



MONTESORRI PREPARATORY OF OCALA

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(352) 351-3140 LIC# C05MA0044

Associate Member School of the American Montessori Society

Web Site: www.MontessoriAcademies.com Password: MPO3140

AUGUST 2020

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DATES TO REMEMBER

August 3 Fall Program Begins

August 18 Elementary Parent Orientation
6:15 pm
VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

Our Elementary Team will discuss with parents the curriculum, homework, projects, student behavior, special events, book reports, etc.

September 7 SCHOOL CLOSED -
Labor Day Holiday



"The child's development follows a path of successive stages of independence, and our knowledge of this must guide us in our behavior towards him. We have to help the child to act, will and think for himself. This is the art of serving the spirit, an art which can be practiced to perfection only when working among children."

(The Absorbent Mind, p. 257)

NOTICES: Don't forget to collect your Box Tops for Education. Each one is worth 10 cents for our school!

Please remember to send in re/registration fees and forms for all clubs/activities in order for your child to start in August. Spaces fill up quickly! Forms are available on our new website.

BACK TO SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Re-Registration Form, Tuition Contract, Current Health Card & Record of Immunizations, August Tuition, Incidental Fees, School Supplies, Covid Form

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

DRESS CODE - All students are required to wear a red or navy blue uniform shirt with school logo, khaki or navy blue shorts/pants/skorts/jumpers (no jeans or athletic wear), sneakers (no hard-soled shoes, boots, sandals or light up shoes). Leggings, tights or long sleeved shirts under the uniform must be red or navy blue to match the uniform. Socks should be solid color black, navy blue or red (no stripes, neon colors, pictures or character socks). Jewelry is not permitted to be worn.

SNACKS - Please remember to pack a morning and afternoon snack (extended day students) in your child's lunchbox daily.

BACKPACKS - Only elementary students are permitted to bring backpacks to school. Elementary backpacks must be solid navy blue or black. In addition, they also must be standard size and may not contain hard handles or wheels. Please be sure it is clearly labeled on the front with student's first and last name.

BIRTHDAYS - Please be mindful of the new regulations for Birthday celebrations at school. Parents may not send any food or drink items to be shared, but may instead donate a Birthday Book to the class library. Video recording and/or pictures cannot be taken of the other students or classroom.

MEDICATIONS - Parents must complete an authorization form from the School Office in order for any prescription medications to be administered at School. We cannot administer any over the counter medications unless they are accompanied by a doctor's note. Never place medications of any kind in the lunch boxes or back pack. All medicines must be given to the arrival teacher or the front office.

ILLNESS - Temperatures will be taken daily for attendance. If your child is sick, please do not bring him/her to school. Parents will be called immediately to pick up a sick child from school. If there are any changes to the Covid Form, please contact the Office immediately.

MASKS: Masks are required for all K-5th graders as well as Staff and anyone entering the building.

NEW WEBSITE - Check out our new website at
www.MontessoriAcademies.com

which includes our newsletter, calendars, pizza order forms, Club information and enrollment forms and much more!

Parent access code: MPO3140

MONTESORI TIPS FOR PARENTS BACK TO SCHOOL



The first days back to school can be a time of mixed emotions for both experienced Montessori students and those who are unfamiliar with the Montessori method and classroom. Below are a number of strategies to help:

Make the goodbye prompt and positive. This sounds easy, but can often be one of the most difficult things to do. Giving your child "one more minute" simply prolongs the inevitable. As a parent, the best thing you can do is give your child a hug and kiss, say, "I love you" and reassure him/her that you will be back soon.

Trust your child's teacher. This may be difficult to do when you do not yet know your child's Montessori teacher that well, but keep in mind that Montessori teachers have chosen this profession because they love children and they have a wealth of ideas and strategies to help settle a child who is feeling upset. The strategies might involve anything from a nurturing hug, redirection, pairing them up with another Montessori student or simply keeping the child close until he/she is ready to engage with an activity.

Acknowledge how your child is feeling. It is important to accept and respect your child's temporary unhappiness as it is very real and very normal. Say things like "I know you feel sad when Mommy leaves, but you will have a good time, and I will be back very soon." Avoid the temptation to pressure your child not to cry or to offer bribes for "good behavior". Learning to cope with sadness is an important learning process for your child.

Do not linger. It can be reassuring to peek at your child through the window, however, for the child it can be pure torture. As a child, seeing your parent when you are upset, but not being able to be with your parent is not a good feeling. Our suggestion to Montessori parents is to leave quickly and if you are feeling really uneasy, call the school in 15-20 minutes to ask how your child is doing. Chances are, he/she settled within a few minutes.

Stay calm and be enthusiastic. Modeling the appropriate behavior is key to a smooth transition from home to Montessori classroom, so try very hard to ensure your child does not sense your anxiety. Talk about how much fun Montessori school will be. Discuss the different work she might want to choose and reinforce how lucky she is to have such a special school and that you cannot wait to hear about her day when you pick her up.

NOTE: Be prepared for regression. Just when you think your child has conquered his/her feelings of separation anxiety, along comes a weekend or an illness that keeps your child home for a few days and you are right back to square one. As frustrating and upsetting as this can be, it is perfectly normal. Stick to the above strategies and you should notice a significant difference in a couple of days.

SKILLS FOR AUGUST



Toddlers - Language Development, Large Muscle Control, Attention Span, Phonics, Counting, Recognizing Shapes, Reciting Colors, Music, Spanish, Creative Movement, Social Interactions, Independence, Identification and Comparisons, Sensorial and Practical Life, Numbers - One through Ten.

Intermediate - Sensorial Development, Sequencing, Small Muscle Control, Pre-Writing Skills, Mathematics, Botany, Geography, Language- Phonics, Blending, Practical Life Skills, Spanish, Geometric Shapes and Solids.

Primary - Science, Reading, Writing, Addition, Subtraction, Continent Studies, Land Forms, Geography, Social Studies, History, Spanish, Social Skills, Spelling, Consonants and Vowels, Phonograms, Music and Art, and Geometry.

Elementary - Language Arts, Mathematics, Creative Writing, Science, Geography, History, Social Studies, Health, Physical Education, Music, Art, Poetry, Spanish, Geometry, Penmanship, Spelling, Literature, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division, Fractions, Decimals, Time and Money Concepts, Advanced Mathematics, Grammar, and Punctuation.

Help Your Elementary Child Achieve in Math

1. Set high standards for your child in math.

Make sure your child is mathematically challenged and encourage his or her interest and pursuit of math.

2. Help children see that math is a part of everyday life.

From statistics in sports to the sale price of clothing, from the calories in food to the amount of gas needed to travel from one city to another, math is important to us every day. Help your child make these connections to math.

3. Point out that many jobs require math.

From the scientist to the doctor, from the plant manager to the newspaper salesman, from the computer programmer to the hardware store owner, many jobs require a strong foundation in math. Help your child see that math leads to many exciting career opportunities.

4. Stimulate your child's interest in technology.

Encourage your child to use calculators and computers to further their learning.

5. Help children develop decision making and mental math skills.

There are many games sold commercially, such as board games, that involve patterns and probability. Games require children to use strategies to make decisions, solve problems, and develop an understanding about numbers and how to use them (number sense) and computational skills. FLASH CARDS (homemade on index cards or store bought) are an excellent game to be played between you and your child and can increase his/her skills in addition, multiplication, subtraction, division and fraction facts!