

MONTESSORINEWS

SOLDOTNA MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL

Our mission is to prepare students to become citizens with a global perspective and to enrich their academics and social awareness within a Montessori environment.

Available 1.18.19
PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES
ONLINE SIGN-UP

Choose a spot on [SignUp.com](#)

Look for this button on our school website.

Events Calendar

1/17	Report Cards Sent Home
1/18	School Assembly (9:00) Mrs. Larned's Class Hosts
1/18	50 Cent Friday
1/21	Vacation Day—No School
1/22	APC Meeting (5:30)
1/30	Grade 3/4 Battle of the Books
1/31	Grade 5/6 Battle of the Books
2/6	Early Release Day (2:00)
2/7-8	Parent/Teacher Conferences
2/11	Montessori Orientation (5:30)
2/15	School Assembly (9:00) Mrs. Holt's Class Hosts
2/22	Lottery Application Deadline (3:00)
3/7	NAEP Testing—4th Graders
3/8	End of 3rd Quarter (No School)

Report Cards Come Home – January 17th

Your child's report card was sent home in today's folder.

No School

Monday, January 21st, is a vacation day in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. There will be no school on this day.

2019-2020 School Enrollment

Last week's Thursday folder included an enrollment questionnaire about the 2019-2020 school year. This questionnaire provides us with critical information for planning and preparing for the next school year. We are looking for every family to complete this form and send it back to us. The form seeks to understand if you intend to re-enroll your child in our school or plan to enroll siblings who do not currently attend.

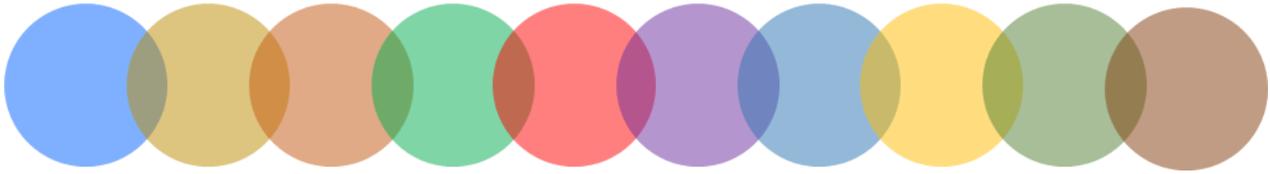
School Lottery Closes on February 22

Please encourage friends or neighbors to enroll in our lottery if they have an interest in joining our fabulous Montessori school family next year. The deadline to apply is February 22 @ 3:00 p.m.

Last Push Re: School Climate Survey

The KPBSD school survey is set to take place in February for students in Grades 3-12. The district requires 100% return on our survey permission slip, so we need every permission slip completed and returned, indicating parent permission to participate or not. We are sending forms home to families who have yet to return a completed form. Thank you to those of you who have completed and returned this form already.





Conferences Are Just Around the Corner

Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up on February 7th & 8th. We always enjoy meeting with families and spending time discussing your student's progress. We look forward to your participation. We had positive feedback on our use of the online conference sign up and will be using this method again for scheduling conferences. The online sign up will be available beginning January 18th. Please note: we do pre-schedule some conferences so resource teachers can be in attendance, and we also pre-schedule families with three or more students for convenience.

Book Fair & SMCS PTO

SoEl is holding a book fair the week of conferences February 4-8, and of course our school and students are encouraged to participate. Funds generate from the book fair are going to be applied to the ongoing effort to secure some new playground apparatuses. The PTO has sent home a sign up form for interested parents to help staff the book fair. Please contact the SoEl PTO representative named on that form for more information. It is nice when our schools are able to work together and develop connections; this is yet another opportunity.

Ice Rink Update

Last Friday, we sent home information and a permission slip for students to use the ice rink during recess. The permission slips mistakenly went home with kindergarteners. Unfortunately, kindergarten students will not have this opportunity during their recess times and will not be using the ice rink. We still anticipate starting tomorrow, Friday, January 18th. We will make the rink available on Wednesdays & Fridays. We are required to have a certified staff member oversee the ice rink, but we would welcome parents who have completed a background check to volunteer to assist with skates.

Montessori School Program Notes

One big difference between Montessori and traditional schools is the multiage learning environment. Rooms are composed of students who are more than one year apart, creating a mix of ideas and abilities. Although this model may seem unusual, it offers substantial benefits for students. A multiage classroom is an environment that mirrors the real world. Grouping students by age doesn't reflect real-world settings where people of different ages work together and learn from each other. In a multiage classroom, younger students look to the older students for assistance. Because of this, they can accomplish tasks they may not have been able to do on their own. Mentoring their younger friends increases the independence and competence of the older students, so it's beneficial to them as well. There are less bullying instances and more community. As a whole, children can cooperate rather than compete, creating a "family" of learners who support and care for each other.

Text taken from pebblecreekmontessori.com

Mr. D.'s Thoughts

Today, along with so many other days at Soldotna Montessori, has been quite exceptional. I had the pleasure of meeting with five students who wish to carry out a school store to generate funds for helping others. While I was meeting with that group of students, five other students came through my office to load up items to fill the Community Food Pantry. Also, two more students visited me to organize a new food drive to help replenish our items to help stock the food pantry.

We have four teachers out at a training today, so we have four substitutes in the building, and every time I have visited a classroom, the students are working, helpful, and have been appreciated by the substitutes.

Four students helped with serving lunches today: each having a smile on their face throughout the time and expressing their enjoyment of being able to serve others.

These examples are a just a sampling of my day and the interactions that I observe from our students; I am certain that additional wonderful interactions are occurring that I am unable to observe. We have a fantastic school with a caring staff and caring families who are developing caring students. I am honored to be part of such a tremendous learning community.

