

Soldotna Montessori News

March 21, 2024



Upcoming Events

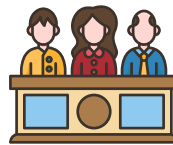
3/25-4/19	AK STAR State Testing Window
3/28	Quest Film Festival (Seward)
3/28	3rd Quarter Report Cards
3/29	Snow Make Up Day Early Release (2:00)
3/29	School Assembly Hubbard's Class (9:00)
4/4	ADF&G Assemblies
4/9-12	Intermediate Field Trips Kasitsna Bay
4/12	Early Release Day (2:00)
4/18	APC Meeting (5:30)
4/19	School Assembly Baumer's Class (9:00)
4/23	Art Night
4/30	F/T - Primary Classes AK Maritime Refuge
5/3	School Assembly Kindergarten (9:00)
5/16	Last Day Of School



Make-Up Day

Next Friday is a make-up day for the snow day we had earlier in the year.

Academic Policy Committee POSITIONS OPEN



The APC is looking for interested parents to serve as APC parent committee members. The APC will have two open parent member seats beginning in the 24-25 school year. The positions are 3-year terms.

Application are available at the school website, and must be submitted to Mr. DeVold via email by April 6 at 3:00 p.m. The Academic Policy Committee supervises the academic operation of a charter school and ensures the fulfillment of the mission of a charter school.

State Testing & Cell Phones



Guidance from the State is that no cellphones will be allowed in the testing environment this year. That mean not even in backpacks turned off (which is our policy). If your family has opted to provide a cell phone to your child, please leave them at home during your student's testing days (March 25-April 19). If that is not a workable option, we will be collecting phones as students enter the room and storing them in the office. We will return them to the students after the test session has ended for the day.

Class Placement Requests



It is time to begin considering class placement requests for next year. Class placement requests will be handled with an online form, and a link to the form will be provided to our families next week. The online form will be available for use by only our families with kindergarten or 3rd grade students. Completion of the form is optional, and we will make every effort to accommodate requests. If you have questions, please contact the school.

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

ACCURACY & FLUENCY PRIMARY

WORD RACE

Choose five words your child is learning in school. Write them on a sheet of paper and read them with your child. Now, challenge your child to read the words as many times as possible in thirty seconds. Make it a fun race by saying, "Ready, set, go."

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

READING COMPREHENSION INTERMEDIATE

STORY BROADCAST

Have your child pretend to be a news reporter and provide an oral broadcast of the story you just read together. Ask three questions about the story as a "reporter's test." Explain that news reporters start out by giving a quick main idea (if it is nonfiction) and theme (if it is fiction) of the story, followed by a summary of the news, followed by details. Sometimes, two news reporters might talk back and forth about a news topic. In the same way, have your child give a summary of what happened, and then you may discuss back and forth the different details of the story.

Activity Supplied By Amplify mClass - Home Connection

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

More Family Reading Resources

AN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Celebrating Staff - Mrs. Mooney



Mrs. Mooney has been a part of Soldotna Montessori Charter School since 2005. That is a lot of time and experience in our school! She has primarily worked as an aide in our kindergarten classes and our lower elementary classes during her career with the school. Mrs. Mooney is originally from Venezuela, and so her native Spanish language is an asset to our school. This year, she has had the opportunity to help students in Mrs. Larned's class learn a little Spanish language. One important thing to know about Mrs. Mooney, is her love of animals. When you have the opportunity to spend time with Mrs. Mooney, you will certainly learn about the joy she has with her encounters with them. We appreciate the knowledge and understanding Mrs. Mooney has developed as a Montessori aide over nearly 20 years. It is part of what makes our school wonderful and successful. We are so glad to have Mrs. Mooney serving at SMCS!