

Welcome to our 2019-2020 school year at Edmonds Montessori!

In our Montessori environment, your child learns so much more than academics, they learn to think independently of the crowd, and express his or her thoughts with words based on reason. Your child is provided the guidance to understand that all of life is a learning experience and that humanity shares a common planet that must be treated with respect, while learning to respect and understand the culture of others. The Montessori education you are providing your child is your contribution to the world he or she will inherit. It is an important responsibility that we share with you. With this in mind our classrooms do not always provide a tangible item of daily work accomplished rather a path we follow as we guide the love of learning. Thank you for sharing your child with us. Below are a few reminders to help us all be ready.

- **Emergency kits** are due Thursday, September 12th if one is not received for your child one will be made for them for a \$25.00 fee.
- **Drop off and Pick up;** as we are preparing the environment, we ask that the children enter class no more than 5 minutes early and are picked up within 5 minutes at the end of class. Also, please take your child to the restroom before class, using the bathroom and washing hands before class helps us take fewer trips and helps keep the germs out! The bathrooms closest to our rooms are designated for children only. We ask that you do not enter the bathrooms with your children- this is a self-sufficient skill we encourage during class. If you need to be with your child please use the bathrooms further down the hall marked "women or men". When arriving at the gate our goal is to keep the entrance of the classroom clear so the children can get in comfortably, a quick goodbye works best. You are always welcome to use our one-way viewing windows for your chance to watch them work.
- **Snack** is provided weekly by Edmonds Montessori families. Snack is self serve and will be available during class time. Each child is assigned a week throughout the year to bring/share snack with the class. We recommend the snack be from two different food groups. An example for a day includes a banana and cracker; strawberries and a cheese stick; grapes and granola bar. Your child will prepare snack for the class. A picture of your child is placed above the snack serving area during their week, this allows the children to know and thank the child who hosted. The snack list is available by class attached to this email, on our website and posted outside the classroom. Edmonds Montessori will provide snack this week to start our school year.
- **"Sound of the Week,"** will be introduced at circle. Please have your child bring a family photo to share on Tuesday, September 17th. We will have a container outside the classroom where your child can put the family photo in before he/she enters class.

- **The file folders** are set outside the classroom at the end of each session, your child will place items they have completed in class to take home. Please leave their name card we will use it throughout the school year. While they may not always have something in them to take we assure you they are each having a personal experience in class. We as parents want to know what our children have done without us, what did they do for 3 hours in school today? Although it seems like a straight forward and open ended question to begin a great conversation, we must remember the age appropriateness of the questions we ask and to avoid the “nothing” answer because we assure you there is a lot more than nothing happening during class! Which question you ask is not as important as where the question may lead. We have a who, what, when, where list of Montessori classroom questions on our website or ask your teacher for a copy. Also remember each child is unique and some need to burn off their energy at the playground and questions would be better after or some need lunch or a nap first. Most importantly this is the beginning of a life time of communication between you and your child, enjoy!
- **All School Dessert Potluck;** Please join us on Thursday, September 19th in Edmonds City Park at 6:00- Edmonds Montessori will provide plates, utensils and napkins. Please bring dessert for 6 or more and drinks for your family. We plan to have school directories available!

On the first Wednesday in October we will welcome Miss Michie for Japanese and “Monte” Monkey our traveling Montessori friend!

- **Japanese** is provided as a foreign language; class is directed by Michie Onoyama on Wednesdays for one half hour session during our class time. Michie will provide a monthly newsletter we will post outside the classroom and on our website.
- **The Adventures of “Monte”-** Monte is a stuffed friend from our Montessori classroom, given the nick name “Monte”. This year “Monte” is a Monkey. The students will be using him/her to make a classroom journal. Monte goes home with each child one time during the school year. Each child will place his/her name in a small container. On Wednesday of each week at circle the child who had Monte will “draw” the name of the next child. During your week, please have Monte do something with your family. Have your child draw a picture of the event or photograph it. You may help your child write a story or a few sentences about Monte’s adventure with your family. He will come home in a tote bag and with a journal. Please return Monte on Tuesday.

Thank you for sharing your child with us and we look forward to our school year together. Please let us know if you have any questions.

~ Miss Christi, Miss Esma, Miss Ella, and Miss Parn

