



HDMS GRATITUDE NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MR. ERIC

*nothing
but
Gratitude!*



As I hope you all know, next week is Thanksgiving week at HDMS. We always take this opportunity to give thanks to the people who have helped us along the way. I would especially like to thank my administrative support team, Ms. Cheryl, Ms. Laurel, Ms. Martha, Mr. Preston, Ms. Sheila, Ms. Sherrie, and Ms. Stacey who make sure this school is healthy and able to work towards our mission. I would also like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers, including our Foster Grandparents, Grandma Essie, and Grandpa Malory, and our amazing PTO, whose efforts for our children are so valuable. I would like to thank all of the hard work done by the staff at Farm Fresh Catering who serve over 100,000 meals a year at our little school. Super thank yous need to go to my academic team, social team, Ms. Kaleigh and Ms. Mary, who take on so much more than there are hours in the day, and to our all-volunteer board of directors, who have worked so hard for all of us. Finally, I have to thank the teachers and assistants who work tirelessly, even on weekends and holidays, to make sure your children receive the best education possible.

And... thank you, parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and all of the others whose support makes our community such an awesome place.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eric
Eric@hdmsreno.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

11/16/23: 5:30 PTO MEETING
11/17/23: 9:00 2ND CUP OF COFFEE WITH ADMIN
11/20/23-11/24/23: THANKSGIVING BREAK - NO SCHOOL
11/29/23: 5:00 HDMS BOARD MEETING
11/30/23: 4:30 NNLC LITERACY NIGHT
12/6/23: 4:15 JEDI COLLABORATIVE MEETING
12/7/23: 4:30 MUSIC RECITAL (PACIFIC MIST PRIVATE MUSIC STUDENTS)
12/8/23: 6:00-8:00 HDMS WINTER FAMILY DANCE
12/14/23: 5:30 PTO MEETING
12/18/23-12/21/23: SPIRIT WEEK
12/20/23: 5:00-7:00 HDMS WORLD EXPO
12/22/23: STAFF WORK DAY - NO SCHOOL
12/25/23-1/5/24: WINTER BREAK - NO SCHOOL



A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE FROM OUR A.P. MISS KALEIGH



I am grateful for the incredible staff we have at HDMS. Our teachers, assistants, administrative staff, before and aftercare staff, and all of our support staff. It takes a village to keep a school running.

I am also thankful for the families, and children that call HDMS home.

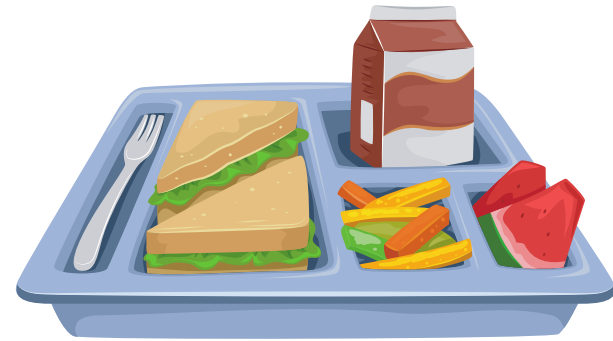
I appreciate the commitment made for our children to attend HDMS.

Have a wonderful break!

GRATITUDE FOR FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH!!

We are grateful to the USDA and the State of Nevada, working in partnership to make breakfast and lunch available to ALL school children at no cost for the 2023-2024 school year! That's over 100,000 free meals that will be served at HDMS this school year!

We are grateful to Ximena Acuna and her team at Farm Fresh Catering for becoming an approved National School Lunch vendor. It is incredible to have a vendor onsite offering healthy and delicious food to our students.



GRATITUDE FOR OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

It is astounding to step back and realize how many hundreds of hours our Board of Directors has donated to our school. We are grateful beyond measure to the HDMS Board of Directors!!



