

SEPTEMBER

Montessori School of Sonoma



Important Dates:

Sept 3rd:

Teacher Meet & Greet

Sept 7th:

First Day of School

Sept 29th & 30th:

School Picture Days

Oct 11th:

School Closed -
Teacher Work Day

Oct 14th:

Open House
(Tentative)

Oct 30th:

Harvest Party
(Tentative)



"We do not believe in ourselves until someone reveals that deep inside us something is valuable, worth listening to, worthy of our trust, sacred to our touch. Once we believe in ourselves we can risk curiosity, wonder, spontaneous delight or any experience that reveals the human spirit."
e. e. cummings

Come Meet Your Teachers & See The Classrooms!

We invite you and your child to come through an open-house-style meet and greet with teachers before school begins. As of right now, this will be the only opportunity for parents to come into the building. Please be prepared to wear a mask and have your temperature taken before entering the building. The schedule is as follows:

Toddler Room: Anytime Between 9am and 11am

AM Primary & Childcare: Anytime Between 9am and 10am

PM Primary & Childcare: Anytime Between 10:30 and 11:30

We look forward to seeing you!



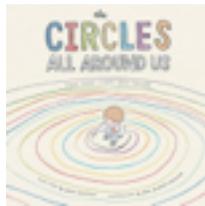
Back to School Book Recommendations:



The Kissing Hand

by: Audrey Penn

The Circles All Around Us



by: Brad Montague



School's First Day of School

by: Adam Rex



Best Preschool!

As we approach our 50th year, we are filled with gratitude and honored to receive this award; Especially after enduring such a challenging year. Thank you to Sonoma, our tireless staff and all of the families that make our Montessori community so wonderful. Here's to another great school year ahead!

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support our school every time you shop, at no cost to you. You can either visit www.smile.amazon.com and search "Montessori School of Sonoma". Or [click here](#) to visit our personal link.



-Thank you!

MSS Staff

- Director: Cathy Vaughn
- Assistant Director: Sarah Robertson
- Admin Assistant: Julia Goddard
- Infant Teachers: Katherine Merritt & Karina Loza
- Toddler Teacher: Christine Neles
- Toddler Teacher Assistant: Cara Fantozzi
- Primary Teachers: Barbara Pappas & Rachel Cisneros
- Childcare Staff: Natasha Mitchell & Danielle Gilmore

Be sure to follow us on



Instagram and



Facebook

Infant Corner:



We are so excited to start this new school year!

Transitions can be difficult for both children and parents and we are here to offer any advice if you need it. Drop offs are usually best done quickly. Being happy and confident leaving your child helps them feel that this is an experience they can trust. Even when there are tears, the children usually adjust quickly thereafter and sadness is short lived. The first few weeks we give extra cuddles and are focused on creating the bond needed with your child to ensure they are set up to learn, play, and thrive at school.

One-year-olds have many common and typical traits that make them wonderful, and at times challenging. Here are some common behavioral reminders:

- They fiercely want independence but at the same time can be clingy.
- They experience big feelings that can be challenging to handle.
- They are mobile now, but are sometimes unsure if they want to run towards you or away from you.
- They are developing self-awareness i.e. "I'm a separate person".
- They are learning that they can test the limits of adults and other children.
- They have a short attention span for activities.
- They understand more than they can express. This can be frustrating for them because they are still learning to manage their big feelings.
- We can expect that they will touch everything because it is how they make sense of the world around them.

We look forward to getting to know your children and assisting them in their many growing patterns!

Katherine & Karina

Toddler Corner:

Welcome to our Toddler Class at Montessori School of Sonoma. We are very excited and happy to begin a new school year. Here are a few details and suggestions that will facilitate a smooth start.

- **Diapers:** If your child wears diapers, please bring a package on the first day of school. These will be kept in our Toddler bathroom on a shelf with your child's name on it. We will request more as needed.
- **Extra Clothes:** Please bring a full set of extra clothes for your child. Each child is provided a bag in our class for their extra clothes. Please be sure to label each item.
- **Name:** Please clearly put your child's name on their lunchbox, water bottle, sweaters, jackets, hats, etc.
- **Nap:** If your child will be staying for a nap, please include a blanket and a lovey.

It is sometimes difficult for a parent to separate from their child, just as it may be for the child to separate from their parent. Please say goodbye at the gate and let your child know by who and when they will be picked up. If your child cries, let them know that you understand how they feel and that you'll be back soon. Leave without hesitating. Children usually will not continue to cry for more than a few minutes. If there is a problem, we will call you.

