



Welcome Back!

To all of our new families, Welcome and to all the returning families, we are glad to have you back. This is the first of a bi-monthly newsletter that will be available to all of you electronically.

For those of you who I have not met, I am Ms. Andrea, the lead directress of the Mangrove Classroom. I moved here from Breckenridge, Colorado in 2009. This is my tenth year working with toddlers, and my third year with the Montessori Children's School. This past summer I went through the infant and toddler American Montessori training at the Montessori Training Center of the Rockies in Boulder, Colorado.

Returning as the Mangrove assistant this year is Ms. Jennifer who moved here with her family from Mississippi. She has many years experience working with children of varying ages and continues to learn everything there is to know about the Montessori Philosophy.

During Meet the Teacher, I gave everyone a copy of what their child will need to bring for the first day of school and every day after. When

choosing clothing to dress your child in or send as a change of clothes please consider the following:

Potty training is a huge part of the toddler curriculum as is independence. To make the task of becoming independent more successful for your child, we ask that you dress them in clothing and footwear, which they can easily put on and take off themselves. This year, in the Mangrove classroom, your child will have many opportunities to get messy whether it is creating art, with water lessons or during meal times. Art smocks are provided to keep clothes clean, but it is your child's choice to wear one. This being the case, please dress your child in clothes, which may get dirty. Our main goal is to have the children do as much for them as possible and not worry about staying neat and tidy.



We rely on you the parents to provide items for our morning snack time. I have assigned each family a week in which they are in charge of donating snack items, a reminder will be sent home the Friday prior to your snack donation week. I have a list of suggestions if you need ideas for your

snack week but please refrain from sending food items with high sugar content, toddlers already have enough energy. Donating or purchasing items for our classroom either from the wish list, which will be posted outside our door or for snack will count as work pay hours; see Kim or Robbi in the office for more information.

Please note at drop off time we ask that if your child is potty training you take he or she to the bathroom prior to walking with them onto the playground. All families are required to sign their child both in and out each day. In the morning, the sign-in book will be located on one of the picnic tables on the playground. At dismissal, whether it is half or full day, the sign out book will be next to our front door. Parents and guardians should wait outside the classroom in order to facilitate a smooth departure; we will dismiss the children directly from our classroom.

I look forward to this coming year, working with and getting to know all of you and your children. I will be available to speak with any of you briefly at dismissal times. If you wish to speak longer, we can set something up after 2:30. If you have any other questions or concerns feel free to ask. Ms. Jennifer and I are here to help!

