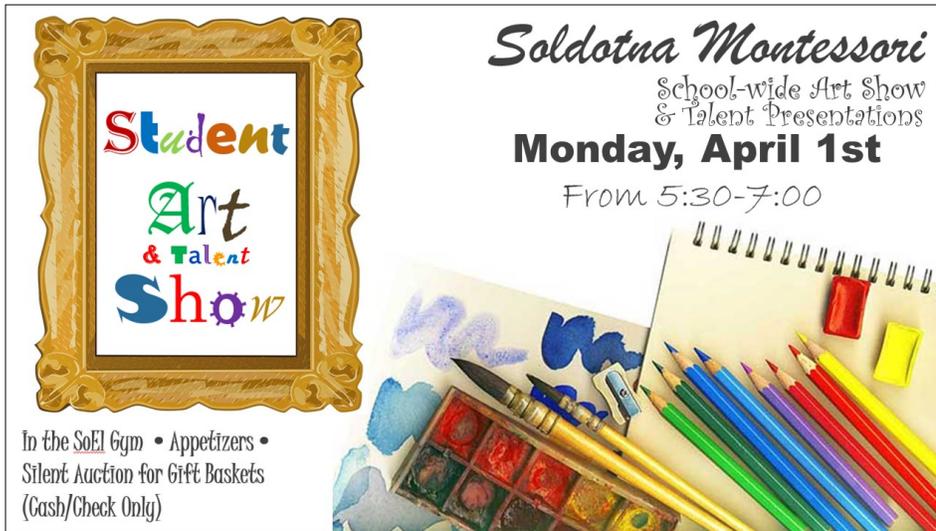


MONTESSORI NEWS

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.



Soldotna Montessori
School-wide Art Show
& Talent Presentations
Monday, April 1st
From 5:30-7:00

In the SoEl Gym • Appetizers •
Silent Auction for Gift Baskets
(Cash/Check Only)

Events Calendar

4/1	SMCS Art Night (5:30-7:00)
4/3	Early Release (1:55)
4/5	50 Cent Friday
4/9	Spring Pictures
4/11	Kindergarten Music Concert (6:00)
4/19	No School—Vacation Day
4/23	APC Meeting (5:30)
5/1	Early Release (1:55)
5/3	50 Cent Friday
5/9	Band Concert (6:30)
5/14	APC Meeting (5:30)
5/16	PTO Meeting (4:00)
5/20	Volunteer Appreciation & School Slide Show
5/22	6th Grade Graduation & School Picnic
5/22	Students' Last Day

Class Placement Requests – Due by April 12th

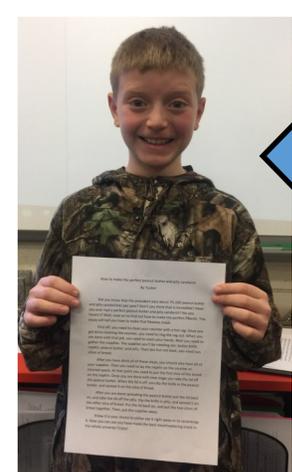
Class-placement request forms have been sent home in today's Thursday folders. The forms were sent to parents of kindergarteners & 3rd grade students. Completion of this form is optional. We will make every effort to accommodate requests. Please return your completed form by April 12th. If you have questions, please contact the school.

Pickup Line Info & Kudos

It has been good to see families waiting until 3:30 to arrive to the pickup line; thank you for that. Also, after spring break we begin to have our primary students waiting on deck and our intermediate students wait in the class. Parents of students in primary classes may benefit from arriving closer to 3:30 and parents with intermediate students around 3:35. We have been fully dismissed consistently by 3:38. Eight minutes for dismissal is quite good. Thanks for your help with this.

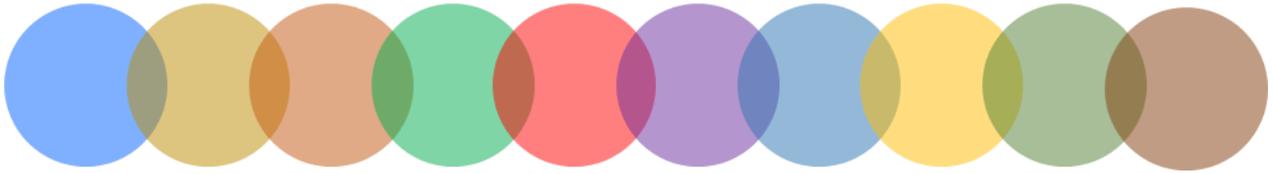
School Yearbooks

It is time to be thinking about yearbook orders. Yearbook orders are due by April 9th. If you order online by April 9th, the cost of a yearbook will be \$20.00. After April 9th, a limited supply of yearbooks can be reserved at the school for \$25. To order online go to www.treering.com/validate. The school code is 1013956816001527. You can also find a link to order a yearbook at the school web page. Hovering over that link supplies the school code as well. Yearbooks will be handed out on the last day of school.



This writer is proud of his effort!
Way to go, Tucker!

- Early Release Next Wednesday.
- Third grade students will be testing on Monday & Tuesday next week.
- Look for class placement request sheets in today's Thursday folder.



Montessori & School Program Notes

Life is filled with choices. One of the most basic choices is whether to actively change ourselves or to spend our energy trying to make others change. Focusing our attention on changing others puts us in a GET mode instead of in a GIVE mode. This is discouraging both to ourselves and to others and sets us up for failure and a loss of composure. Choices involve the Power of Free Will. The Power of Free Will means that 'I am in charge of me' and I'm the only person who can make myself change. It also means that 'you are in charge of you' and you are the only person who can make yourself change. No matter how much pressure we put on someone else to behave the way we want them to, it is ultimately their choice to behave or not. When we make choices based on what we need and value we feel good. The reward center in the brain is activated and the brain releases chemicals that make us feel good. Making choices to please others, meet other's expectations or avoid punishment has the reverse effect and can lead to depression or distress. This can result in burnout and apathy.

From <http://consciousdiscipline.com/>

Mr. D.'s Thoughts

Have you felt that there is quite a bit of turmoil and unrest with the state of our nation or our state? If so, I want to brighten your day by looking for the good. Sometimes it is easy to get sucked into the negative views that are pervasive, but finding those small, sparkling moments is what brings us around to understand that all is not lost, and we are in this together.

For me, lately, those sparkling moments have been receiving a well-wishing email from a primary teacher when I was out sick. It has been almost daily encouraging words from an intermediate teacher. I received a comment from a substitute who stated, "I get up excited for the day when I come to Soldotna Montessori. I know I will always leave having had a good day." I worked until 8:00 pm with the APC on Tuesday, and despite the long evening, smiles and laughter abounded. Students continue to encourage each other and help each other with kindness.

Sparkling moments like these are abundant if we take the time to acknowledge them and appreciate them. That helps put the challenges in perspective.

Academic Policy Committee Positions Open

- The SMCS APC will have three open seats beginning in the 19-20 School Year. Two positions are for 3-year terms. One position is a 1-year term which will complete the last year of a vacated APC position.
- Applications are available in the office. Applications are due in the office by April 11.
- The Academic Policy Committee supervises the academic operation of a charter school and ensures the fulfillment of the mission of a charter school.



Sarah Anne reads to a preschooler at a local daycare during our community outreach effort in the 3rd quarter.

