

Weekly Reminders



February 7

Dear Montessori Families,

Saturday is our “**A DAY OF LOVE AND PLAY**” children’s event. Kids will enjoy carnival-like games, great snacks, a bouncy house and more. For the adults, we have our ticket drawing for a cash prize of \$1,000.00. If you have finished selling all your tickets for the drawing, please bring them to the office, you don’t have to wait until the event to turn them in. We have more tickets available in the office if you can sell more. If you still have tickets left to sell, there are only 4 more days before the drawing! We will also have a **Silent Auction** for some wonderful and unique items. Please bring in any item we could auction. We’ll take gift certificates and retail items of all kinds. This is a great event that’s fun for the whole family. We still need help for the event, so be sure to sign-up outside the office. The following areas still need contribution or time: Help with children’s games and food platters, choice of veggies and cheese and crackers, cookies or brownies. Be sure to sign-up outside the office. I will see you all on Saturday!

We still have space for our **Primary PJ Party** this Friday night, February 10th. Enjoy a night out with your significant other while your child has a blast with friends. Sign-up in your classroom, or email me to add your child’s name to the list.

Want to check out what your child does in class? Visit with us and **observe** our children working in class. On Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9am - 10:30am, observe any classroom on campus. A requirement for any new family interested in our school, is to observe prior to enrollment. Come to the classroom, or better yet, sign-up to help with afternoon excursions or field trips. Knowledge of our methods and involvement with your child’s school, will expound your child’s growth in this extraordinary environment. Join the Board of Directors, we will have four parent member and two community member seats available for a two-year service. See first hand the details and work that go into running a Montessori school.

Our **Annual Open House** will take place on Saturday, March 3rd from 9am - 11pm. This event is held for those NEW families interested in enrolling their child at MCS next school year. All staff members will be on campus and the classrooms will be open for families to tour and speak with teachers and staff. The application price, if submitted that day is 1/2 of the regular price. If you know of people interested in the school, please bring them along or let them know to come and see for themselves our lovely campus and classrooms. And if you would like to come along and be a Montessori Ambassador, we’d love to have you here!

Our **Lost & Found** bins are overflowing again. Please check the bins this week, on Friday I will be donating what is left in the bin to the Salvation Army. We want to be all cleaned up for our big event on Saturday. If you have time Thursday and/or Friday, we could use some help with the grounds.

I have to mention the importance of bringing your child to school **on-time**. With our Primary families, children have the opportunity to come into class between 8 - 8:30am. At 8:30, the children should be working or settling down to work. When other students arrive late, it interrupts some of the children and they may have difficulty getting back on task. We have been keeping track of our **TARDY** numbers and over the course of 6 school days and we had 49 **late arrivals!** I have been at MCS for ten years and the only other time it was this critical, we changed the arrival rule so that if you arrived at school after 8:45am, you were asked to bring your child back during lunch time, with the exception of a doctor’s appointment. I hope that we do not need to resort to these measures. Please make the necessary changes in your evening or morning routine to get your child to school on-time. By arriving in a timely manner you show your children responsibility and courtesy. Please be respectful of your child and others. This is an important life skill for our Pre-Primary students as well.

Sincerely,

What Outcomes Can We Look for If We Give Our Child a Montessori Education?

Here are eight primary aspects we normally find in children who have experienced a Montessori education:

Academic Preparation: Montessori prepares students both for higher education and for life. On an academic level, Montessori helps students attain skills that allow them to become independently functioning adults and life-long learners.

Intrinsic Motivation: Innate desire drives Montessori children to engage in activities for enjoyment and satisfaction.

Internalized Ground Rules and the Ability to Work with External Authority: Montessori students are normally comfortable with ground rules that set the boundaries for their interactions within the school community. Because these ground rules become internalized, Montessori students normally learn to behave appropriately whether or not teachers are present.

Social Responsibility: Montessori children tend to be quite sensitive to the rights and needs of others. They tend to make a positive contribution to their community.

Autonomy: Montessori students tend to become self-directed, composed and morally independent.

Confidence and Competence: Montessori students tend to become confident, competent, self-reflective, and, thereby, successful. They are generally not afraid of failure and learn from mistakes.

Creativity and Originality of Thought: Montessori students normally become confident in expressing their own ideas and creativity. They recognize the value of their own work, respect the creative process of others and are willing to share their ideas regardless of the risk of rejection. Montessori students tend to take great satisfaction in self-expression.

Spiritual Awareness: Montessori students are often exceptionally compassionate, empathetic, and sensitive to the natural world and the human condition.

Dates to Remember

- **Friday - February 10 - Toddler Bake Sale during arrival and dismissal time**
- **Friday - February 10 - Primary PJ Party, sign-up outside your child's classroom**
- **Saturday - February 11 - Annual Love & Play Event from 12 - 4pm bring your family and friends!**
- **Tuesday - February 14 - Pre-Primary PJ Party, sign-up during drop-off**
- **Wednesday - February 15 - Intent to Remain forms are due, please submit to the office**
- **Thursday - February 16 - Board meeting in aftercare room @ 8:30am**
- **Monday - February 20 - President's Day, no school or childcare**
- **Friday - February 24 - Early dismissal for full-day students**
- **Saturday - March 3 - Open House for interested families, 1/2 off application fee**
- **Wednesday - March 14 - Early Dismissal for full-day students**
- **Thursday & Friday - March 15 & 16 - Professional days, childcare is available**
- **Monday - Friday - March 19—23, Spring Break - no childcare available, no school**

Averting war is the work of politicians; establishing peace is the work of education.

-Maria Montessori