

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

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November 2, 2017

#### **Principal Evaluation Survey**

The APC is looking for parent and community feedback to assist them with the principal evaluation. The month of November has been set aside to collect this feedback from parents, students, family members and the community at large. An online survey has been created, and a link to the survey is available on our school website, Facebook page, and will be sent via email through PowerSchool Messenger. Please help the APC with this evaluation process by providing your feedback. The online survey will be available from November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **School Climate Survey**

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District has created a school climate survey to generate data about how students feel about their school. Only students in Grades 3-12 will be asked to complete this survey. In order to participate in the survey a student must have positive parent permission to participate. A permission slip is included in today's Thursday folder with an option to participate or not participate. We need every slip returned for each of our students in grades 3-6 indicating parent permission to participate or not. The information provides helpful data for making decisions in addressing school climate needs within our school. Survey questions are available to review in the office. If you have questions about this survey, please contact Mr. DeVold.

#### **Battle of the Books Permission Forms**

Battle of the Books permission forms for students in grades K-6 went home two weeks ago, and we are still hoping to receive completed permission forms from students who wish to participate. There will be four Battle of the Books groups: kindergarten, grades 1-2, grades 3-4, and grades 5-6. We now have confirmed volunteers to coach our groups, and students will meet with their B.O.B. coach during lunchtime on Wednesdays for grades K-4, and Mondays for the grades 5-6 team. The 5-6 grade group will form a team of 4 students that will compete via phone with other district teams in February.

#### **SMCS Spirit of Kindness**

Our PTO is beginning a new program this year to provide assistance for SMCS families in need this holiday season. We are sending home a slip in today's Thursday Folder to all families. If you wish to request assistance through our Spirit of Kindness program, please complete and return the form by November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will post anonymous requests on our PTO Board for interested families to choose and shop for requested items. This is a new program, and it is our hope that it is well received and a successful addition to our school family and our care for each other.

## School Development Goals

This year our school is focusing on two goals that will aid in improving our instruction and also our responsiveness to student behavior needs.

The first goal is a focus on developing a continuum of math instruction that aligns our Montessori math materials and other curricular materials to the current State Standards in math. This work will help us to ensure that each standard is addressed and to build our capacity to use our Montessori math materials to meet State standards with intentionality. The continuum will also provide a map of when particular Montessori math materials are used within the scope of a student's elementary career.

The second goal is a focus on enhancing our Conscious Discipline process to include specific Tier 2 and Tier 3 behavior intervention processes that combine our Conscious Discipline approach to behavior with the Response to Intervention Model. Our Conscious Discipline program has been an effective element within our school, and we hope to enhance our intervention process by developing a clear process that incorporates Conscious Discipline principles.

## News and Notes

### ***Robo-Fun***

Lego Robotics has been meeting each Wednesday since the beginning of October. The students are having a good time working together, building, coding, and testing their ideas. We have signed up for a local Lego Robotics competition that will take place on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Ten of our students who are currently participating each Wednesday will be included in this competition. Not every student will be able to be in the competition, but their participation in our program is valuable for future endeavors and a fun time working, thinking, and learning together.

### ***Amazing Hay Maze***

The PTO pulled off a dry, but frigid, hay maze event for our school community. By unofficial count, we had over 50 students attend the event, and it was doubly gratifying to see many former students still participating with us as part of our school. The fire was bright, the maze was a challenge, and the families were abundant. Thank you to our PTO for a wonderful time, and thank you to families for coming out and showing your support.

### ***Happy Holidays***

Halloween was sure fun! It was enjoyable to see the enthusiastic students arriving in their costumes and to see staff members participating as well. Also enjoyable was seeing the number of parents who arrived in costume when dropping off or picking up students. That is what makes our school family feel united and...well...like family.

## Events for Your Calendar

Nov. 3 - 50 Cent Friday  
 Nov. 3 – School Spirit Assembly – Mrs. Moore's Class Presenting  
 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. 8 – Family Movie Night in gym  
 Dec. 14 – Craft Night Event – PTO Host  
 Dec. 22 – In-Service Day (No School and End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter)