

MONTESORINEWS

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.

Spring Carnival - Volunteers

We are looking for families willing to assist with our spring carnival which is a joint effort between SMCS and SoEl. It is our first joint venture for a fundraising effort. The funds from this event will go toward playground equipment. We would like to have a good representation of helpers for this event. We have posted sign-ups on the windows in the hallway. Please stop in and volunteer to assist in this effort.

Testing Support

The State assessment (PEAKS) window is scheduled for March 27 – April 6. During testing students are provided with snack during their testing days. The school will be providing snacks for the students but would like to ask for help from families to secure veggie trays. If you are willing to supply a veggie tray for testing, please contact Mrs. Gibbons to make arrangements to do so.

6th Grade Information

A parent orientation night is scheduled for March 20th, @ 6:30 PM for students planning on attending Skyview Middle School. The Orientation will take place at Skyview.

Jump Rope for Heart

Jump Rope for Heart packets are due tomorrow, 3-2-18. Please send these in to be collected by Mrs. Boonstra. Thank you to all who participated.

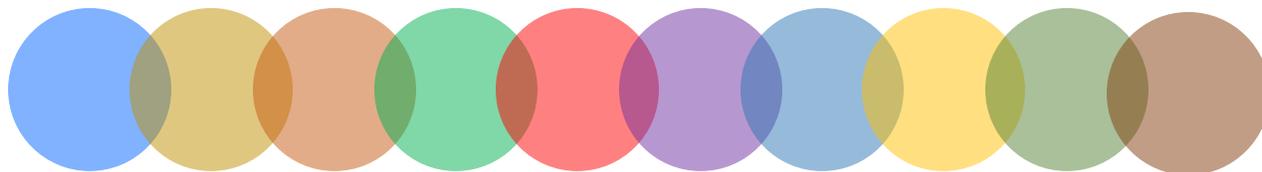
Events For Your Calendar

3/2	50 Cent Friday
3/5	Lottery Drawing
3/9	End of 3 rd Quarter – In-service Day – No School
3/12 to 3/16	Spring Break
3/24	Spring Carnival w/SoEl
3/27 to 4/6	PEAKS Testing Window (State Assessment)
3/31	School Ice Fishing Derby Ends
4/4	Early Release Day (2:00)
4/6	School Assembly – Carter’s Class to Host
4/9	SMCS Annual Art Show (PTO)
4/20	No School



WOW!

Considering ONLY our online donations, we have raised \$3125 for The American Heart Association through Jump Rope for Heart.



Mr. DeVold's Notes

I felt the following information would be good to repeat in this section.

Testing. In Montessori, this is not the first and foremost factor for our approach; however, we are a public charter school. Therefore we are responsible to the state standards, and as part of our charter, we are required to take the State assessment. Although not a critical Montessori component, we do value assessment data to inform our instruction, and it allows us to know how we are performing as a school.

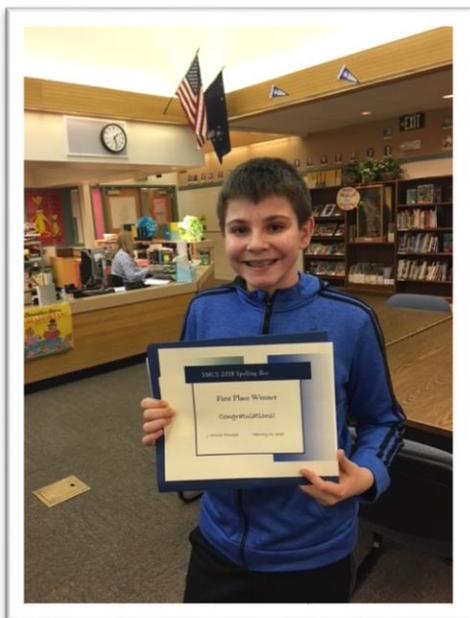
March 27th-April 6 are the scheduled dates for the State testing. We encourage all families to make special arrangements during this testing time to ensure that the students are getting proper rest and nutrition for their brain so students can perform their best. We also encourage all students to be in attendance, if they are healthy, and respectfully request families to not schedule vacations during State testing days. If your student must miss testing days due to illness, or you have planned time away as a family, please contact the school so we can adjust to accommodate our testing requirements. Thank you, as always, for supporting our school efforts.

Montessori & School Program Notes

Last week our intermediate teachers, intermediate aides, and kindergarten team attended the Alaska Montessori Conference in Anchorage. We met with other Montessori schools from around the state. We made some excellent connections with other Montessori teachers and developed some collaborative plans for sharing ideas and strategies between some of the teachers.

Our guest speaker was Patricia Oriti whose focus was on "Developing a Self-Managing Community." Her presentation was very valuable to the staff in attendance and provided opportunity to reflect on our current practices and validated many of our current approaches to developing this culture. Mrs. Oriti highlighted Six Keys to a Self-Managing community as: Vision, Spiritual transformation of the teacher, Trust in the child, Clarity in culture, The 3 hour work cycle, and Developing student independence.

All of these keys are components in our school. Some we incorporate better than others, and some we continually strive for improvement. In all, our participation as very impactful, informative and validating.



Congratulations to Levi Mickelson our Spelling Bee winner. Levi will be representing our school at the State competition at the Sheraton, in Anchorage, on March 29th.

Other place winners were:

Katie DeBardelaben, Azilyn Hall, Jake Edmunds, and Zoey Welch.

We had a total of 19 participants. All of the students did a great job at the school competition and were well prepared. Most enjoyable was having Mrs. Sanders helping with this program, and running the Bee. Thank you to the parents who volunteered to judge, and to the parents who worked with their child to prepare them for the Spelling Bee. Icelandic!