Board Chair: Nicole Commons

Past Board Chair: Max Haynes

Vice-Chair: Reid Riker

Treasurer: Bonnie Pillaro

Secretary: Ashley Allen

Board Member: Jennifer Linn

Board Member: Brigitte Frost

Board Member: Nancy Smith

PTO Board Liaison: Kristen Ashbaugh

GRATITUDE FOR OUR PARENT GROUPS

We would like to thank our incredible PTO Board and the volunteer PTO members. This team of parents participates in fundraising throughout the year yielding great things for our school. They provide staff appreciation gifts, family events, funding of grants for teacher requests, and help partially fund professional training conferences for our teachers.

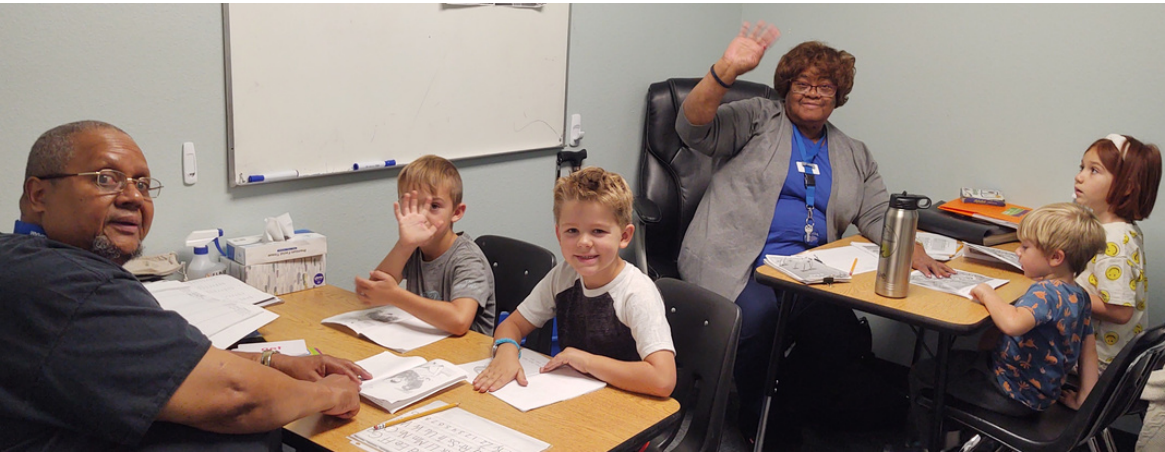
Thank you to our Green Parents Group which helps our community stay focused on our green initiative.

Thanks to the parents of the JEDI Collaborative who work towards improving HDMS for everyone by working with community members and experts towards Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion.

**THANK YOU
SO MUCH**

YOU ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

GRATITUDE FOR OUR FOSTER GRANDPARENTS



We are thrilled to have our Foster Grandparents Grandma Essie and Grandpa Mallory onsite reading with Elementary aged students every day.

GRATITUDE FOR THESE AWESOME FACILITIES DONATIONS



We are incredibly grateful to Great Full Gardens, Root Ed, and Sierra Car Care for their donation of a 2nd modular greenhouse for our garden area.

A big shout out to our partners at the Summit Ridge Home Depot for building eight garden boxes for our Primary outdoor spaces.



Our thanks to Custom Ink for their donation of surplus office supplies and affordable, gently used furniture for our library!



We're grateful to Ernie Dionne of Dionne Landscape (775)461-6485 who worked with us to make artificial turf affordable enough to make it a reality on all of our playing fields. We're also grateful to Ernie for his donation of six yards of topsoil for our greenhouse.

GRATITUDE FOR OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH NEVADA READY GRANT!



High Desert Montessori School is thrilled to participate in the Nevada Ready Grant, sponsored by the Nevada Department of Education and the United Way. This grant allows for qualifying 3 and 4-year-olds to attend our primary program's school day program at no cost. This school year, we were fortunate enough to qualify fourteen children (eleven 4-year-old children and three 3-year-old children) for the grant!

GRATITUDE FOR OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHILDREN’S CABINET

We are grateful to the Children's Cabinet for helping all families, regardless of income or location, in gaining access to quality child care. HDMS is proud be a Children's Cabinet Subsidy Program Childcare Provider.



