

The Montessori Schoolhouse

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Dear Montessori Families,

Our year is off to a bold and vibrant start with a gorgeous solar eclipse! How many times will we be able to say that?! We have many savvy returning students, excited to see what subjects we are presenting. And we have new students from other environments, eager to know us.

Once again, we have done extremely well on the Arizona standardized tests. We await permission from the state to announce the results.

Meanwhile, here's an overview of what we are planning in **Lower Elementary** and **Upper Elementary** for our fall units:

Lower Elementary is about to begin its annual study of how life unfolded on Earth, from trilobites to woolly mammoths to **Early Humans**. And we will spin off with those Early Humans to a full unit on their life, the **Ice Age** and **Evolution**.

For our cultural study, we are really looking forward to a rich exploration of the life and land of **Australia**: our only continent/country.

Upper Elementary will begin an all-encompassing study of **US History** with a deeper look at **Modern Times**, post war life and culture, the government branches and **Presidential Timeline**.



Upcoming Events and Information

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY!

**Tuesday, Sept 19th
SMILE!**

No Buddy or Sibling poses this year.

HEARING & VISION TESTING

Wednesday, Sept 27th
Please be sure your child has his/her glasses if necessary.

OPEN HOUSE

**Wednesday, Sept 27th
4:45PM-6:00PM**

NO SCHOOL
MONDAY, OCT 9TH
SCHOOL RESUMES ON
TUESDAY, OCT 10TH.

**WE FORGOT PENCILS ON
SUPPLY LIST!
PLEASE PICK UP A PACK OR
TWO (preferably pre-
sharpened ones)
TO HELP US RESTOCK.**

For their big **Science** unit, Upper Elementary will have an extended focus on the **Scientific Method**, with research, experimentation and a **Science Fair!!** Should be fun!

Look for these subjects later in the **Fall Project** assignments.

A Few Reminders

SNACKS & LUNCHES:

We are a completely Peanut-Free school. This means not only no actual peanuts or peanut butter but also: ***NO SNACKS PROCESSED IN FACTORIES WITH PEANUTS.*** Please check the fine print. Thank you for your diligence on this.

UTENSILS & WATER BOTTLES: Please pack necessary eating utensils in your child's lunch box. We do not need children to bring water bottles to school since we have several sources of drinking water here—if you do choose to pack one, please be sure it fits in your lunch box to avoid spills.

SHOES & CLOTHING:

P.E. is Tuesday for Lower Elementary and Wednesday for Upper Elementary so we recommend suitable clothing and shoes: shorts or pants and tennis shoes. No open-toed shoes please.

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP: If you are dropping off your child and the gate is closed, you must walk your child all the way in AND sign them in. **Assisted Drop-Off is offered from 8:15-8:45 each day.** Pick-Up times are from 2:15-2:30 for Lower Elem and 2:30-2:45 for Upper Elem. *Late fees may be assessed if picking up after these times.*

PARKING COURTESY: If you are using Carlos' lot across the street, please only park along Mountain Ave. Do not park in front of his business or close to his buildings in any way.



Building large dodecahedrons
in Summer Art Camp 2017.

An Urgent Matter

Our morning Circle presentations and the morning Work Cycle are incredibly valuable to your student's learning. We cannot have students missing school to take vacations. Please schedule your time off during the many holidays on the school calendar.

Please schedule dentist and doctor's appointments after 12:00 noon to minimize the loss of crucial educational instruction and skill practice for your student. *Thank you for your cooperation.*



MANY THANK YOU'S

- Thank you, *Allen Reilley* for the much improved drop-off walkway. We appreciate your workmanship everyday!
- Thank you, parents for all the wonderful school supplies!
- Thank you, parents and families for the great snacks you bring us. They all get gobbled up.



Photo Highlights from Summer Art Camp 2017!

Students learned about Color Theory, Piet Mondrian, and built incredible dodecahedron structures large and small!



Parenting Tip from *The ABC's of Guiding a Child* by Rudolph Dreikurs, M.D.

“Never do for a child what he can do for himself. A ‘dependent’ child is a demanding child. Maintain order and establish your own independence. **Most adults underestimate the abilities of children.** Give children opportunities and encouragement to become contributing members of the family and other groups. Children become irresponsible only when we fail to give them opportunities to take responsibility. In assuming the child’s responsibility, we deprive him of the opportunity to learn. Don’t indulge yourself by giving service.”

☺ *Remember to have your child set the dinner table, offer opinions, feed the pet, and pack their own lunch, to name a few.*

“The first aim of the prepared environment is, as far as possible, to render the growing child independent of the adult.”

–Maria Montessori

*Regine, Olive, Judi, Perla, Maddie, Paige,
Lano, Gabriella, Rosemary & Nancy*



Evergreen Trees on our playground last December and today!