Each month we will include the lyrics to a song we are singing in the Newsletter. Here is our first song:

The More We Get Together

*The more we get together, together, together,
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.
'Cause your friends are my friends, and my friends are your friends.
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.*

*The more we get together, together, together,
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.
There's Althea and Augie, and August, and Caleb.
There's Nellie, and Esme, and Everett, and Fritz.
There's Leilani, and Saga, and Sophie, and Thomas.
There's Tyler, and Vaughan, and Wiley, and William.
There's Cara, and Christine, and all our friends, and everyone.
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.*

Christine & Cara

Primary Corner:



Dear families,

Welcome to the 2021/2022 school year!

Rachel and I are excited to get to know your children as we kick off the year with a focus on self-awareness and self-representations. While all students share parts of themselves with their new friends and peers we are beginning to form a community. This sense of belonging is of utmost importance for all of us in the classroom, and it will provide the foundation for our grace and courtesy, our respectful interactions, and our joyful and generous experiences together.

As you already know we will have four groups with 12 students each. There will be 2 morning and 2 afternoon groups. Rachel and I will move freely between both groups and we equally present lessons and story times for all children.

Every Monday our curriculum will focus on Botany. For September we will present lessons and projects for plants and trees. On Tuesday's we will focus on language skills. This might be as basic as the beginning sound of a name or as advanced as reading and writing, depending on each student's age and skill level. On Wednesdays we count! Especially for the young children it is important to remember to offer much repetition and playful games for quantities and symbol matching. Older students will dive right into addition and skip counting. Thursday is set aside for geography, and we will learn about land and water forms, as well as categories of living and non-living items in our homes and at school. We finish the week with handwork and tidying up any unfinished projects before the weekend begins. As children share their creations and work efforts with you at home, please give them adequate attention and recognition for their accomplishments. During the 3 years of Primary Montessori education we welcome every process, big or small, and we encourage lots of repetition. Only during the last year do we expect mastery of the many concepts practiced in all the areas of development.

To be part of this growth and to trust in the child is by far the most exciting and rewarding aspect of being a Montessori teacher. Rachel and I are convinced this coming school year will turn out to be our best year ever, and we truly thank you for letting us be part of your child's journey!

With loving kindness,

Barbara and Rachel

Childcare Corner:



Dear Childcare Families,

We are so excited to welcome your children back to a new year full of fun and learning! This school year each month will feature a new author and have a theme to guide our curriculum.

During the month of September we have chosen Mo Willams to be our author of the month. His books are about friendship and feelings which will help the children understand these topics as we transition into the school year. September will also focus on the theme, All About Me.

We will create self portraits, family portraits, and a book about our favorite things! We will also learn how to discuss and express our feelings with adults and also our friends. We are looking forward to exploring our 5 senses through many activities and we will be making sensory play dough, painting with music, and playing the feel-and-find sensory guessing game. We are so happy to be here to play, create, learn, and explore with your children!



Thank you,

Danielle & Natasha

AM Childcare Schedule

8-9: Work Time
9-9:15: Snack
9:15-9:45: Outside Play Time
9:45-10:15: Circle Time
10:15-11:00: Activity/Work Time/Music
11:00-11:25: Lunch
11:25-12:00: Outside Play Time
12:00-12:30: Quiet Story Time

PM Childcare Schedule

11:45-12:05: Lunch
12:05-12:45: Outside Play Time
12:45-1:30: Quiet Time
1:30-2:30: Activity/Work Time/Music
2:30-2:45: Snack
2:45-3:00: Circle Time
3:00-4:00: Work Time

SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 <i>Happy Birthday Christine & Paxton</i> 
5	6 <i>School Closed</i> <i>for Labor Day Holiday!</i>	7 First Day of School! 	8 <i>Happy Birthday Margaux!</i> 	9 <i>Happy Birthday Eleanor!</i> 	10	11
12	13 <i>Happy Birthday Cohen!</i> 	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Happy Birthday Sarah!</i> 
19	20	21 <i>Happy Birthday Rue!</i> 	22 <i>Happy Birthday Quinn!</i> 	23	24 <i>Happy Birthday Esme & Maika!</i> 	25
26	27	28	29 Picture Day! 	30 Picture Day! 	October 1st	