



ST. MAARTEN MONTESSORI SCHOOL

AUGUST 2020
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK!

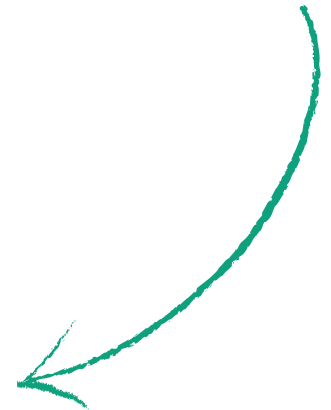


MONTESSORI & COVID-19

PLEASE REMIND YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT A FEW PROTOCOLS:

- Students must wear their face shields at all times on campus.
- Students must wait OUTSIDE the classroom until their temperature is measured and recorded and shoes disinfected. If your child arrives late, he or she must WAIT at the door until greeted.

- At dismissal, children are directed to stand in socially distanced lines as marked out near the roundabout. As dismissal times are staggered among Montessori and CIA students, we must be waiting in our designated line on time, and we appreciate your timely arrival in return.
- Please send ONLY snacks that can be eaten without lifting or removing the shield and drinks that can be consumed with a straw.
- If your child is ill, please feel free to allow him or her to rest at home as needed. It is NOT necessary to log in to class on those days; however, a student may work on weekly spelling, math or online exercises, if circumstances permit.



PRIMARY

Ms. Esperanza

We're beyond happy to welcome our Primary children back to the classroom and to the start of the school year!

We've been very impressed at how well the children wear their face masks and wash their hands. We're doing our best to keep everyone safe and happy and give our kids a sense of normalcy in their daily lives.

We look forward to seeing all our families at our **Virtual Parent Orientation Evening via Zoom, new date on Wed., Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.** Please look for further details via email in the days ahead.



LOWER ELEMENTARY

Ms. Shelly & Ms. Ethlene

We're happy to welcome back our returning students to levels 2 and 3 and our new Level 1s to our Lower Elementary classroom in this 28th year of Sint Maarten Montessori School, both physically and virtually.

A Montessori learning environment is unique. Our main goal is to provide a carefully planned, stimulating environment in which to help children develop within themselves the fundamental habits, attitudes, skills and ideas for a lifetime of critical thinking and learning. With the challenges we're facing, these young people are hard at work and happy to be learning again!

A hearty thank you to all families for your support with the virtual learning that rounded out the last school year and saw all students do their best in advancing to the next grade level. A job well done, indeed!

We've hit the ground running with a review of the last term of the previous grade level and new lessons. Children are adapting well to their individual curriculum packages and are busily working away. Those children who returned to school have been exemplary at keeping on their face shields, washing and sanitizing their hands and keeping social distance. Well done, LE!

Our Dutch, French and Music classes are in full swing. We're happy to welcome back Ms. Wigman as our Dutch teacher and Mr. James as our Music teacher. We welcome Ms. Leda as our new interim French teacher, who will be with us until Ms. Michele; our past French teacher; returns from France in November.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- Children receive their weekly Spelling and Math homework on Mondays.
 - All homework is to be returned to school on Fridays Children take a spelling test on the words from the new lesson at that time.
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You may send your children to school with a small snack that they can eat under their face shield. Please note that shields cannot be removed at any time throughout the day. We also ask that each child have a reusable water bottle daily, as it is essential to stay hydrated.

If you find at home any reading books or other materials borrowed during confinement, kindly return them to school with your child.

We look forward to seeing all families at **Virtual Parent Orientation Evening new date on Wed., Sept. 9 at 6:30pm.** Please look out for further details.

HAPPY
AUGUST
BIRTHDAYS
TO:



Cato and Camille!

UPPER ELEMENTARY

Ms. Marianne & Ms. Wendy

Thank you for a fine start to our new school year in the classroom and, for the moment, online at home. We appreciate your cooperation as we share time and resources with students in varied locations. Special thanks to those students who now log in and out of our Zoom sessions so nimbly!

Currently, students are participating in Montessori math and language lessons and completing Albanesi Montessori pre-tests to gauge their current levels.

As we now are back in Room 203, all school materials – including pencil cases, textbooks, novels, workbooks and photocopies -- must be available in the classroom each day.

Typically, children will bring home only weekly spelling and assigned pages from their Spectrum math workbooks. Students also may read their assigned novel at home. Wherever possible, Montessori Albanesi work is completed in the classroom; however, homework may be expected from time to time.

This week, our Dutch, French and Music schedules are continuing for all students. Please ensure that this homework is completed as assigned.

In addition to their Montessori Albanesi classwork, all UE students have weekly Spectrum Math, Spellwell/Spelling, No Red Ink and ReadWorks assignments due on Fridays.

As this work is reported on students' report cards, please ensure that your children are completing all assignments regularly.

As always, UE enjoys our daily read-aloud sessions. We opened the school year with Kwame Alexander's The Undeclared, a picture book celebrating the accomplishments of African-Americans, and Jason Reynolds's Look Both Ways, a novel that weaves together the stories of middle-schoolers who await a figurative bus falling from the sky. To our delight, our latest novel – Jasmine Warga's Newbery-Award-winning The Other Name for Home – comes highly recommended by Jason Reynolds!



Thank you for the continuing privilege of guiding your children in these challenging times. As we often remind the children, we're all in it together!

We look forward to seeing all our families at our **Virtual Parent Orientation Evening via Zoom, new date set for Wed., Sept. 9 at 7 p.m.** Please look for further details via email in the days ahead.