



EVENTS AND REMINDERS

Thursday, January 31, 2019

MONTESSORI KINDERGARTEN MEETING – Thursday, February 7th, 6:00pm

On **February 7th** we will be having an informative meeting about our kindergarten program. “What is Kindergarten” is geared toward parents who will have a child turning 5 before September 1, 2019. However, all MSCU parents are welcome to attend. You will hear about what unfolds in your child during that important third year. We will also clarify the difference between the Montessori morning and afternoon classes. There will be time for questions as well.

Child care will be available at no charge. Please check your email for a SignUp Genius link to register for child care.

Hope to see you there!

TODDLER/PRIMARY/ELEMENTARY WISH LIST

Every year the teachers at MSCU form a Wish List of materials they would love to see in their classrooms. These lists will be posted outside of the classrooms for you to peruse. You will be able to sign up to donate the cost of the item or a portion of the funds needed to purchase items pictured on the list. This is considered a fundraiser for the school, so all donations are tax-deductible. We plan to have all funds collected before Spring Break so the materials may be ordered and placed in the classrooms for the students to enjoy as soon as possible. The last day of the fundraiser will be Friday, March 15.

Wish Lists will be posted on Monday, February 11.

PRIMARY VALENTINE CELEBRATION – Thursday, February 14th

If you would like to participate in the Valentine card exchange, please send enough Valentine cards for 22 children and 2 adults to cover the morning Montessori class portion of your child’s day. If your child is able, they may sign the backs of the cards, but please leave the outer envelopes BLANK so that the children may hand the cards out quickly and efficiently. Please do not place candy or chocolate in the Valentine cards.

TODDLER/PRIMARY PIZZA FRIDAYS

Due to several requests for us to bring back this past school favorite, we are putting Pizza Fridays back on our regular menu!

Starting in mid-February, cheese pizza will be the entree on the lunch menu each Friday, along with sides of fruit, vegetables, and milk for a balanced meal.

If your child is lactose intolerant or otherwise has a medical allergy that prevents him/her from eating cheese pizza, please let us know and we will be sure to provide an alternative for him/her.

ELEMENTARY, TODDLER AND PRIMARY PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY – Monday, February 18th

School will be closed on Monday, February 18th in observance of President's Day. There will be no school or child care.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Please do not leave your car in the circle drive when you are picking your child up. This tends to slow down the pickup process for the remaining children. This is a fire lane, as well.

If you are walking children into school, please park on the street. It is difficult for drivers to see students walking to the building. Do NOT walk across the driveways or parking lot! Utilize the sidewalks and hold your child's hand. We promote independence...but not over safety! Please be aware of vehicles when crossing the street!

SHOW US WHERE YOU'RE FROM

We love the diversity here at MSCU! Please be sure to stop by the map just inside the front door of the Primary building and find your country of origin. There are flag pins on the table below to mark your place on the map.

RE-ENROLLMENT FOR SPRING 2019

Thank you to the many families who have filled out our re-enrollment form online! If you have not done so already, there is still a short window of time to do so at <https://goo.gl/forms/3fMkFFFfPz3Ff0Xd2>. Please have only ONE adult in your household fill out the form for your family. **If you have already filled one out, you do NOT have to do anything else.** Official contracts and forms will be sent to re-enrolling families once the MSCU Board publishes tuition rates for 2019-20. We appreciate your patience as we strive to make this process as simple and smooth as possible!

EXTRA SET OF CLOTHING

Please be sure your child has an extra set of clothing at the school. With all of the wet and cold weather, it's possible that they may need to change into dry clothing before they go home. In addition, there needs to be an extra set in the event of an accident. Thanks!

SNOWY, WET, RAINY WEATHER

Reminder: please send your child with snow boots, snow pants, and waterproof gloves every day. We all go outside to play if the "feels like" temperature is 17 degrees Fahrenheit or above. Even if there is no snow outside, having snow pants, snow boots and waterproof gloves can make off the difference between a happy child and a cold, shivering child during outdoor playtime. Having the right equipment helps our students enjoy their outdoor play.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

You may have noticed the Volunteer Tree is no longer in the hallway of the Primary building. Opportunities are still available to help out MSCU. While we re-work our program, please feel free to stop by the front office if you have some time to spare. The following are just a few examples:

Cutting inset paper (can be done at home or school) – Primary building

Shelving library books – Primary building

Supervising lunch - Elementary building

Making playdough- Primary building

Photographer – Primary and Elementary buildings

Videographer – Primary and Elementary buildings

TAX INFORMATION

If you need tax forms or information for the 2018 school year, please email James Whiting (businessmanager@montessorischoolofcu.org) and he can assist you. Please allow several business days for processing.

HALLWAYS FULL OF SMILES

You may notice we have beautiful new art on our walls in the buildings -your children's portraits. We hope this is yet another way you can get a glimpse of the richness of your children's hours here at school and a sense of how truly special each one is to our community. It is our goal to have each child in our community highlighted through this at some point throughout their time at MSCU, so if you don't see their photo up at the moment, please be patient... it's coming!

Donations are gratefully accepted and will benefit your child's education at the same time!

MSCU AMBASSADORS

We're looking for people with enthusiasm and a little bit of time to be MSCU Ambassadors. It's a great way to help us get the word out to the local community and within our school when there are events, information to share, etc. If you'd like to fulfill some of your volunteer hours or are just as excited about our school as we are, please contact Kerry Rossow at krossow@montessorischoolofcu.org for more information.

SUBSTITUTE CLASSROOM HELP

If you would be interested in being a classroom substitute at either of the Primary or Elementary buildings, please stop by the office or send us an email. It is helpful to have a list of people ready to help. Here is the information we have posted on our website:

Substitutes are needed for various shifts during the 8:00-5:30 day. Substitutes will always be with a trained staff member. They may be in the classroom, outdoors, or helping the children with lunch. Candidates must be physically able to be on their feet for most of a four-hour shift and may include outdoor time supervising children. If interested in this position, please send your resume to secretary@montessorischoolofcu.org.

WINTER SCHOOL CLOSINGS

School closings will be announced on TV stations WCIA (CBS) and WAND (NBC). Each of these stations also have a website with local school closings clearly listed. We will strive to make this decision between 6:00am and 7:00am. A closing announcement will be accessible by calling the MSCU phone number: 217-356-1818 and on our website montessorischoolofcu.org. If a power outage doesn't occur, we will send emails as well as post a notice on our website.