

# MONTESSORI NEWS

**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.**

**the SMCS spelling bee**

**School Spelling Bee Competition**  
 Friday, February 22, 2019  
 1:00-2:00  
 Soldotna Elementary Library

## Events Calendar

2/15	School Assembly (9:00) Mrs. Holt's Class Hosts
2/19	APC Meeting @ 5:30
2/22	School Spelling Bee @ 1:00
2/22	<b>Lottery Application Deadline (3:00)</b>
2/27	6th Grade—Skyview Registration @ 1:00 in SOEL Library
3/1	50 Cent Friday
3/2	District Forensics Competition
3/7	<b>NAEP Testing—4th Graders</b>
3/7	School Assembly (9:00) Mrs. Hubbard's Class Hosts
3/7	Quest Film Festival in Seward
3/8	<b>End of 3rd Quarter (No School)</b>
3/11-15	Spring Break (No School)
3/21	2019-20 Kindergarten Open House @ 5:30
3/21	SMCS Talent Show @ 6:30
3/26	APC Meeting (5:30)
3/25-4/12	<b>PEAKS State Assessment Window</b>
4/1	SMCS Art Night

### School Lottery Closes on February 22

Please encourage friends and 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.

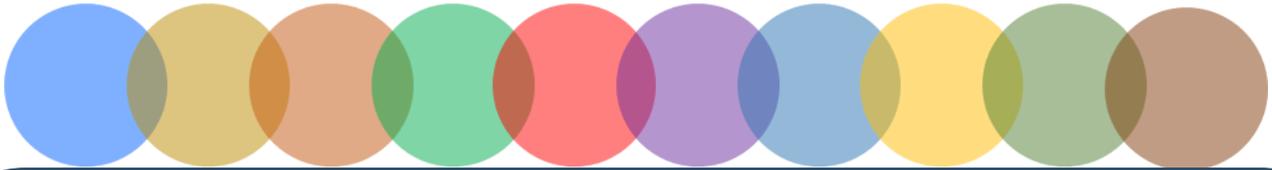
### Spelling Bee

Students in grades 3–6 are still able to participate in our school spelling bee, but they must return a participation permission slip which is available to pick up in the office. Students are still meeting once a week with Ms. Sanders for practice at lunch, and the school spelling bee will be held on February 22 @ 1:00 in the school library. The winner of our school bee will go to Anchorage to compete in the State Spelling Bee on March 19th.

### State Testing Notice

March 25-April 12 is the testing window for the PEAKS state assessments. It is very important that all students are able to participate, so please schedule absences and family trips around these dates. Data from all of our students is helpful in reviewing our school academic program.





### **District Information**

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District requests input from staff, parents, and community members at the districtwide KPBSD budget development meeting, scheduled at the following locations:

- Tuesday, February 19, 2019 @ 6:00 pm in the Homer High School Library
- **Wednesday, February 20, 2019 @ 6:00 pm in the Soldotna High School Library (Montessori designated attendance location)**
- Thursday, February 21, 2019 @ 6:00 pm in the Kenai Central High School Library
- Tuesday, February 26, 2019 @ 6:00 pm in the Seward High School Library

As new budget information becomes available, it will be posted here: <http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/departments.aspx?id=38>. If you have questions, please call Natalie Bates at 714-8888.

*SMCS has designated the SOHI meeting as our attendance location; however, if it is more convenient for you to attend at another date and location, you are welcome to do so.*

### **Montessori School Program Notes**

“For children aged six to twelve years (Lower Elementary: ages six to nine; Upper Elementary: ages nine to twelve)

- offer opportunities for collaborative intellectual exploration in which the child’s interests are supported and guided
- support the development of self-confidence, imagination, intellectual independence and self-efficacy
- foster an understanding of the child’s role in their community, in their culture and in the natural world”

“Above all, Montessori classrooms at all levels nurture each child’s individual strengths and interests. Montessori education encourages children to explore their world, and to understand and respect the life forms, systems and forces of which it consists.”

*Text taken from [www.montessori-nw.org](http://www.montessori-nw.org)*

### **Mr. D.’s Thoughts**

I am always happy to share time with families at Parent/Teacher Conferences. We had another school family connection on Thursday and Friday last week. Thank you to all of you who made time to come and connect with the teachers and our school. Conferences are a great time to share information about the students in a face to face meeting, to share questions, and make plans for continued support for each child.

One of my favorite parts of conference times are seeing families together in the building. It helps to remind me that this school not only serves the students each day, but families too. It is easy to focus on the students and loose track of the bigger picture of how we are working in conjunction with families to develop kind, engaging, hard-working, and wonderful people, who are able to give back to their families and community.

One last thought I have about conference time is my recollection of the final spring conference with families of our 6th grade students. It is that last formal communication before saying goodbye to students who have developed into the leaders of our school. That meeting is usually quite a unique and incredible time with our families.

