



ST. MAARTEN MONTESSORI SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2020
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES

**OCT
2ND** Progress Reports Sent Home

**OCT
5TH** Mid-term Break Begins

**OCT
13TH** Mid-term Break Ends - School
Resumes

PRIMARY

Ms. Esperanza

The children have settled into their routine very nicely, having adjusted well to all the new procedures. They are doing a wonderful job. We're very proud of all our children!

I would like to start by expressing our gratitude to those parents that took the time to be present at Parent Orientation Night. Thank you!



We would like to recap some of the points discussed during our Zoom meeting.

- Please adhere to drop off and pick up times and procedures. It's very important to keep to time
- Please remember to return the children's folders on Mondays
- Gym is held every Friday. Please dress your child in a Montessori gym T- shirt, short pants and comfortable running shoes
- Send your child with a change of clothes
- Please provide sufficient snacks and water for your child each day
- Please help your child choose a Show & Tell item appropriate for the theme. Show & Tell is held on Fridays only

Here are our coming themes:

September:

Insects

October

Animal
Classification

November

Plants

December

Robots

January

Transportation

February

Antarctica

March

South America

April & May

Dinosaurs

We hope this info will be helpful.
We look forward to a great September!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

Ms. Shelly & Ms. Ethlene

Thank you to all families for the stellar effort made in August in supporting your child with readjusting to the school schedule. Children have made an excellent effort with the new safety procedures and have easily adopted the new routine. All children enter school daily with a face shield, practice social distance and wash their hands for 20 seconds.

Thank you for attending our virtual Parent Orientation Night. It was a constructive evening whereby we discussed the curriculum at different levels of the three-year Montessori cycle.

Kindly note the following classroom procedures:

- Homework goes home on Mondays and comes back to school on Fridays in the plastic folder
- Spelling tests are held on Fridays. Children also must learn classroom words and are tested on them
- Show and Tell begins this Friday and will be held every Friday thereafter Please help your child chose something appropriate to share with the class
- Nightly reading is highly advised. Levels 2 and 3 have chapter books with daily classroom discussion as follow up
- Completed work goes home every Friday. This work is to stay at home
- All children need a recyclable water bottle on a daily basis

Now that we're settled into the school year, we'll soon tackle our first Albanesi Montessori achievement tests in Arithmetic and Language, followed by Progress Reports, to be sent home on Fri., Oct. 2.

We appreciate children arriving at school between 7:45 a.m. and 8 a.m. as we begin class at 8 a.m. sharp. Kindly remember that school ends at 2 p.m. and we must be off the parking area in time for the next round of dismissal.

Recess is now at 10 a.m. and lunch has moved to 11:30 a.m. Children eat lunch outside at the picnic tables, socially distanced by Plexiglas. They take their masks off, place them in Ziploc bags and put them on when finished.

Children are in the full swing with Dutch, French, Music and Physical Education. Please remind your children that they also may have Dutch or French homework to complete.

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Ms. Marianne & Ms. Wendy

This month, we welcome more students back to campus – and new Level 4 students Amani & Mimi to class. Thank you, everyone, for a motivated start to the 2020-21 school year.

We appreciated the opportunity to meet with all families at last week's online Parent Night.

To recap a few points:

1 **Current School Hours – 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

All Covid-19 protocols remain in place throughout the day. We observe the 3Ws – WEAR a face shield, WASH & sanitize hands and WIDEN the social distance – during all classroom & specialist activities, including recess and gym.

- Arrival & Departure Times – Please drop off Montessori students ONLY from 7:50 a.m. to 8 a.m. and pick up PROMPTLY at 2 p.m. As times are staggered to accommodate our whole campus, we appreciate your adherence to this schedule.

2 **Student Absences**

If students are ill from time to time and cannot attend class, they are encouraged to rest at home and return to class as quickly as feasible. It is NOT necessary to log in on Zoom.

3 **Lunch – Socially Distanced – Outdoors – 11:30 a.m. to Noon**

Currently, students eat lunch at the picnic tables, now equipped with Plexiglas dividers. Students remove their shields ONLY when seated.

We remain seated until all finish their meals. Students may not return to class or play on the sports court or hardtop during lunch.

Please do NOT send meals that need the microwave at this time. Please be sure to bring all necessary cutlery from home.

4 **Recess & Gym**

Students wear their face shields at all times at school, including during exercise periods. They are encouraged to take regular breaks in the shade and to carry a drinking bottle when they go outside. If your child cannot participate in these periods for any reason, we appreciate a note from home – as we prefer that children do not excuse themselves from any part of their usual program. They will be directed to a supervised workplace until our class returns to Room 203.

5 No Red Ink & ReadWorks - Online Exercises - Due Fridays

These sites extend our work in grammar, writing and reading comprehension. All students should log on as part of their daily homework. Results are noted on UE report cards.

NB – Level 4 students (Amani, Charlie-Shanti, Kjeld & Mimi):

- Using your Google account, please log on to No Red Ink at <https://www.noredink.com/join/fun-phone-6>. The default password is 1234567. Similarly, please log on to ReadWorks at www.readworks.org. The code is WW34MZ. The default password is 1234.

6 Weekly Homework - Due Fridays

Spellwell/Spelling workbooks and Spectrum Math assignments are due on Fridays. New lessons are assigned that day for the following week.

If a student ignores any part of the homework – especially paragraph-writing tasks often found in Spellwell lessons -- the work will be marked INCOMPLETE.

Please read at home in English for 30 min. daily. Please bring your assigned novels to school each day, as you may find time to relax with some reading.

7 Study Hall

At this time, we have not announced plans to reopen after-school activities, including study hall; HOWEVER, that is no reason for incomplete work.

We begin EVERY day with students' homework questions. Indeed, I appreciate those questions, as they tell me that students take their work seriously, and they provide excellent jumping-off points for meaningful lessons.

Students may ask questions at any time. Thereafter, it is up to them to manage their homework schedules, balancing home, leisure and school responsibilities.

We Wish
**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

to Amani & Charlie-Shanti, who celebrated in August, and to Mimi, who celebrates in September.



On behalf of our UE class and families, we extend our condolences to the Baharani family on the passing of their father/father-in-law/grandfather in New York. Our kindest thoughts are with you and yours at this sad time.