMS in 2006 and Branch Manager/ Marketing Director for a Dell Global Distribution firm in Dubai, UAE before joining CMS this year.

What do you enjoy about teaching Early Childhood?

So many things! If I have to pick a favorite, it's the "ah ha" moments when a child discovers his/her ability to comprehend and complete a task all by him or herself.

Which is your favorite material in the classroom? Why?

I feel the sensorial materials and exercises encompass everything the Montessori method of learning is all about. Through the sensorial materials, the child is learning size, shape, language, math, etc. using the five senses without even realizing it.

What is a favorite memory from your childhood?

As an adult, I'm extremely appreciative of the years I had in my village with nothing but nature providing my toys and playground.

What are your interests?

I love reading, hiking, travelling the world and my family is an obsession of mine :-)

What is the most important thing you would like parents to know about Montessori education?

"I hear, and I forget. I see, and I remember. I do, and I learn."

Maria Montessori.



FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY...

Here are some safety reminders from Poway Unified School District. Please discuss them with your children:

- Walk in the company of others
- Stay in view of the street (do not go into hidden areas like bushes)
- Be alert (wearing headphones can reduce awareness)
- If a passing vehicle stops, do not get too close
- If a suspicious stranger approaches you, get away and tell an adult immediately

Please report anything suspicious to law enforcement right away.



MISSION STATEMENT

Country Montessori School is committed to maintaining its leadership in Montessori education. Our mission as educators and parents is to foster independent, confident, academically prepared, and socially responsible citizens, who will be lifelong learners and problem solvers. We will grow and evolve to meet the needs of our children, parents and community.



12642 MONTE VISTA RD. | POWAY, CA 92064
858-673-1756

COUNTRYMONTESSORI.ORG



Accredited by Western Association of Schools and Colleges
www.acswasc.org



Full Member School of the American Montessori Society
www.amshq.org