

JUNE 2020

ST. MAARTEN MONTESSORI SCHOOL

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



THANK YOU FOR A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!

A MESSAGE FROM US

This year, we've faced unconventional circumstances in which we had no other choice but to adapt. Amid a pandemic, students, parents, and staff pulled their weight and managed to adjust to ensure our future leaders received a well-rounded education.

For the first time in history, The St. Maarten Montessori school modified our curriculum for the virtual world through Zoom classes.

and our staff, who maintained the integrity of the Montessori philosophy every school day via virtual lessons.

To our graduates, we'd like to express a celebratory, "Congratulations!" You have worked tremendously hard to proceed on your educational journey. Wherever life carries you, please remember that you're always welcome at the St. Maarten Montessori school.



We couldn't have been more proud of our students, who were able to smoothly transition to a new method of learning; our parents, who were patient and assisted their child and/or children with their virtual learning needs;

We overcame adversity because we all worked together—students, parents, and our staff. Thank you for a great school year.

Enjoy your summer vacation!

PRIMARY

MS. ESPERANZA & MS. AL

We have made it to the end of this school year, and despite the challenges thrown our way, we can happily say it's been a great learning experience for us all. We adapted, we evolved, we made it work, together with the children, teachers and parents.

A big thank you to all the parents who were there by our side every step of the way. Thank you!

LOWER ELEMENTARY

MS. SHELLY & MS. WENDY

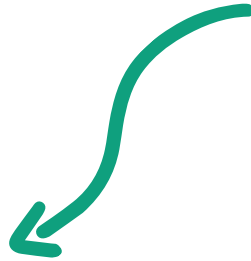
With the school yearend just around the corner, everyone is hard at work on Zoom School participating eagerly and completing weekly assignments. A huge thank you to parents for their ongoing support of their children's work. As your children complete their homework books, SRAs and novels, please drop off these materials in the Music Room in the basket labelled with my name.



We would like to wish
Happy Birthday to our
June and July birthday-
makers.

Elsa, Colin, Anna, and Ms. Al!

Enjoy the summer holidays,
and keep safe We are
looking forward to seeing you
all in August!



LE is asked to join our school-wide end-of-year tribute to Front-Line & Emergency workers. In our Zoom sessions, we've discussed the jobs done by these individuals in these challenging times. Students are asked to create a big Thank you card, a uniform/costume or hat of an emergency worker and take their photograph with these items. Ideas will be discussed with children this week. Please email all photos to the school by **Wed., June 3.**

Year-end Albanesi testing in Arithmetic and Language is slated for **June 1 to 5**. Information will be sent home this week so you can prepare in good time.

At this time of year, we know that our Level 3 students begin thinking about their move to Upper Elementary in the coming school year. As a team, we work closely with our UE colleagues to ensure that our students make a seamless move. Ms. Marianne, Ms. Ethlene and next year's Level 5 & 6 students already look forward to welcoming their new Level 4 classmates!

Students are wrapping up the school year with books by classroom favorite Roald Dahl. Please help your child download or listen to his books online.

We thank Ms. English for her energetic and enjoyable Physical Education classes. We look forward to the final class this week; however, Dutch, French, Music and Art continue in June. The final day of school is Fri., June 12.

**HAPPY JUNE
BIRTHDAY TO
CRISTINA!**



Continue to stay safe and stay well.

UPPER ELEMENTARY



MS. MARIANNE & MS. ETHLENE

As I write on the penultimate day of the 2019-20 school year, I'd like to thank you for the golden opportunity to discover so many "silver linings" this year.

Writing yearend reports in recent days, I quickly met a problem: I had run out of synonyms for "excellent," "stellar," "outstanding" and "well-earned."

For a teacher, it's a pinch-me moment to discover that every student found the way to deliver his or her best, and I reveled in that knowledge. Of course, it's great to record strong Albanesi test scores – but it's even better to know that students put it together when it mattered to earn the marks that their hard work deserved. Well done, UE!

Without the usual opportunity to work with a friend or in a group, UE students took advantage of lockdown to discover what their OWN best looks like – and that’s “darned good,” as my students accuse me of repeating. As a result, UE is poised for a strong start upon our return to Room 203 in August 2020.

For the first time in my teaching career, I shared my personal phone number and email address with parents and students – and I’ve truly appreciated the opportunity to build a stronger rapport with all UE families. I believe it’s meant a lot to your children, and it’s certainly meant a lot to me.

After working with my Montessori colleagues to re-open our school in record time after Hurricane Irma, I knew that our team had the experience and sense of teamwork to grapple with Covid-19. During our time in Zoom School, I’ve been extremely grateful for the support and friendship of each and every one of my colleagues – with special thanks to Ms. Shelly, whose schedule was even crazier than my own, and Ms. Gillian, always our strong center.

This week, we get set to launch our Level 6 graduates into middle school! Many thanks to Alcea, Kendrys, Pranay, Soleille and Stefanie for the privilege of guiding you on your Montessori journey, and all the very, very best to you in Grade 7 and beyond!

At the same time, I’d like to offer special thanks to Sophia and Gabriel Antunez, who represented the class in offering best wishes to their graduating classmates. Sophia wrote and recorded a heart-felt good-luck speech to send everyone off in style, and Gabriel created a fabulous graduation design that encompassed the diversity of our classroom.



This month, we wish Happy June Birthday to Ahmad, Kendrys and Gabriel Amado, and, for the final time, Happy July Birthday to Pranay – I’ll miss having another Moonchild in Room 203!

PLEASE NOTE A FEW SPECIAL DATES:

1. **Week of Mon., June 15** – Parent-teacher meetings in Room 203. Please wear a mask and maintain social distance on campus. Students are expected to attend with parent(s).
2. **Tues., June 16** – Graduation Breakfast – Level 6 graduates and parents.
3. **Thurs., Aug. 6** – The 2020-21 school year begins for all students.