

Highlights of the

During the month of January, we will explore the continent of Asia. As an introduction this week, the children were introduced to a puzzle map of Asia. Asia has 48 countries, however this year, we will focus on **China, Russia, Japan** and **India**. To date, the children have learned a few facts about Asia. E.g., it is the largest continent, **Russia** is the largest country in Asia and in fact the largest in the world. **Russia** is so large it spans across two continents - Asia and Europe; **China** is the most populated country in the world and **India** is the second most populated. **Japan** is comprised of many islands which are called archipelago. We also discussed a few animals of Asia and the children were given facts regarding each. The animals are: water buffalo, mandarin duck, panda, cobra, bengal tiger.

The children have been learning a song to help remember the 5 oceans of Earth as we begin discussions of "under the sea". The oceans are: Pacific (the largest and deepest), Atlantic, Arctic, Southern, and Indian. (See Home/School Connection below for song!)

In the practical life area this week the children were shown how to scrub a large sea shell.

On Friday we discussed **why** there is no school on Monday (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:



"We shall walk together on this path of life for all things are part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity"

Reminders:

- January 15th Martin Luther King Jr. Day NO SCHOOL
- February 12th Curriculum night phase 2
- February 16th Family Ball at Troy Community center 6pm to 7:30pm
- February 19th & 20th Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL

Home/School Connection

Our poem for January:

January opens the box of the year

That bring out things that are bright and clear

And brings out things that are cold and gray

And shouts, let's see what I brought today!

Oceans song (sung to the tune "I'm a little teapot")

There are 5 oceans deep and wide

Pacific and Atlantic by our side

Arctic is up north, and Southern is south

Indian is far but not left out