

Soldotna Montessori News

April 27, 2023



Upcoming Events

4/28	Kindergarten Field Trip Cadre/Aspen Park
5/1-2	Moore Field Trip Peterson Bay
5/3	Band Concert (6:00 p.m.) Modern & Concert Bands
5/4	Primary Field Trip Kenai Fjords
5/5	School Assembly Miller's Class (9:00)
5/5	50 Cent Friday
5/8-10	Carter Field Trip Peterson Bay
5/10	Primary Field Trip Salmon Celebration (11:00)
5/11	6th Grade Skyview Visit (9:00)
5/11	Kindergarten Field Trip Cadre/Aspen Park (12:30-2:30)
5/11	APC Meeting (5:30)
5/12	ALICE Drill (2:15)
5/15	All School Assembly Slide Show (9:00)
5/18	6th Grade Promotion (9:15)
5/18	Last Day Of School
5/18	Volunteer Appreciation Soldotna Creek Park (11:30)
5/18	Whole School Picnic Soldotna Creek Park (12:00)

New Staff Members

WELCOME!

We are excited to welcome two new staff members to our amazing school for 2023-2024!

In March, we were able to hire Kim Baumer for our Primary Teaching position. Kim is a certified Montessori teacher and is joining us from Denali Montessori in Anchorage. Kim has taught as a Montessori teacher in both the lower I. and upper El. grades. She also has experience as a kindergarten teacher. We are happy to have her join our family.

Just this week, we finalized our kindergarten teacher hire. SMCS parent and librarian, Amy Frapp has been hired to be our next kindergarten teacher! She is an exceptional instructor whose kindness and encouraging presence is already valued by our students. Amy not only has experience as a kindergarten teacher, but also a heart for kindergarteners as well. We are so glad to be able to add her to our staff. Please welcome both Kim & Amy to our exceptional school family.

6th Grade Information



6th graders will be traveling to Skyview Middle school for a 6th grade visit on Thursday, May 11. Students will travel by bus with SoEl 6th graders to Skyview @ 9:00. They will eat lunch at Skyview and return to the school by 1:00.

APC Election Results



Thank you to all who voted in our APC Election. We had 41 ballots cast, which is a good participation rate for an unopposed election. Maintaining an Academic Policy Committee is a critical component of our charter, so thank you for your participation. Mrs. McAlpine and Mr. Hamilton have both been elected to serve as APC members for a 3-year term. I thank them for being willing to serve and provide guidance to our school. We are happy to have them join the APC in oversight of the school curriculum, the evaluation of the principal, and as ambassadors for the school.

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Spring Session

REMINDERS

Alaskan Evenings—We love the increasing daylight, but remember to help your student get enough rest to have a productive day at school. It is easy to lose track of time at this time of year, but a good night's sleep is still important.

Sign In—We are a close-knit school community, and we are comfortable in our school; however, please do not forget to check in at the office when you visit. It is borough policy and helps us maintain a safe school environment.

Field Trips & Volunteers—Field trips are in full swing. If you are planning on volunteering, please do not wait to ensure you have a completed background check. If it is not done early enough, you may not be able to participate.

Field Trips & Siblings—Just a reminder that per school guidelines, siblings are not able to attend school field trips when parents are volunteering or on a visit.

Last Day Events

INFORMATION

We are rapidly approaching the end of the year, and I know families begin to make plans for joining our school for our end of the year events on May 18th.

We will be celebrating our 6th graders with our annual promotion ceremony in the gym @ 9:15. Recognizing our 6th graders is such an important piece of our school. We look forward to this opportunity to thank and honor them, even though it is bittersweet, as we know they will be moving on. We hope our families are able to join us for this event.

Shortly after, we will be celebrating Mrs. Carter with our new tradition of hosting a retirement parade to Soldotna Creek Park. Classes will stop along the way and cheer for her as she makes her way to the park. We encourage ALL families, and former families, to find a spot along the route to honk their horn or step out and cheer her, too. Classes will depart at around 10:45.

Lastly, we will conduct our volunteer appreciation and school picnic/field day at Soldotna Creek Park. We begin at 11:30 with our volunteer appreciation, and food is served at 12:00. The students will continue their afternoon at the park completing field day events until 2:30. We love having our families join us for that time. So, if you can stay after lunch that is wonderful. If we have inclement weather or snow is still on the ground, we will alter our plans to finish our day indoors at the school.

School Support

DONATIONS

The school would like to recognize Country Financial for their generous donation to our school in support of field trips. We thank Gary Bryson for his efforts to secure this support for our school. We use our field trip funds frequently and having donations to the school in support of our efforts is very helpful to our students and staff. Thank you Mr. Bryson and Country Financial.

SMCS Students/Teacher

QUEST SUCCESS

This past Monday, our Quest students participated in the district Math-A-Lon Challenge at Soldotna Prep. It was a big event, and our "Three Musketeers" team (Cole Bryson, Olivia Kobylarz, and Taryn Lewis) performed well, placing second in the Lightning Round. Also of note, Mrs. Brenner wound up ensuring that this district event was a success, by filling in for the event organizer; not only did she prepare the students, she took on a heavy lift of ensuring the event was successful for all of the students who participated! Great Job SMCS!