

Soldotna Montessori News

March 28, 2024



Upcoming Events

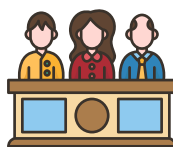
3/25-4/19	AK STAR State Testing Window
3/28	Quest Film Festival (Seward)
3/28	3rd Quarter Report Cards
3/29	Snow Make Up Day Early Release (2:00)
3/29	School Assembly Hubbard's Class (9:00)
4/4	ADF&G Assemblies
4/9-12	Intermediate Field Trips Kasitsna Bay
4/12	Early Release Day (2:00)
4/18	APC Meeting (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

State Testing Dates

Mar 29 - Grade 5 Science
 April 1-4 - Grade 4-6 Testing
 April 4-5 - Grade 3 Testing
 April 9-10 - Grade 3 Testing



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 is available at the school website or QR below. 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

SMCS Student Success

DISTRICT FORENSICS



We have had full newsletters recently, but do not want to miss the opportunity to recognize several of our students who performed at the District Forensics competition in February.

Reports were that all of our students performed beautifully. We not only performed well, but the students all represented our school wonderfully; demonstrating kindness, courtesy, and fantastic teamwork. Below are our students who placed at the competition:

Finnley Sexton- 4th grade humorous poetry- 2nd place
Liam Toews- 4th grade non-humorous poetry- 2nd place
Dylan Duffy- 4th grade non-humorous prose- 2nd place
Oscar Williams- 5th grade non-humorous poetry- 2nd place
Nathan Nelson- 5th humorous prose- 2nd place
Alyson Evans- 5th grade non-humorous prose- 2nd place
Landon Fisher- 5th grade interpretive reading- 2nd place
Ben Schlegel- 6th grade humorous poetry- 1st place
Cheyenne Gillham- 6th grade non-humorous poetry- 1st place
Reese Ross- 6th grade humorous prose- 1st place
Kemma Angleton- 6th grade non-humorous prose- 3rd place
Avi Bloom and Isobel Brantley- 6th grade prose-multiples- 1st place
Taryn Lewis- 6th grade interpretive reading- 2nd place

District Film Festival



IN SEWARD

Today, we had eleven SMCS students travel to Seward to participate in the District Film Festival. The participating students worked in teams of 2-4 to prepare scenes and scripts for their video. After getting the necessary shots, they then needed to edit their videos, (cutting and splicing, adding audio, adding titles, captions and credits, etc.), and bring them to completion. Students were required to address a prompt for developing a film, and also include prescribed key elements/challenges in the film for evaluation and scoring. Films that successfully meet judging criteria are recognized at the event. It is a fun activity for our students who participate. Thank you to Mrs. Brenner for making this opportunity available to our students.

Spelling Bee

STATE COMPETITION

Congratulations to Rumley Jankowski for performing so well at the State Spelling Bee in Anchorage! Rumley represented our school as the runner up from our school competition, after our school winner could not attend. Rumley was willing to fill the vacancy, and did a remarkable job at the State Bee. Rumley showed great courage to attend as a 3rd grader in amongst students up to 7th grade. Not only did she go up, on stage, at the Alaska Performing Arts Center, to spell, in front of a large crowd, she also made it into the 3rd round, which is super hard to do. Rumley finished near the top, out of 93 of the best student spellers from around the state. Way to go Rumley!



Celebrating Staff - Mrs. Johnson



Mrs. Johnson has been a part of Soldotna Montessori Charter School since 2013. She serves as a resource aide in our building. Maria has been a part of our staff for over 10 years, which is so incredible. Maria supports students instruction individually or in small groups. She provides instruction assistance in all subject areas. An important gift Mrs. Johnson provides is a kind, peaceful, encouraging presence for our students and staff.

Mrs. Johnson exemplifies the Montessori principle of Grace & Courtesy and has consistently provided this to our school culture since her hire. We are grateful to have Mrs. Johnson working in our school and serving our students and supporting our staff. It is part of what makes our school wonderful and successful. We are so glad Mrs. Johnson has chosen to work with us here at SMCS!