



"And so we discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being."

Maria Montessori

Hello Montessori Families!

August 22, 2018



August is zipping by and we are hard at work, organizing and designing spaces for your child's optimal learning this school year. As we do so we are focusing on a wonderful aspect of Montessori education, beauty. Beauty is an essential ingredient of the Montessori "Prepared Learning Environment". Beauty and order draw children in, then their natural curiosity leads them to challenge and to discovery. It is a great joy to create this environment each fall and think of all that will be learned through it over the coming year!

We like to start the school year by sharing a meal together. This Monday, August 27th, we will gather from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. for our Welcome Picnic at the Greenough Park Shelter. This is a great time to meet new families and reconnect as well. The shelter is located on the park's northeast corner, on Monroe Street. If your child's name begins with A – I, please bring a dessert; J – O, please bring an entrée; P – Z, please bring a salad or vegetable. We'll bring drinks and tableware.



The first day of school for Elementary students is Wednesday, August 29th. Primary students (Pre 3, Pre 4, and Kindergarten) begin Thursday the 30th. Children not enrolled on Thursday should wait until their first scheduled day to begin school.

New Student and New Parent Orientation

New enrollees should plan to attend an orientation, August 29th, from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. This is an important time for children to get to know their classroom, and parents to learn our school's procedures. Please let us know if you can not attend.

Scrip Programs Support Garden City Professional Development

When you shop at the Good Food Store or Missoula Fresh Market, they will give a percentage of their earnings directly back to us. All you need to do is ask them to give your Scrip savings to Garden City Montessori School when you check out! Four times this year we'll receive a check reflecting your combined savings, which we'll apply toward professional development.



Before and After Care

Enclosed you'll find a sheet describing our extended care programs. Our hope is to schedule most care in advance while remaining flexible enough to meet your last-minute needs. If you plan to use Before or After Care on a regular basis please email your preferred schedule by August 27th.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Arrival time for our academic day is 8:15 - 8:30 a.m., and departure time is 3:00 - 3:10 p.m. Unless your child is using Before or After Care, please be sure to drop off and pick up promptly during these windows. When you drop your child at school, please make eye contact with your child's teacher. We will then understand that your child is our responsibility. At the close of the day when you pick-up, make eye contact again, and we'll know your child is under your supervision once again.



Extra Clothes Bin

Each child at Garden City is provided with a bin to store extra clothes in case of an accident or spill. Please bring extra clothing at the start of the year and **write your child's name, boldly, on all their belongings!**

At Garden City we love to communicate! Please do not hesitate call with questions or concerns. We accomplish so much each day, so don't be surprised if you reach our answering machine. We check it regularly and will respond as soon as we are able.

Enclosed you will find your September invoice, a list of volunteer ideas, school supplies, snack information, field trip and photo permission forms.

Thank you for allowing us to work with your children. We look forward to a wonderful year with them!

Bev Morse, Director

