

Dear Parents,

8.10.19

As we practice elements of The Montessori Curriculum in our upper years we would like the children to take part in what is called The **Montessori Celebration of Life (Birthday Celebration also called The Birthday Walk)**. Those of you with children in our Early years will probably be more familiar with it. Everyone wants to be remembered and cherished on the special day that they were born. The **Montessori Celebration of Life** is a lovely way to **celebrate** a child's **birthday** in a school setting. Children love to hear about the journey from their birth to the present day.

What is a Montessori birthday celebration? Each school has its own slight variation, but basically it goes like this;

A candle, representing the sun, is lit in the middle of the room. Labels with each month of the year are laid out in a circle radiating out from the “sun.” The children and teachers sit in a wide circle around the sun and months of the year, while the birthday child stands next to the month of his or her birth holding a globe to represent the Earth. The child then walks around the sun one time for each year of his or her life. As the child walks, the teacher talks about what the child was doing when he or she was that age. Parents usually write a sentence or two or send in pictures of the child. At the end the child may extinguish the candle and the class sings “Happy Birthday”.



Timeline Project

We would like our older children to now take part in our Birthday Walk but while also preparing a historical timeline of their life from birth to the present. If there were significant events in history during a child's lifetime those could have a mention as well (ie Mrs Myers was born on American Mother's Day in the year the first man walked on the moon!). Please see the attached sheet for guidance and marking. Due date 29th November.

We would really like the children to create this themselves without the use of power point or computer. It should be a creative process where children and parents can work together coming up with ideas on how to present their timeline whilst also discussing milestones or sharing family history along the way.

Should you have any difficulties in helping your child please speak to your child's teacher or email Mrs Myers for guidance or to answer any questions.

Timeline Project

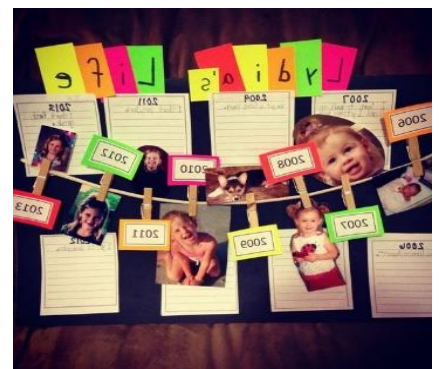
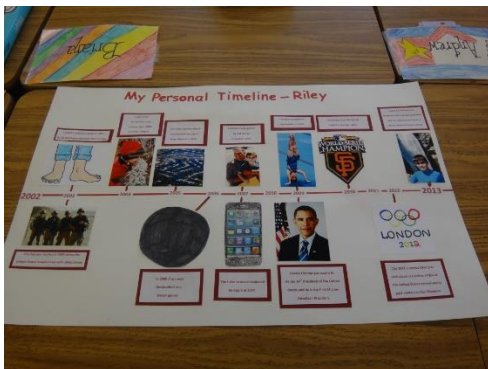
We are learning about timelines and preparing our personal timelines to help us celebrate our birthdays in our Birthday Walks.

YOUR TASK - Create a timeline of events that have happened each year of your life! Children will share these for their Birthday Walk (even if birthday has passed already or is during holidays we will make sure to have a walk for each child- you can have two birthdays like the Queen!)

You may use any kind of art and craft to create your timeline (sugar paper, maps, photos, poster board, labels, etc. be creative!)

We ask that you not use a computer for this homework and prefer it to be only enhanced by printed photos- no power point please.

Here are some examples of a personal timeline:



Attached you will find the rubric we will use to mark the students' projects.

Project due date: 29th November 201

Rubric for Our Personal Timeline Project

	3	2	1	0
Completion	Project was complete and turned in on time.		Project was turned in but not complete.	Project was not turned in on time.
Content	The timeline has a title.			The timeline has no title.
	All events have the date written.	Most events have the dates written.	Some events have the dates written.	None of the events have dates written.
	All events have complete sentences.	Most events have complete sentences.	Some events have complete sentences.	None of the events have complete sentences.
	All events have a photo or illustration.	Most events have a photo or illustration.	Some events have a photo or illustration.	None of the events have a photo or illustration.
Presentation	Handwriting It is easy to tell I took time making it neat. I adjusted the size of my letters to fit the spaces.	Handwriting It is neatly written and easy to read.	Handwriting At times the size of my letters does not fit the spaces, or the spaces in my sentences are not appropriate.	My timeline is too difficult for people to follow or understand.
	All illustrations are drawn neatly and colored completely. All photos are cut and glued neatly and in appropriate places.	Most illustrations are drawn neatly and colored completely. Most photos are cut and glued neatly and are in appropriate places.	My illustrations resemble stick figures and lack color and/or detail. My photos are not neatly cut or glued.	
	My timeline is easy to follow and understand.	Most of my timeline is easy to follow.	My timeline is a little difficult to follow. Someone must spend some time trying to figure out what it says.	
TOTAL SCORE (out of 24)		Teacher's comments:		