

Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy

News & Views

A Better School of Thought

January 2020

Important Dates

Dear Family and Friends of Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy:

Happy New Year! We hope all of our families at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy had a wonderful winter break and enjoyed spending quality time with family and friends. We are happy to welcome everyone back to school and are looking forward to making 2020 a great year for continued learning and growth.

The teachers and Administrators have one vision for our students at MTCMA and we hope it closely matches yours as we continue this next stretch of learning. We want **ALL** of our students to continue to become all that they can be. We want them to be successful through good, consistent attendance, perseverance, utilizing help from our staff, exploring new ideas, asking questions and working diligently. We want this because these traits will build good habits and skills that will be important throughout their life. Parents, we need your assistance with their attendance as well as arriving at school on time, which is essential. Students must be present and on time to receive the full benefits of the education which we provide. Please make every effort and allow for the possible driving delays during the winter months to have your child at school on time. If your child has missed 10 or more days you will be receiving a letter in the mail at the end of the Second Marking Period. If you have questions in regards to your child's attendance, please contact the Office at 586-465-5545.

During winter break, our Custodians, Mr. Dennis and Mr. Al put their best efforts to make Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy spic and span clean and ready for the New Year. The team dusted and waxed surfaces, washed walls, scrubbed and buffed floors. They work tirelessly daily to make our school a clean, safe, and welcoming learning environment for our students.

To all of our families, thank you for supporting our students and teachers as we look forward to an outstanding second semester here at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy.

Sincerely,

Mr. Casey Rakowski
Principal

January 6: Classes Resume

January 6: New Hot Lunch Cycle Begins

January 10: Re-Enrollment Packets To Be Sent Home

January 13: Re-Enrollment Begins Through January 27

January 15: Kindergarten Music Concert 5:30PM

January 17: End of Second Quarter

January 17: School Dance 6:00PM at Mt. Clemens High School

January 20: NO SCHOOL, Professional Development Day

January 22: Band Concert 5:30PM

January 27: Re-Enrollment Period Ends

January 27: Valentine's Day Party Sheets Posted

January 27: CARE Parenting Workshop (2:15pm-3:30pm & 6:00pm-7:15pm)

January 29: Half Day (Elementary), No School (Preschool)

January 31: Report Cards sent home

February 4: Grade Level Spelling Bees

"The education of even a small child, therefore, does not aim at preparing him for school, but for life."

-Dr. Maria Montessori

Elementary Re-Enrollment

Re-Enrollment begins (January 13 – January 27) for all of our students presently enrolled at Mt. Clemens Montessori; Kindergarten through Fourth Grade. It is very important that all of the re-enrollment forms are completed and returned to the Academy by January 27. During this two week re-enrollment period, current students and all of their siblings that will be turning five by September 1st and older siblings are eligible to register for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year. Look for the Enrollment packets to come home on January 10, 2020.

It is necessary for you to have completed all forms to secure your child's placement, even though they are already enrolled and an attending student at Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy this current school year. Should the application not be submitted on time, it will then be placed with all "Open Enrollment" applications.

Open Enrollment is designed for those students not presently attending MTCMA. The dates for open enrollment will be held from February 3, 2020 – February 18, 2020. All applications will be considered on a first come basis unless our classroom limits have been reached. At the closure of Open Enrollment it may be necessary to have a lottery for open seats. If you have family or friends interested in attending MTCMA next year, please encourage them to register during the *Open Enrollment* period to ensure that their child's position is secured for the 2020-2021 school year. A waiting list of perspective students was in place at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year for many of our classrooms. Unfortunately, there were many children who were placed on our "Wait List"; unable to attend MTCMA and the wonderful programs offered. We want to ensure that you and your child remain part of our *family*.

Open House

As part of our Open Enrollment process, Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy will be hosting an **Open House** on Saturday February 8, 2020 from 10:00AM-12:00PM. Please spread the word about our high quality Montessori education to all of your friends and family members. Our school relies on recommendations from all of you to maintain our family atmosphere and high quality environment. Teachers will be available to answer questions about our programs and tours of our school will be available. Please join our family!



Hats off...

- ★ Thank you to Mr. Kerekes for his dedication in helping our band students learn all the necessary skills to perform and enjoy their chosen band instrument.
- ★ Thank you to all band parents for bringing their children extra early in the mornings for band practice.
- ★ Thank you to all the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and fifth graders who went caroling at Village of Peace Manor Retirement Community. It was a wonderful evening full of beautiful holiday songs!
- ★ Thank you to all those who donated to the Mitten Tree.
- ★ Thank you to the Student Council Advisors, Ms. Fickert and Mrs. McNeil for organizing the Great Bedtime Story PJ Drive and Reading fundraiser for our school.
- ★ Thank you to all who donated items, time, or energy in making all winter parties a success.
- ★ Thank you to our Parent Guild for organizing and putting on our first "Cocoa and Cookies Vendor Fair. Everyone who attended had a great time and found many great crafts and gifts for the holiday season!