GRATITUDE FOR THE LEADERS OF OUR AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We'd like to thank some very special parents, grandparents, and employees who are unpaid volunteers, running afterschool clubs this year.



A big thanks to Peter & Jenni Murray who run our Robotics Club! And a big thank you to Tesla for the grant that provides their robotics equipment each year!

Thanks to Trevor Clark who runs the Dungeons and Dragons Club. D&D club is a new, and very popular addition to our after-school clubs!



And our thanks go out to Larry Huddleston, Casey Means, Miss Jamie, Miss Monica, Miss Robin and Miss Laurel for their work in our Archery Program!



GRATITUDE FOR MONETARY DONATIONS

We're grateful to Ormat Technologies for their cash donation to our school.



We're grateful to Fur & Featherworks for their donation to our school.



GRATITUDE FOR UNDER THE REDWOODS PHOTOGRAPHY

We're grateful for Melanie Underwood who volunteers to take our new staff website photos each year! Our whole staff is grateful for the gift of her time and talents!



GRATITUDE FROM THE ARCHERY PROGRAM



Our Middle School Archery program qualified for Nationals last spring and we needed ALOT of help in making the trip possible for the entire team!

We're grateful to DriveLine & Gear Service for their donation of \$500 towards our fundraising goals.



We're grateful to Nevada Bighorns Unlimited for funding new arrows and a donation towards transportation to the tournament.

We're grateful for the HDMS families who stepped up to donate to the GoFundMe, and for those who bought HDMS stickers and bake sale items.



And we are forever grateful to the Nevada Wildlife Recordbook for funding the remaining balance of our trip, including hotel, food and transportation. Their generous donation made our incredibly memorable trip possible!

GRATITUDE FROM THE ADMIN SUPPORT TEAM

The admin support team would like to thank our incredible staff for their devotion and hard work. If there is one thing our whole staff has in common, it is a love of HDMS.

Thank you to our incredible classroom assistants who do so much behind the scenes to keep our classrooms and before and aftercare programs running happily and smoothly. You are the backbone of our school.

Thank you to our talented and expert teachers and specialists. We are in awe of your passion.

Thank you to Mr. Eric and Miss Kaleigh who work tirelessly to help maintain a cohesive school environment and help guide our HDMS community to reach it's full potential.

Thank you to our HDMS families. Your waves, smiles and greetings that start our days off on such a happy note each morning. Thank you for trusting our school with your incredible Montessori children.



GRATITUDE FROM THE PTO



As we navigate through the academic year, it is essential to pause and express our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible teachers, dedicated staff, and supportive parents who form the backbone of our school community. Our teachers inspire curiosity and cultivate a love for learning in our children, while the devoted staff ensures a safe and nurturing environment for their growth. The unwavering support of parents, both in and out of the classroom, strengthens the foundation of our school. Together, you all contribute to creating an environment where our students can thrive academically and personally. Your commitment to the education and well-being of our children is truly commendable. Thank you for your hard work, passion, and dedication. We are immensely grateful for the wonderful community we have at High Desert Montessori.

GRATITUDE FROM THE GREEN PARENTS GROUP

We in the Green Parents group feel we have so much to be thankful for. We are thankful for the wonderful garden on campus where our children get to witness the magic of biology. We are thankful for the HDMS staff and their efforts to create a waste-free environment, from the kitchen to the classrooms to the offices. We are especially thankful to be part of this community with all of you that values nature and the health of our shared planet. And we are also thankful for the break in our busy schedules next week so we have time to be thankful! Happy Thanksgiving Break!



GRATITUDE FROM THE JEDI COLLABORATIVE

THANK YOU 🌟 MUCHAS GRACIAS 🌟 谢谢 🌟 MERCI 🌟 HAKARAT HA'TOV 🌟 GRAZIE 🌟 🌟
شكراً 🌟 🌟 MAHALO 🌟 ありがとう 🌟 U-WE-HNOᵇ 🌟 DĚKUJI VÁM 🌟 감사합니다 🌟 DANKE 🌟 CẢM ƠN
🌟 SALAMAT 🌟

Thank you for being part of the HDMS community. We are glad you are here.

