

Weekly Notes September 21, 2021

Office Notes

We are officially one month into the 2021-2022 school year and things are off to a great start! The students are settling in and becoming accustomed to daily classroom routine.

Today we celebrate International Day of Peace. It is tradition for our students to honor this day with the song "Sing Peace Around the World". Because we are continuing to maintain social distance to ensure the health and safety of our MSR family, each of our classes performed the song individually inside their own classrooms. Be sure to check out our YouTube channel to see some of our classrooms perform this beautiful song. You can view the videos by [clicking here](#).

Remember to BE READY!

Just a quick reminder that children need to be ready to exit the vehicle at the time of drop-off. We still have some students arriving that are missing shoes, haven't collected their belongings, etc. It is imperative that students be fully dressed and have their items ready to go (beside them or beneath their feet) when you arrive for drop-off. This ensures not only that the drop-off line can continue to run smoothly with fewer delays, but also that your child can get to his/her class with plenty of time to put their belongings away before getting started. Let's work together to start the day off right!

COVID Update: As a reminder we are taking every precaution to keep our students and staff healthy. We will continue to carefully monitor the health of the community and make changes to our policies as needed. At this time we are continuing to keep each classroom separated and Late Stay is also separated by class at this time as well.

Ms. Shannon, Ms. Rachel and Ms. Savannah's Class

We are enjoying learning about our zoo animals. We had a great lesson on bears yesterday. We talked about how they live in dens and what they like to eat. Henry brought in the book, "Going On A Bear Hunt" to share with the class. We also played the song to dance along to. I always play the Greg and Steve version on YouTube (if you would like to play it at home). I like this version because it has a lot of steps and is a good opportunity to work on following directions and they love that the song is fast at the end.

I sent out an email yesterday about Parent/Teacher conferences. Please sign up for a slot. I will send everyone a zoom link closer to their time. There will be no school on October 8th.

Ms. Angie, Ms. Sydney, & Ms. Anna Kate's Class

I hope everyone has been enjoying the rain. I will send a remind if we have an alternate drop off or pickup due to the weather. Please be sure that your child has extra clothes and masks at school.

Ms. Sydney, Ms. Anna Kate and I are enjoying the children and definitely getting into a routine. We have began our studies of the ocean and marine life. The children are loving it. Your child may send in books to share with our class.

Parent/ Teacher conferences are coming up. We will send an email this week with sign up times. We will host the conferences through zoom.

Ms. Valerie and Ms. Christina's Class

We are excited to be learning all about the ocean. We will be talking about the seashore, seashells, ocean layers, and fun facts about the ocean this week. If your child has an Ocean related book that they would like us to read at school, they may bring it in to share! Please make sure that your child's name is on the book.

Phonological Awareness

We are learning a new sound every week in the classroom. Last week we learned the sound "c". This week the sound is "a". In Montessori we focus on learning the letter sounds before the letter names. We want to give the children a strong phonological awareness which is the building block to reading. We talk about words that start with the sound, read a book that emphasizes the sound, and we have work in practical life that is related to the sound of the week.

What is **Phonological Awareness**? It is the ability to notice, think about, and work with the individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. There is an abundance of research that shows having a strong phonological awareness is a key element to becoming a successful reader

It is hard to believe we have been in school for over a month now. We are so excited to share all the wonderful things that your child is doing in the classroom. We will start conferences next week. Conferences will be done virtually on zoom.

Important information

Here is the link to sign up for conferences: https://docs.google.com/document/d/13reVG9Q6zTGN-pQJNYkZcoYhbi3rtkmGuEwyKdq2m_s/edit?usp=sharing

**If none of the following times work for you, please let us know and we will find a day/time to accommodate you.

For desktop users, just type your child's name by a time slot and it will save automatically. For cell phone users, press the blue edit button (looks like a pencil), type your child's name by a time slot. At the top of the screen click on the checkmark to save it.

Zoom ID and Password information: Here is the ID: **853-541-3349**. The password is **primary**

If you have any questions or need help signing up for conferences, please feel free to reach out to us!

Ms. Dolores and Ms. Robin's Class

September is flying by! Most students have selected characters for our Historical Timeline; the deadline is this Friday, 9/24. Please send us a photo of the book your child will be reading or send it with them to school for approval. Ms. Carol has many biographies in the library if you would like to borrow one. The next deadline is for costume plans, due Thursday, 9/30. Homework is due on Thursday.

