

# Soldotna Montessori News

January 18, 2024



## Upcoming Events

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1/25    | F/T - Hubbard's Class<br>Heritage Place (1:00-2:00) |
| 1/26    | Early Release Day (2:00)                            |
| 1/27    | SMCS @ State Robotics                               |
| 1/31    | APC Bylaws Sub-Committee Meeting (4:00)             |
| 2/1     | School Spelling Bee                                 |
| 2/6     | PTO Meeting (4:00)                                  |
| 2/13    | F/T - Intermediate<br>Challenger Center             |
| 2/13    | Prospective Families<br>Orientation (5:30)          |
| 2/15-16 | P/T Conferences                                     |
| 2/22    | APC Meeting (5:30)                                  |
| 2/23    | School Assembly<br>Larned's Class (9:00)            |
| 2/23    | Lottery App Window Closes                           |
| 3/4     | Lottery Drawing                                     |
| 3/5     | PTO Meeting (4:00)                                  |
| 3/7     | Early Release Day (2:00)                            |
| 3/8     | End of 3rd Quarter No<br>School                     |
| 3/11-15 | Spring Break  |

### Report Cards

Report Cards are in today's Thursday folder.



## SMCS School Enrollment (24-25)



Each year our school provides SMCS families with a questionnaire about enrollment intentions for the upcoming school year (2024-2025). This online questionnaire provides us with critical information for planning and preparing for the next school year. We are **looking for every family to complete this form** and will be providing a link to the form in a school messenger email, text, and on the school website. The form seeks to understand if you intend to re-enroll your child in our school or wish to enroll siblings who do not currently attend. It also asks where your 6th grader will be attending middle school. Please look for an email or text message to this form today, (or use the QR code above), and let us know your enrollment plans for next year. Our deadline for receiving completed forms from every family is February 9.

## School Lottery Closes on February 23

Please encourage friends or neighbors to enroll in our lottery if they have an interest in joining our fabulous Montessori School family next year. The deadline to apply is February 23 @ 3:00 p.m.

## Celebrating Staff - Mrs. Miller



Most of you know Mrs. Miller and enjoyed her as a teacher for your kindergarten student over the years. Mrs. Miller is now serving as an intervention teacher and as a professional development coach for our school. She has been an exceptional resource for our staff, providing researched based, conference-level quality training for reading instruction to staff, this year. She has delivered 9 training sessions in just half of the year during in-service and early release days, as well as the occasional staff meeting. She also provides on-going, individualized support and resources for our teachers. The teachers have been very grateful for her support and the work and training is making a difference in students reading. It is great to have Mrs. Miller serving at SMCS!

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## Reading Connections At Home



We are encouraging families to partner with the school in support of their child’s reading attainment and growth. We love it when what we are working on at school is also something that is encouraged at home, whether that is in science, history, math, you name it. It is fun when a student exclaims that they are extending their learning outside of the classroom. A key element that families can begin to build understanding on is the Science of Reading. Each month we will provide families with a reading activity that they can use to support their student in reading, using a Science of Reading focus. We hope that the ideas we supply are helpful or useful to you and your child.



### 5 COMPONENTS OF THE SCIENCE OF READING

#### READING COMPREHENSION PRIMARY

##### CREATE A CHARACTER

As you read a book together, have your child keep an ongoing list of words that describe characters’ traits. Choose some of these words and create a new character. Your child can either draw a picture of or write about this character.

READING COMPREHENSION REQUIRES BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING SENTENCE AND TEXT STRUCTURES, MONITORING, AND CONNECTING IDEAS.

**Phonemic awareness:** the knowledge that written and spoken words are made up of phonemes, or smaller parts; phonemic awareness provides a foundation for being able to read and spell

**Phonics:** also known as the alphabetic principle, an understanding of the relationship between written letters and the sounds they are associated with in the spoken language

**Vocabulary:** the ability to recognize and understand a wide range of words; explicit and systematic vocabulary instruction

**Reading fluency:** the ability to read quickly and with ease; fluency also includes the ability to interpret emotions in the text and use the voice accordingly to represent them, or to use the voice to emphasize words.

**Comprehension:** the ability to understand a text

#### READING COMPREHENSION INTERMEDIATE

##### USE A NEWSPAPER

Try to get the local newspaper at least once a week. Ask your child to read the headlines and the lead paragraph of each front-page article.

More Family Reading Resources



AN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Activity Supplied By Amplify mClass – Home Connection

## Battle of the Books - THANK YOU!



Battle of the Books drew to a close after winter break. We would like to thank our parent coaches who met with students each Thursday @ lunch to familiarize students with the B.O.B. books, encourage them to read as many books from the list as they could, and work on answering questions about the books. Thank you to Annie Johnson, for meeting with twenty 1st & 2nd graders, Kelsey Cronick for meeting with our eighteen 3rd and 4th grade students and Lashon Evans who met with our dedicated group of seven 5th & 6th graders. That represents over 30% of our 1st-6th grade students these parents supported for three months. Way to go!

