

Soldotna Montessori News

February 8, 2024



Upcoming Events

2/9	Early Release Day (2:00)
2/13	F/T - Intermediate Challenger Center
2/13	Prospective Families Orientation (5:30)
2/15-16	P/T Conferences
2/21	Skyview Visit to SMCS 6th Graders
2/22	Spring Picture Day
2/22	F/T - Hubbard Heritage Place
2/22	APC Meeting (5:30)
2/23	School Assembly Larned's Class (9:00)
2/23	Lottery App Window Closes
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

Early Release Tomorrow

2/9/24 is an early release day. Student pick up @ 2:00



P/T Conferences



Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up on February 15th & 16th. We always enjoy meeting with families and spending time discussing your student's progress. We look forward to your participation. The online sign up link is now available on the school website. Also, as a reminder, there is no school for students during Parent-Teacher Conferences.

SMCS Spelling Bee Winner!

Congratulations to Hadley Kornelis, our winner of the SMCS School Spelling Bee! Hadley will now move on to the regional, online bee, next week, with an chance to earn a trip to the state competition in Anchorage. Her championship word was "furniture." We had a lot of spellers this year, with 16 students competing. It takes an enormous amount of courage to compete in a spelling bee, so a congratulations to all of our spellers. Also congrats to our runners up: Rumley Jankowski placed 2nd in the bee and Piper Bundy, Dylan Duffy, and Kian Jester tied for 3rd.



Celebrating Staff - Mrs. Boonstra



Mrs. Boonstra joined our Montessori staff back in 2017. She serves as our half-time PE teacher, and accomplishes so much with the students with the time she is in the building. Mrs. Boonstra is full of energy and it motivates the students. She works hard to develop a wide variety of activities that challenge students to build their endurance, movement skills, and team work. It is impressive to see all of the students working so hard to challenge themselves and to see them eagerly take on new physical challenges. It is a testament to an incredible instructor. Mrs. Boonstra also serves as a X-Country skiing coach for KMS. You should know that she was an Olympic hopeful years ago, and was ever-so-close, to being a part of Team USA. You should talk to her about her experience. It is great to have Mrs. Boonstra serving at SMCS!

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State Testing



PREPARATIONS

March 25–April 19 is the testing window for the Alaska state assessments. It is very important that all students are able to participate, so please schedule absences and family trips around these dates. Data from all of our students is helpful in reviewing our school academic program. Participation also can influence our School Report to the Public score calculated by the State.

Pick Up Line

REMINDER



We have done a great job this year in our pick-up line and have been holding a 7-10 minute dismissal. Everyone has done great at pulling forward and keeping the line full. However, just a few reminders may be useful to improve our effort. Please do not use a left turn into the lot for the pick up line. Left turns, into the lot, can be used to access the back lane and parking. Please exit the line, quickly, after your student is in the car. If your student needs to go back to retrieve an item, please pull forward to the spots on the other side of the crosswalk. Thank you for making our pick-up line successful this year.

School Enrollment

2024-2025



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 we are currently at 82% complete. THANK YOU to the families who have completed this form already, but we still need our remaining families to complete this form. A link to the form can be found 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. Our deadline for receiving completed forms from every family is February 9.

Kids Heart Challenge

P.E. & AHA

Our Kids Heart Challenge program is kicking off this week in PE. We are proud to support the American Heart Association! Students will learn how to keep their hearts happy and healthy through physical and mental wellbeing, while helping others with special hearts by raising lifesaving donations. Our goal is to have 100% of our school families join the team and learn Hands Only CPR through Finn's Mission. Don't wait, get started TODAY! Students who join the team early can get a jump start on the classroom challenge!

1. REGISTER at www.heart.org/schools or download the Kids Heart Challenge App for [Apple](#) or [Android](#)
2. COMPLETE FINN'S MISSION in your HQ to learn Hands-Only CPR, how to spot a stroke F.A.S.T., and how you can help kids with special hearts!

Click here for a [virtual letter](#) to meet the Heart Heroes and see the cool thank-you gifts your student can earn! Be sure to talk with your student about their favorite Heart Hero and heart healthy message.

Battle of the Books

GRADE 3-4 TEAM

Monday, the District carried out the Battle of the Books competition for grades 3-4. Teams from each school competed, over phone lines, answering questions about books from the B.O.B. book list. We would like to recognize our SMCS team, Brooklyn Bott, Carver Iverson, Kian Jester, Carter Mack, Sophia McAlpine, Augie Mohr, and Amabel Taylor, for their effort in the competition. They worked hard reading all those books, and certainly had an enjoyable time competing. Thank You Team!

SMCS Lottery

CLOSES FEB. 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.