Ruby Bridges Walk to School was a meaningful, positive, and powerful event. The JEDI Collaborative would like to recognize and express gratitude to COREY JONES, Upper Elementary guide, for writing a grant and planning and organizing this event.

When HDMS was making a decision about what to call the winter event, a name that did not alienate any religion was chosen. Way to go for being INCLUSIVE OF ALL RELIGIONS AND FAITHS.

Thank you to MARY SMITH, school social worker, for supporting Trans Youth.

Thank you to HDMS for the EQUITY AND DIVERSITY YEARLONG PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. Staff is learning a lot as we learn about our identities, biases, and strategies for being more fair, just, equitable, and inclusive.

KUDOS for the preschool grants. The NEVADA READY GRANTS are making HDMS an option for many more children. This is incredible.

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GRATITUDE FROM THE SNOWFLOWER CLASSROOM

Dear Snowflower Families,

Miss Jocelin and I wanted to give thanks to all our Snowflower families. We are so grateful to get to spend each day with your amazing children! Thank you for all you do to nurture your child's growth. We appreciate your partnership and support! We are so thankful to have you all be a part of our community! Have a wonderful weekend!

With love,
Miss Maureen and Miss Jocelin



GRATITUDE FROM THE TOQUIMA CLASSROOM

Dear Toquima Families,

We are so grateful for each student in our class, and the support of their families. Thank you for investing in our classroom with generous donations, and giving your time as well by helping to cut out materials, or participate in events like conferences, back to school night, and Montessori Through My Eyes.



We are also very thankful for the wonderful Ms. Allison and her tireless efforts to help keep our classroom running smoothly and supporting children (and us!) daily.

We also want to extend a special thank you to Ms. Ximena and the incredible kitchen staff who make the delicious food for our children.

We feel blessed to be able to work with such sweet and kind-hearted students this year.

Wishing you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday! Gobble Gobble!
Ms. Casey and Ms. Ellie



GRATITUDE FROM THE PINE NUT CLASSROOM

We wanted to express our gratitude to you, our families, and children that we work with each day. We are thankful to be part of each of your families and to observe your child's development first hand. Thank you to all our families for your donations and support throughout the year. Lisa & Noemi



GRATITUDE FROM THE LAHONTAN CLASSROOM



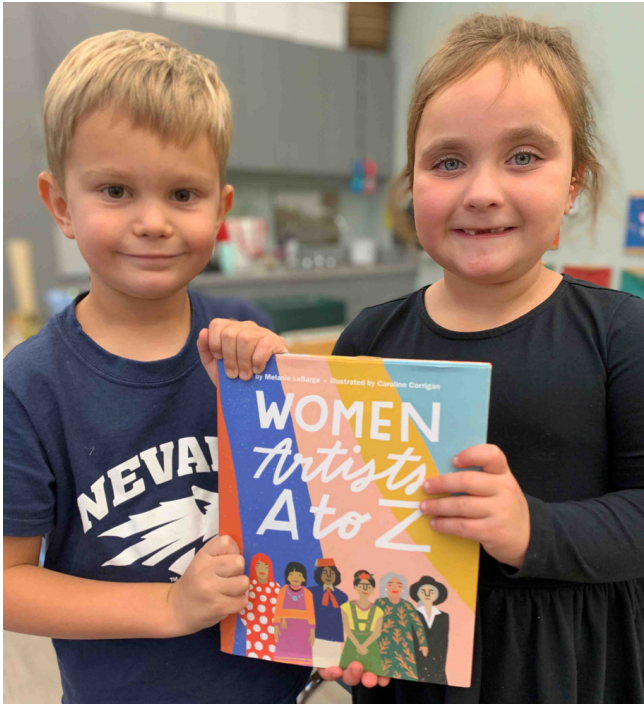
Thank you to Amy, Nelofarr, and Audrey who helped set up our classroom. Thank you to Jasper's family for the material donations from our Amazon Wishlist. Thank you to Stan's family for the fun fruit and veggie cutters from IKEA. Thank you to Lahontan families for sending in so many interesting apples for apple tasting. Yum! Thank you to a Sparks family from Facebook Marketplace for gifting us two adorable guinea pigs, Bonbon and Chocolate, and all of their many accessories. Thank you to everyone who has sent in veggies for the guinea pigs. Feeding them is so much fun! Thank you to Kennedy's family for donating a mini trampoline. Thank you to those who have donated outfits and costumes to help us do better on the QRIS assessment (and have more fun in class). Thank you Amy, Edward and Tasha for walking with us for Ruby Bridges Day Walk. Thank you to Upper EI for teaching us about Ruby Bridges. Thank you to all of the Lahontan families for making time to come to conferences and Montessori Through My Eyes. Thank you to the Lahontan families who participate in school committees, such as the PTA, the Green Team, and the JEDI Collaborative. Thank you for being part of the Lahontan community!

