

Soldotna Montessori News

February 22, 2024



Upcoming Events

2/22	APC Meeting (5:30)
2/23	School Assembly Larned's Class (9:00)
2/23	Lottery App Window Closes
2/29	F/T - Moore KNWR - Snowshoeing
3/1	F/T - Faris & Dixon KNWR - Snowshoeing
3/4	Lottery Drawing
3/5	PTO Meeting (4:00)
3/7	Early Release Day (2:00)
3/8	End of 3rd Quarter No School
3/11-15	Spring Break
3/18	Lottery Results Posted
3/28	Quest Film Festival (Seward)
3/29	Snow Make Up Day Early Release (2:00)
3/29	School Assembly Hubbard's Class (9:00)
3/25-4/19	AK STAR State Testing Window

SMCS Logo Wear

Please look in today's folder for SMCS gear.



Heart Assembly

WEAR RED FOR YOUR HEART DAY



Mrs. Larned's class will be hosting our school assembly this Friday, and their theme is about the heart. They wish to encourage students to wear red on Friday.

This coincides nicely with the month of February and the effort in Mrs. Boonstra's physical education class for the students' work for a healthy heart as well as their fundraising effort for the American Heart Association. So, we encourage your student to wear red on Friday in support of Mrs. Larned's class assembly & theme.

Field Trip Season

@ SMCS

It is getting lighter outside, and field trips are in the air. Students will be traveling to visit the dentist's office and heading to the Kenai Wildlife Refuge to do some snowshoeing and learn about the local wildlife. After Spring Break, there will be intermediate Kasitsna Bay trips, primary Salmon Celebration efforts @ Johnson Lake, along with many other trips that are in the planning stages.

All of these experiences would not be possible without the help of our parent chaperones. If you are planning on helping, please complete the required background check, if you have not yet done so. Also, thank you for supporting this type of learning and joining us on these out-of-class learning experiences.

It's Time to Think

ABOUT YEARBOOKS



It is time to be thinking about yearbook orders. Families who order before March 25 are able to add 2 free custom pages to their student's yearbook. You can find a link to order a yearbook at the school web page or use the QR code above. The school code is 1013956816001527. If you order online by the April 12th, deadline the cost of a yearbook will only be \$23.00.

THE BACK PAGE



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



PRIMARY

HOUSEHOLD MESSAGE BOARD

Use a chalkboard, pinboard, or a large piece of paper as a family message board. This is as an exciting way to involve children in reading with a purpose. Leave written notes to your child on the message board.

PHONICS INVOLVES MATCHING THE SOUNDS OF SPOKEN ENGLISH WITH INDIVIDUAL LETTERS OR GROUPS OF LETTERS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SOUND K CAN BE SPELLED AS C, K, CK OR CH.

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



INTERMEDIATE

PROBLEM TALK

Ask: "What problem(s) did the characters face in the story? Think about everything that happened in the story – can you remember the main problem? Which character(s) suffered the problem? What caused the problem in the first place? Who solved it (or, how it was finally solved)? Could it have been solved in another way?" Characters in a story might go through something, or may need to solve a problem. A good plot makes the story more interesting.

Activity Supplied By Amplify mClass – Home Connection

More Family Reading Resources
AN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Celebrating Staff - Mrs. DeRaeve



Mrs. DeRaeve has been a part of our Montessori Staff since 2019, and she has been our Resource teacher for the entirety of her time at SMCS. She is always looking for ways to build and improve her program. She seeks out and attends a plethora of training opportunities to incorporate into her instruction. Mrs. DeRaeve has also recently begun her Montessori certification with the Center for Guided Montessori Studies. Her training will include both lower and upper elementary training. Mrs. DeRaeve, upon completion, will be a fully accredited Montessori instructor for both lower & upper elementary. Her certification will be a MACTE certification recognized by the American Montessori Association. Mrs. DeRaeve is also known for her leadership of our school forensics program, and her thematic wardrobe that matches seasonal holidays and other significant days within the year. It is great to include Mrs. DeRaeve’s passion for student instruction & connection here at SMCS!