



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Panda Room!

I am looking forward to working with you and your child in reaching his or her full potential this school year. They will have many wonderful experiences and opportunities to learn and grow in the days ahead. My main goal with each child is to develop confidence, independence, and a love of learning.

August is such an exciting month for the children and teachers alike. It is a month of changes, new beginnings, new surroundings, new friends, and new experiences. Over the course of his/her three-year cycle, your child will develop many skills and explore a world of learning.

Please take time to discuss the school day with your child. Your constant interest will play a special part in your child's success. Many of you have asked how your child's progress is evaluated and recorded. This may seem especially complex given that Montessori classrooms have multiage groups with each child working at his/her own interest and pace.

The Montessori classroom is a very orderly and rich environment with materials and activities arranged in sequential order in each of the areas. The teacher has a list of the materials in each of the areas for every child. She notes when the child has had a lesson on a particular material and how he/she is progressing with the material. This checklist is part of the child's portfolio.

The portfolio is a very important and useful tool for parent/teacher conferences that take place in January and May. It's amazing to see the progress a child has made right before your eyes! Before each conference, you will have an opportunity to come in, observe your child's classroom, and write down any questions or comments on the observation sheet.

I believe that communication is the key to a great parent-teacher relationship and we encourage you to contact me if you have any questions or concerns at any time. The best way to reach me is through email panda_room@montessoriworldschool.com. I will also keep you updated on class activities and individual concerns and contact you by phone or email.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Christine Friedman

First day of school

Below you will find a list of things you will need to send to school with your child on Monday. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

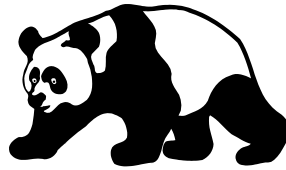
Extra clothes: Please send in a full change of clothes, including socks and underwear in a Ziploc bag, **labeled with your child's name.**

Photograph: This applies to new children only. Please send in two photographs of your child to be attached to his/her name tag and folder.

Nap Items: All in one *Rollie Pollie* nap sets are available in the office to be purchased for children who still nap (generally 4.5 and under). Older children ages 4.5 and up will be resting in the classroom for about 30-40 minutes and they do need a beach towel in a ziplock bag to lay and rest. All nap items will be sent home on Fridays to get washed.

Reusable Water Bottle: Every child needs to bring a reusable water bottle daily filled with ONLY water. They will bring the bottle outside for playtime as well as use it freely in the classroom. Water bottles will be sent home daily to be washed.

***Please remember to put your child's name on all personal items.**



Panda Room Daily Classroom Schedule

7:30 am to 8:40am	Early Arrivals for all day children only
8:40am to 9:00am	Arrivals/ gather children for circle time
9:00am to 9:15am	Circle time
9:15am to 9:45am	Recess
9:45am to 11:45am	Morning work cycle
12:00pm to 12:30pm	1 st group eats lunch (nappers)
12:30pm to 2:30pm	Nap* time for 3 and 4 year olds
12:45pm to 1:30pm	2 nd group children eat lunch Clean up Lunch area Prepare afternoon snack
1:30pm to 2:00pm	Rest time for older children
1:30pm to 3:00pm	Afternoon work cycle
3:00pm to 3:30pm	Snack/ line time
3:15pm to 3:30pm	Dismissal for extended day children only
3:30pm to 4:30pm	Recess
4:30pm to 5:30pm	Aftercare work cycle/ story time
5:30pm to 6:00pm	Dismissal in whale room

*Children will be coming into room as they wake up from nap.

Panda Themes 2015-2016

Month	Theme
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grace & Courtesy
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm*
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rain Forest
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrations around the world
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Body
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dinosaurs
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family Pets

*Fieldtrip to Green Meadows Farm