GRATITUDE FROM THE TUSCARORA CLASSROOM

A little note from the Tuscarora classroom to express my deepest gratitude for my families and the children I work with each day. I am thankful to be a part of each child's growth and development. The Tuscarora classroom community this year is one of the most incredible, independent, and kind groups of children I have ever had the opportunity to work with. This is because of the wonderful and supportive parents, thank you for all you do! I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving! Miss Chrissy



GRATITUDE FROM MISS SUNNY



I want to thank all the families who have supported art class throughout the year. Each child has been such a joy to work with and learn from. Art class has opened my eyes as I have watched each child have their "Aha" moment and develop a new skill. Thank you for trusting me with your child's love of art!

GRATITUDE FROM THE ANTELOPE CLASSROOM



Thank you to all Antelope parents for sharing your children with me as they make my days great! Thank you Megan for teaching us all about guppy's and giving us class pets that make us smile! Thank you Erica for the potting soil and spending time with us to help us read! Thank you Sue for the fish food! Thank you Alecs for spending time with us at the jog-a-thon and Ruby Bridges walk. Thank you everyone for your ongoing support!!!

GRATITUDE FROM THE CANDELARIA CLASSROOM

We have so much gratitude this year and I know there is more to come! I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the families of Candelaria for their support this year. Thank you to our assistant Dave for supporting our children throughout the school day. We extend a warm thank you to all the staff that support your children in academics, friendships, and in social emotional learning. We wouldn't have such wonderful days everyday without Ms. Mary, Grandma Essie, Grandpa Mallory, Ms. Alecs, Ms. Shayla, Ms. Kelly Y, Ms. Martha, Ms. Sheila, Ms. Lisa J, Ms. Julie, Ms. Kaleigh, and Mr. Eric. Thank you to all the families who provide a snack for us to enjoy each day!



We love to sit and share snacks with a friend each day. I would also like to share my gratitude for the Lower EI team: Ms. Jyoti, Ms. Autumn, Ms. Jamie and Ms. Rachel. They are a huge support to not only myself, but all of our children and I could not ask for a better team to be a part of. Thank you to everyone who donated science experiment materials this year. The children have been really engaging with science more than ever and it is so exciting to watch. We have deep gratitude for each of you and appreciate you as a member of our community! - Miss Kelly

GRATITUDE FROM THE RUBY CLASSROOM

"I awoke this morning with devout thanksgiving for my friends, the old and the new." -Ralph Waldo Emerson

We would like to thank all the families for coming to Montessori Through My Eyes. It is always great to see the children show you their works.

We are grateful to have a staff that completes audits for our charter; maintains and oversees our property; manages the daily operations; and provides a safe place for our children before and after school.

We are blessed to have the best assistants that work tirelessly each day.