Bundle Up and Let It Snow!

The children will be going outside daily weather permitting. Recess for all students will be **outside** as long as the wind-chill is above 10 degrees and the playground is dry. Dress your child in layers of play clothes that may be easily removed if your child gets too warm. Do not forget to send a warm jacket, snow pants, boots, hats, gloves, and a scarf during cold weather. Remember to label all garments of clothing for easier identification. A reminder that a signed note from your child's pediatrician is required for students to remain inside during recess.

International Assembly January 31, 2020

As part of our International Month, our students will be studying different continents around the world. Our international celebration culminates in our International Assembly on Friday, January 31st. Each grade will study a different continent and share what they have learned with the other grades at our assembly. One of the greatest moments in International Month comes when children share their family's history and experiences on different cultures with their classmates. Please ask your child to share all the great information they acquire about other cultures around the world!

Preschool: Africa

Kindergarten: Antarctica

First Grade: Australia

Second Grade: South America

Third Grade: Asia

Fourth Grade: North America

Fifth Grade: Europe



Lost and Found

Please make sure to label all of your child's winter clothing. This helps to make sure that any missing items can be returned.

Furthermore, please check the lost and found boxes outside the Gym to make sure your child is not missing any of their items.



Unlimited Daycare Payments

Final daycare payments for unlimited daycare are due on February 3, 2020.



Preschool Observations

Spending time observing in a Montessori classroom provides you with an excellent and unparalleled opportunity to see what life is like inside a Montessori classroom and how your child thrives in this environment. Whether this is your first exposure to the Montessori classroom or you have been with us for a couple years, your experience in the classroom will give you an insight as to what your child is experiencing as a Montessori student, and how they are progressing in this environment. During the month of January formal observations for Preschool children will take place. Please call the School Office to schedule an appointment to see your child at work. Further information will be made available when you arrive for your observation. Please join us!!!

NWEA Testing

Mt. Clemens Montessori will be participating in the NWEA Assessment beginning January 13 through February 7; Kindergarten- Fifth Grades. NWEA's assessment is a measurement for growth & proficiency in Reading and Math and pinpoints student needs. As a result of NWEA tests, teachers can make informed decisions to promote your child's academic growth.

Please assist us in making sure that your children get adequate sleep, eat a well-nourished breakfast and fully understand the importance of these assessments.

What's the Buzz?

First through Fifth Grade classes will be having spelling bees on February 4th. Many thanks to Mrs. Gossman and Mrs. Wheelis for once again organizing this event. Thank you as well to all of the parents for practicing the Spelling Lists over winter break. Please continue to review spelling words with your child as often as possible. Also a big thank you to all teachers for their assistance in running the classroom bees.

School Closing Information

Please make sure you sign-up for our electronic newsletter and school closing information at www.mtclemensmontessori.com. Please click on "Sign-Up For Newsletters and School Closing Alerts" on the top left side of the homepage.

In addition to those email alerts, you can also check TV Channel 2, 4, and 7 and WJR AM for School Closings. Please look for "Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy" to be listed. Furthermore, School Closing announcements and information are posted on the school Facebook page.



Kindergarten Music Concert

Please join our Kindergarten students on Wednesday, January 15th at 5:30pm for their Music Concert. This concert will showcase all the wonderful musical ideas our developing musicians have learned so far this school year. Be prepared to enjoy a musical adventure!



Help Siblings Get Along

If you have more than one child, you know that siblings don't always live in perfect harmony.

Try these suggestions to limit conflict:

- Catch your children at their good moments. Point out something specific they're doing so they can repeat it.

Example: "I love how nicely you've been talking to each other all morning".

- Give your children a chance to solve their own disagreements. Rather than stepping in as soon as they start squabbling, you might simply stay nearby in case things get out of hand.
- If your youngsters need your help to fix a problem, try offering choices.

Example: "Do you want to share the trains, or would you rather divide them up?"

- When all of the above fail, the three "L's" always help.....
Laughter, listening, and love!

Put On Your Dancing Shoes

Please join us for our Annual MTCMA Family Dance on Friday, January 17th at 6:00PM at Mt. Clemens High School. This wonderful event is sponsored and organized by our hard-working Parent Guild and should not be missed. Our dance has become a wonderful annual tradition that brings together families for a night of dancing, fun and camaraderie. A reminder that all children **must** be accompanied by an adult at the dance. Do not miss this special family event!



Parent Guild Board

Bridget Goudelock
President

Vacant
Vice President

Stephanie Dinco
Secretary

Laura Warren
Treasurer

Nicole Renaud
Communications

Visit the Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy Parent Guild [Facebook Page](#) to connect with MTCMA families.



A Better School of Thought.

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