We have been doing follow up work on the Timeline of Life. The students are working in groups to research the different periods in the Paleozoic Era. Please ask your child which era and period they are studying. They love to share their knowledge of living things!

This Friday, 9/24, we will celebrate the September birthdays of Seanna, Bo, and Milan. They will have special snacks and treats; please send lunch as usual.

Many class members have not signed up for Google Classroom. Invitations were sent to the school emails of returning students. Families who are new to the school: Parents should have received an email that includes an invitation and link to join Google Classroom. (This email is not sent by the teachers.) You must accept the invitation to join.

Today is the International Day of Peace. Our class participated by singing "Sing Peace Around the World", and we had a discussion about peace lead by Ms. Angela, our music teacher. Maria Montessori was a pioneer in providing peace education to children.

"Education is the best weapon for peace." Maria Montessori

Ms. Stefanie and Ms. Abigail's Class

This Thursday we will need to have everyone's choice for Historical Timeline and to verify that everyone has a book about their chosen person. You can text or email me a photo of the book. If you are unable to locate a book, please let me know and I can check with Ms. Carol to see if our library has one available. Ms. Carol has found books for Thomas and Wanling. Since we are only giving speeches to our classmates this year, we have decided to allow students more freedom of choice in their historical figures. That means they can choose anyone who is no longer living who has made a significant impact for good on society, as long as that person has not been chosen in our classroom the last 3 years. If it so happens that your child chooses such a person, I will let you know & they can explore other options. As of Tuesday morning, I have been given the chosen historical person for:

AJ – Madam CJ Walker
Bentley – Wilson (Snowflake) Bentley
Thealynn – Frida Kahlo
Thomas – King George III
Abigail – Eliza Hamilton
Andrew – Roy Chapman Andrews
Charlene – Anne Frank
Corbin – Benjamin Franklin
Anika – Ruby Bradley
Jase – Ferruccio Lanborghini
Liam – Theodore Roosevelt
Sydney – Leonhard Seppala
Wanling – Alexander Graham Bell

Please keep the sheet of paper with the Historical Timeline due dates so you can refer to each assignment as the due date approaches. I will send the additional forms for the outline, as needed. The Costume Plan is due September 30th.

It's almost time for parent/teacher conferences. Conference day is scheduled for Friday, October 8th. I will have the following time slots available on the 8th:

7:30 am	11:00 am
7:45 am	11:30 am
8:00 am	12:00 pm
8:30 am	12:45 pm
9:00 am	1:00 pm
9:30 am	1:15 pm
10:00 am	1:30 pm
10:30 am	

I will also have the following afternoon time slots available:

Monday, October 4 th	3:15 pm, 3:30 pm, 3:45 pm, and 4:00 pm
Tuesday, October 5 th	3:15 pm, 3:30 pm, 3:45 pm, and 4:00 pm
Wed., October 6 th	3:15 pm, 3:30 pm, 3:45 pm, and 4:00 pm
Thurs., October 7 th	3:15 pm, 3:30 pm, 3:45 pm, and 4:00 pm

There are 15 min. & 30 min. time slots available. Please let me know the date/time you prefer. I will send updated lists with the dates/times available as time slots begin to fill. If you feel you might need more time, please make sure to ask for a 30 min. slot. Thank you! I look forward to meeting with each of you to discuss your child's progress & so you can view their beautiful work!

Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Kaitlin's Class

Students are diving into their 5th week of school. Now that we have our schedule and routine settled, students are able to work more efficiently. We are encouraging independence, time management, and internal motivation to conquer their 9 morning works. We will send home works that are frequently not completed.

All upper elementary students have been approved for a Historical Timeline character. The next milestone (October 7th) is research and possession of a book. Many students have checked out a book on their character from the MSOR library and they have been checked-off for that already. If your child does not have a book on their character, please help them find one to begin their research.

Classical Roots tests this Friday for Books 4, 5, & 6 will be a review Lesson 4. Students are responsible for the spelling and part of speech for each word from Lessons 1-3. They need to know all 6 roots and their meaning. NO sentences required and only 10 definitions for words of their choosing.

Reminders:

- * Language HW (Wordly Wise) - Due Thursday
- * JGB HW - Due on day of class
- * Spanish HW - Due on day of class
- * Classical Roots - Study daily, test on Friday