We are thankful for the delicious meals that are provided to us and the funds that allow this program to continue.

We appreciate all the volunteers that give up their time to help in the class, facilitate with clubs, and donate supplies.

I embrace the obstacles that are brought to me by the children and life; in addition, value the hurdles we have already leapt over.

I appreciate my colleagues, who constantly support me in my efforts to be a better person.

"If you have done a big kindness for your neighbor, let it be in your eyes a small matter. If your friend did you a small favor, let it be in your eyes a big favor."- Avot d'Rabbi Nathan 41:11, 9th century CE, Babylonia

GRATITUDE FROM THE TOIYABE CLASSROOM



I am incredibly grateful to all our Toiyabe families for the many ways you support your children's education. We have an amazing group this year because of all you do. Thanks to all of you who have donated supplies and materials to us. Those items directly affect your child's experience in our class. Thank you to Allison Cowen for bringing in baby chicks, Sarah Krings-Lien for leading a community art project, and those of you who came to Montessori Through My Eyes this week. Thanks to ALL of you for taking time out of your busy schedules to conference with me and your child - it's always so fun and important for me to meet your family.

I would also like to particularly thank my upper el team - Ms. Jen, Ms. Corey, and Ms. Amber - you are all amazing educators and a pleasure to work with. They say you are only as good as the teacher next door and I am definitely a better teacher because of all of you!

Finally, I want to thank Ms. Mary, our school social worker. She works tirelessly to support the social and emotional needs of our students. It's a huge job and she does it with grace and compassion. We are so lucky to have her.

GRATITUDE FROM THE SIERRA CLASSROOM

As we navigate through another enriching school year, I wish to express my deepest gratitude for the unwavering support you have provided to your children, our school, our class, and myself as their teacher.

It is truly heartening to witness the collaborative effort between home and school, and the positive impact it has on our students' growth and development. Your involvement, whether through volunteering your time, taking a moment to chat or email, or attending parent-teacher conferences, has not gone unnoticed. Your commitment to your child's education is a testament to the value you place on their academic and personal success.



Our school community thrives on the collective dedication of parents like you, who actively participate in various activities and events. Your presence at school functions, fundraisers, and parent-teacher meetings contributes significantly to creating a supportive and nurturing environment for all our students.

In the classroom, your children consistently demonstrate the values and principles instilled in them at home. Their enthusiasm for learning, positive attitude, and respectful behavior are a reflection of the strong foundation you have laid for them. I am privileged to witness their growth and development each day and am grateful for the role you play in shaping their educational journey.

As their teacher, I am inspired by the commitment and involvement of parents like you. Your encouragement motivates me to strive for excellence in teaching, and your trust in my ability to guide your children is truly appreciated.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your ongoing support. Together, we are creating an environment where each child can flourish academically, socially, and emotionally. I am excited about the continued partnership between home and school, and I am confident that with your continued support, we will achieve great things.

Thank you once again for being such an integral part of our school community and the Sierra classroom.

Warmly, Jen

GRATITUDE FROM THE JUNIPER CLASSROOM

Juniper classroom is very grateful to all of the families, students, staff, and admin who helped us get to the Pumpkin Patch, donated to the Dia de Los Muertos ofrenda, showed support for the Ruby Bridges Walk, and continue to show support every day. We have accomplished great things this year with everyone's help. We are grateful to the Nevada Department of Education who funded our Donor's Choose campaign for Diversity and Inclusion books and alternative seating options for our classroom. We are so blessed to have such a nurturing, supportive, and collaborative environment to foster growth. Many thanks to you all!



GRATITUDE FROM THE ADOLESCENT PROGRAM



The Adolescent Program would like to thank Key and Code Escape Rooms for volunteering to come to our school and educate our Escape Room Creative Expression Class

We'd like to thank the Reno Bike Project for offering cycling classes that include safety, maintenance and more!

We'd like to thank Larry Huddleston for volunteering his time to help run the in-school archery program.



Teamwork makes the dream work!
Thank you HDMS Community!