



— EST. 1979 —

MAPLETON MONTESSORI SCHOOL

42nd Year, No.4 • February 2021

SHORT & SWEET!

February 15: Presidents' Day - School will be closed.

February: Parent-Teacher conferences for pre-K children (see article below)

Teacher Line - 303 449 4445 use this (not the office line) for all things teachers need to know.

WE'RE BACK!

After a long break from the pile-up of holidays, everyone, students and staff alike, is happy to be back at school. Things are going so well; the children are healthy and well-established in their routines and are quite independent! Speaking of health, we are happy to report that the state, with some prompting, has recognized teachers of young children as essential workers and has moved our position on the vaccination wait list from Level 2 to Level 1B. We've been told that vaccinations for early childhood staff will begin the week of Feb. 8. This will be a welcome relief for all of us working with young children!

CONGRATULATIONS TO PARENTS!

The teachers specifically wanted me to mention how thankful they were to all of you for really making sure your students are outfitted for the weather. It sounds silly but it really helps when children have their hats, mittens, boots, snow pants, etc. and everything is labeled. It helps everything work better: kids are comfortable playing outside, transitions are smoother, teachers aren't spending valuable time searching for extra mittens, lost hats, etc. So, from the bottom of all our hearts, THANK YOU for being SO ON TOP of that whole situation :) Also, please make sure you send a couple of extra masks each day - some are getting really soggy.

CHECK-IN REMINDER

When the weather is cold and we're doing the inside check-in routine, Susan H would like to remind parents to wait until you see her wave at you that your child's temp passed the test before you leave the gate area! If the temp is too high we'd have to send your child back out to you, which wouldn't be easy if you've already left the area! Thank you.

VALENTINE'S DAY

In the past we've sent each child home with a big paper heart to be decorated at home and brought back to hang in the classroom. This year we will be decorating hearts at school to minimize the transfer of materials from school to home and back. For those of you who are new to MMS, we do not have children bring individual valentines for each child. In lieu of that the children will make valentines for our senior friends over at Brookdale Senior Living; they love to receive them and we love to make them. If we can safely walk over to deliver the cards, maintaining social distance, we will. Of course, we wouldn't go in - one of their staff would meet us at the door.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Due to our late start in January, the Parent-Teacher Conferences for parents of 2nd-Year & PreK Montessori students will be held this month. In other words, if your child will be 5 by Sept 30 or would be starting her 3rd year of Montessori in the fall your child's teacher will reach out to you to schedule a conference. Conferences this year will be by Zoom, FaceTime, or in-person (socially distanced with masks). Conferences for the rest of our students will be in March and again, your child's teacher will reach out to schedule.

SUMMER

Summer camps are just around the corner! To begin the planning process I'm going to send all of you an email with a few summer thoughts and some questions. Most importantly, we'll need to know how many children will be attending so we can start thinking about whether we combine the campers into one classroom, per usual, or keep them separate, which would require a staffing tour de force! More coming!