



Mountainview Montessori

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"In our Montessori school we learn together peacefully and responsibly by caring for each other and the world."



"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."

— **Maria Montessori**

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

Let us walk together, as we work together in sponsoring several Christmas families this year. Let us demonstrate the connectedness of our Mountainview community.

This year, due to COVID 19, we will be changing our **"Tree of Giving"** and how we help our families in need. In fact, the need might be greater this year than ever before. We want to do this in a responsible, thoughtful and safe way. For our families we are going to do 'Gift Card Trees of Giving.' We are asking families to purchase Walmart or Superstore gift cards. (We have selected these two stores because they carry food, clothing, and more.) We do not want to send people into extra stores this year and we hope that you pick up a gift card (\$10, \$20 or more) while you are out doing your own shopping. Please mark the amount on the gift card so that they can be divided accordingly. In order to not have people entering the school there will be **designated days for gift card drop offs**. Ms. Rutherford will be available before and after school, outside at a table in the courtyard, for the week of **Monday, December 7th through Friday, December 11th**. Though there have been disappointments in 2020 and not doing the usual "Tree of Giving" is one of those, let's all focus on what we can do. In so doing, we can make the season bright for our families in need.

We will also have a collection of non-perishable and canned food items, in order to support to the Surrey Food Bank. We will have three **Friday Food Bank Days in December** (4th, 11th, and 18th.) The food will be collected outside and taken to the food bank that day. This is being done for the safety of our students and staff. Here is a list of items from the Surrey Food Bank... canned fish/meat (e.g. tuna, ham, turkey), healthy cereal (hot or cold), meals in a tin (e.g. pork n' beans or stew), canned vegetables, canned fruit, wholegrain pasta/rice, pasta sauces, canned and dry soups, and mac and cheese. In addition to the above list, we would also like to see items that could help in the preparation of lunches for the children like granola bars, fruit cups, and juice boxes. It is the Christmas season so snack foods, like cookies and candies, would also be appreciated. Please be generous with your donations.

Maria Montessori believed that we all have a Cosmic Task. Let our Cosmic Task this year be to take care of and help families in our school and throughout Surrey in a socially responsible and thoughtful way given the challenges of 2020.

"But the love of man for man is a far more tender thing, and so simple that it is universal."

- **Maria Montessori**

Sincerely,

The Mountainview Community

