

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

Spelling Bee Practice Days
Who: Students in Grades 3-6
When: Tuesdays During Lunch (12:30-1:00)
Note: Mr. DeVold will be conducting the practice sessions and the school bee.
***Permission Slips are required to participate in the school bee and practices, look for the slips in today's folder.*

Report Cards Sent Home – January 23rd

Your child's report card will be in the Thursday folder next week: January 23.

SMCS Movie Night—Hosted by the PTO

Next Friday, January 17th @ 5:30, SMCS families are invited to attend a showing of The Big Trip in the gym. Families may pre-order pizzas, and concessions (including popcorn) will be available to purchase during the movie. Look for the flyer and order form in today's folder.

2020-2021 School Enrollment

This week's Thursday folder will include an enrollment questionnaire about the 2020-2021 school year. This questionnaire provides us with critical information for planning and preparing for the next school year. We are looking for every family to complete this form and send it back to us. The form seeks to understand if you intend to re-enroll your child in our school or plan to enroll siblings who do not currently attend. It also asks where your 6th grader will be attending middle school. Please look for this form today, and let us know your enrollment plans for next year.

School Lottery Closes on February 28

Please encourage friends or 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 28 @ 3:00 p.m.

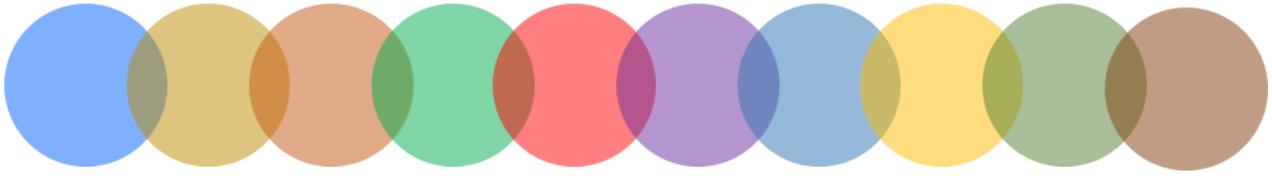
School Spirit Day—Accessorize with Duct Tape

Friday, January 17th: Mrs. Hubbard's class has chosen the theme of accessorizing with Duct Tape on this day. Accessorize your outfit with something made from duct tape. (Hair bow, tie, bracelet, etc.)

Events Calendar

1/10	50 Cent Friday
1/15	Early Release Day (2:00)
1/17	Whole School Assembly (9:00) - Hubbard's Class Hosts
1/17	SMCS Movie Night in Gym (5:30)
1/21	Spelling Bee Practice Begins
1/23	Report Cards Sent Home (Quarter 2)
1/23	APC Meeting (5:30)
1/28	PTO Meeting (3:45)
2/7	Whole School Assembly (9:00) - Larned's Class Hosts
2/7	50 Cent Friday
2/10	Prospective Families Meeting (5:30)
2/14-17	Parent/Teacher Conferences
3/6	End of 3rd Quarter (No School)





Ice Skating News

The ice rink may be opening soon thanks to the work of Soldotna Elementary. It is not ready just yet, but we are sending home permission slips for families interested in allowing their student to participate in ice skating on Wednesdays and Thursdays during recess. Students will be required to have a helmet, snow gear (snow pants, a hat, gloves) and ice skates to use the rink. Due to limited classroom space, all ice skating equipment will not be able to be left at school overnight. If you are interested in helping to maintain the rink, please contact the school and we can get you connected. I know it would be appreciated.

Montessori School Program Notes

Montessori education supports children in choosing meaningful and challenging work of their own interest, leading to engagement, intrinsic motivation, sustained attention, and the development of responsibility to oneself and others. This child-directed work is supported by the design and flow of the Montessori classroom, which is created to arouse each child's curiosity and to provide the opportunity to work in calm, uncluttered spaces either individually or as part of a group; the availability and presentation of enticing, self-correcting materials in specified curricular areas; teachers who serve as guides and mentors rather than dispensers of knowledge; and uninterrupted work periods.

Text taken from American Montessori Society website.



Mr. D.'s Thoughts

If you are reading this, thank you! I appreciate your diligence in staying informed about our school.

I want to address our student pick-up line again, because it can be viewed as a big challenge for our school. I want to express my thanks for your continued effort to make it successful.

We have switched up duties this semester, and our primary students are now on deck at 3:30, while our intermediate students are dismissing from the classroom. If you only have a primary/K student, arriving close to 3:30 is helpful, and if you only have an intermediate student, arriving about 3:35 is helpful.

Families are waiting to enter the pick-up line until 3:30 which is excellent, and after my first call for the first vehicle at 3:30, we have been through with dismissal by 3:40 (often by 3:37). That is a quick dismissal.

Families have been great about pulling forward, keeping the line moving, and if they have a straggling student, pulling forward anyway, and directing the students to walk back up the sidewalk.

If a student forgets something and needs to re-enter the building, please pull into a parking spot to wait, so we can get more cars out of the street and into the pick-up line.

Lastly, I am asking that parents who wish to speak to a teacher wait until after dismissal to approach them. Teachers are on duty and need to be able to hear who is being called and also continue to manage students. Teachers want to give parents their best when they want to talk, so their duty oversight can take a back seat to giving parents attention. However, this can make our dismissal less effective.

Again, thank you all for continuing to help make our dismissal routine successful.

