

Highlights of the Week

The first day of school is an exciting milestone in child's life. Your child is embarking on a journey that will lead them to many roads of discovery and learning. As wonderful as this new experience may be, it can also be quite stressful for the young child. New situations and change can, at times, be unsettling for all of us. For some children this may be their first experience of separation from parents and care givers at home. It is common for even the most outgoing child to be anxious the first few weeks of school. Here are a few tips to get through the first few weeks;

Try to act confident yourself. If you seem anxious and unsure about leaving your child, your child will pick up on that and start wondering if there really is something to worry about!

Be consistent with good byes. We will greet your child and you can give kisses and say good-bye. We promise to embrace your child and help ease him/her into the classroom!

Make sure to say good-bye when you leave. Trying to "sneak out" when the child is busy and not looking sometimes makes the kids panic a few minutes later, and may make separation even more difficult the next day.

Arrive on time! It seems to be easier on most children if they arrive just before the classroom door is opened. This way they can enter the classroom with their friends! It can be much harder when they arrive after all of the other children have settled into activities.

Separation problems sometimes show up on the second or third week, just when you thought you were getting off easy! It is also common for children to have difficulties when there are major changes in the home. Let us know if there is anything happening at our house that you think is important for us to be aware of.

We are parents ourselves and really do understand how hard this can be. We know that you are entrusting us with a very precious gift, and we feel honored that we will be your child's first teachers.

If your child is having an especially hard time, we will give you a call on your cell or home phone.

We are looking forward to a great year!

Dr. Maria Montessori's Words:

"The child's development follows a path of successive stages of independence, and our knowledge of this must guide us in our behavior towards him. We have to help the child to act, will and think for himself. This is the art of serving the spirit, an art which can be practiced to perfection only when working among children."

Reminders:

- Family Social September 15th, 4:00PM-5:30PM
- Curriculum Night September 22nd
- Blake Apple orchard field trip October 6th
- Whole School Portraits October 19th

Home/School Connection

Independence is something that is highly valued in the Montessori world. The following is to help children independently put on their own coat / jacket. Please demonstrate the following steps to your child and then let them repeat it after you.

Lay the jacket on the floor with the collar or hood facing up (inverted) and nearest the feet.

Stand behind the collar and bend down.

Push one arm into the corresponding sleeve of the coat. Push all the way until the hand has come out of the armhole.

Repeat with the other arm.

Stand up half way bringing the coat with up with the arms.

Stand up fully as you do this and lift both arms simultaneously up. Use momentum to lift and flip the coat over your head.

As the coat goes over your head use your hands to guide coat towards body as it comes down your back. The back may need to be pulled down for ease.

Adjust the coat if necessary. Zip Up.

The jacket can also be laid on a child sized table instead of the floor which may be easier as balance is already established from the beginning.

