

SOLDOTNA MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
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Montessori Family News

November 16, 2017

Early Release day on November 22

Students will be dismissed at 2:00 on Wednesday, November 22. Students riding the bus home will arrive 90 minutes early.

No School on November 23 and 24

School will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24.

School is Not Open until 8:20

Morning recess and breakfast begin at 8:20. Please do not drop off students before 8:20 unless you have made specific arrangements with your child's teacher. There is no hallway supervision before 8:20, and student safety is our priority.

Stone Soup Day

As is tradition, our primary classes will be carrying out their Stone Soup Day on Wednesday, November 22 @ 12:45. Parents and family of students in Mrs. Hubbard, Mrs. Holt, and Ms. Romberg's classes are invited to join us at school for a Stone Soup meal. Primary students will be serving the meal to our family visitors. Intermediate students should bring their lunches, but may also be invited to join the meal a little later once parents and family members have had the opportunity to be seated and served.

Winter Concert Reminder – December 5th

We are so happy to share that this year, our school's winter concert will be a whole school event which will include grades 1-6. We will be performing at SOHI on December 5th at 6:30.

Cookie Train Fund Raiser

This fundraiser is held each year in conjunction with our Winter Concert. It is our big push to raise money specifically for field trips. It is also a tasty fundraiser! It provides those in attendance the opportunity to fill a special box of various cookies to take home and eat for the holidays, give as gifts to friends and family, or in celebration of a performance well done. A sign-up sheet for providing cookies for this fundraiser is located in the crossover hallway window. We encourage your participation and help in providing cookies for our cookie train.

Friends and Family Board

Our Friends and Family board is up, and we have several family photos displayed, but we always welcome more. If you would like to add your family photo to our board, please send it in to the office.

Please see other side

Craft Night – December 14th

Each year we have a craft night, after school, for our students to create various, high-quality crafts to give as a gift during the holidays. It has been a hit with our students, and families have appreciated the quality of the crafts made by the students. It is our hope that your student will be able to participate in this fun, productive activity. One of the crafts for this year's event requires buttons, lots of them. If you have a stash of buttons that you would like to contribute to the cause, the PTO would be very appreciative. You can bring them to the office, or send them with your student.

News and Notes

Mr. D's Thoughts

One of many things that make our Montessori School so great are the opportunities we develop to serve our community as a school. Students have a heart for helping others, and they have many opportunities to see to the needs of others while attending SMCS. Additionally, the effort is enhanced by the participation of our families. Our students learn how impactful their effort is in making a difference in the lives of others, and they value this work! I want to take a bit of space in the newsletter to highlight a few opportunities that are relatively new to our school but help to portray what is important to our school community and which highlight our contribution to our district and the community at large. Please take a moment and familiarize yourself with these opportunities, and consider how you can support these efforts with your child.

Spirit of Kindness

Our PTO is beginning a new program this year to provide assistance for SMCS families in need this holiday season. If you wish to request assistance through our Spirit of Kindness program, please complete and return a Spirit of Kindness form by November 22. The form is located on the PTO Bulletin Board or can be found at our school blog. We will post anonymous requests on our PTO Board for interested families to choose and shop for requested items. Please consider stopping in and selecting an ornament from our wreath, which will contain information about what is needed. We are looking to expand this Spirit of Kindness to include needs from other schools, so although it is new, it is already growing outside of our school family.

SMCS Food Pantry

Our SMCS food pantry continues to be a valued resource in our community. Even though it is small in size, it is big in its impact. We move through a great deal of food in that small space each week. It is estimated that approximately \$500.00 worth of donated food passes through it each month, and we have had reports of the pantry being accessed ten times a day fairly consistently. What a purposeful service to our community. Our students have given effort and have ownership over this, as they continue to learn how they positively affect others. Of course, we welcome continued support of this project as well. Please continue to bring non-perishable food items into the school to stock the pantry, or send them in with your student.

Events for Your Calendar

Nov. 22 – Early Release Day (2:00)
 Nov. 23-24 – Thanksgiving Break (No School)
 Nov. 28 – APC Meeting (5:30)
 Dec. 1 – 50 Cent Friday
 Dec. 5 – Whole School Winter Concert @ SOHI
 Dec. 7 – Band & Choir Field Trip Performances @ Soldotna Library
 Dec. 8 – Family Movie Night in Gym

Dec. 9 – Lego Robotics Competition @ Aurora Borealis
 Dec. 14 – Craft Night Event – PTO Host
 Dec. 22 – In-Service Day (No School and End of 2nd Quarter)
 Dec. 25-Jan.5 – Winter Break