

March 16, 2020

Dear Families,

This message comes to you with basic information about forthcoming communications from your child's teachers. They have worked through the weekend, and are still working today, training, creating materials packets, and establishing procedures that will continue your child's Montessori education at home. They are also gathering the children's belongings from classrooms and lockers, and packaging them for pickup.

Student activities will vary widely, depending upon the ages and skills of the children. Younger students' programs are experience-based at school, and should be at home as well. Older students will need their books, along with teacher-created materials.

This is the first step in what will be a series of ongoing, mostly online, communications from your child's teachers. Replicating a Montessori classroom at home is impossible, but with your support and the establishment of routines for the children, we can still maintain the culture of learning and discovery that is fundamental to authentic Montessori.

That said, here are some specifics:

When: Wednesday, March 18, 2020

What time: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

What: Children's work packets, personal belongings (including medications where applicable), and introductory letters from teachers will be available for pickup.

Where: At the main entrance, in keeping with Governor Whitmer's order to close buildings to students and families.

There have been questions about school programs and events, including the drama program, the lower elementary music program, and things rescheduled from recent snow days (open house, Dad's Night, and the Makerspace activity night among them). As you know, the situation has been changing daily, and we are still too uncertain to make firm plans. This is new territory for all of us, and we ask that you bear with us as we discover the best ways to deliver content and communicate with you and your children. We all have the same goal: a partnership between home and school that will facilitate the children's ongoing development and academic progress.

Sincerely,

Kay Neff and Laura Springer

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