



## Sunflower Room

### Orientation Information

*The child can only develop by means of experience in his environment. We call such experience “work”. Dr. Maria Montessori*

**Our goal** is to provide a safe and nurturing environment where the child’s independence is developed in daily activities.

#### What to bring to school:

- 12 pull ups every Monday and a large container of unscented wipes for the first two weeks. After that parents take turns bringing in a box of wipes as requested throughout the year. A minimum of 5 cotton panties/underwear if your child has started or is toilet trained.
- 2 changes of clothing in a large zip-lock bag. Include a pair of shoes. **Please label everything with your child’s name!**
- 1 family photograph & 2 individual photographs of just your child (unframed please).
- Throughout the year each child will be asked to bring a specific plant or seed packet to plant in the garden and care for during the school year.

If your child stays for the Extended and All Day Program:

- If you need to purchase nap materials, please purchase a Rollee Pollee from the front desk. A Rollee Pollee is a complete nap blanket and pillow that rolls up for easy transportation.

#### How to dress your child

Dress your child in comfortable play clothes (ex. Elastic waist pants because of toilet training) with closed toed, Velcro gym shoes that are easy for your child to put on and take off.

#### Commercial Character Policy

We do not allow clothing, bedding or lunch boxes that contain pictures of non- real characters. Solid colors, patterns and pictures of animals, real people and “things that go” are appropriate.

#### Meals and Snacks

Food is an important part of life. Being able to feed ourselves is a step towards independence and being able to prepare our own food is so much fun. In our classroom we will cook something special once a week.

Along with their lunch your child needs you to include a breakfast for the morning. For the children staying past 3:15 you need to include a snack also. Each child should have a reusable water bottle sent to school with them every day. **Juice is not permitted and will not be served to your child in school.**

**Sugary snacks, soda and candy are not permitted.** Please provide reusable & microwaveable containers for food so that uneaten food can be sent home. Lunches will not be refrigerated so please include an ice pack. Please do not send in

frozen foods or packaged processed foods. All containers, including the lunch box should be labeled with your child's name.

### **Arrivals**

All children arriving before 8:40 a.m. need to be walked to the classroom *door*. There he/she will be greeted by his teacher and classmates and welcomed into the room. Sign your child in on the "Sign in/Sign out Log Sheet" located outside the door. Please remain outside the classroom door as doing so aids in the separation process.

The "morning drop off procedure" begins at 8:40 a.m. and ends at 8:59 a.m. During this time parents will stay in their car and your child will be greeted by a teacher and escorted to the classroom door. If you arrive after 8:59 a.m. your child will be officially "tardy". The tardy policy is listed in your parent handbook and is highly discouraged.

### **Dismissals/Pick up**

Sunflower Extended Day children will be ready to be picked up at the Main Entrance door at 3:15. All day children will be picked up in the classroom or playground. Please sign your child out on the sign in/sign out log sheet.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

Montessori World School asks each family to contribute 12 hours of volunteer time. There are several ways to complete your volunteer hours that are appropriate and outside the classroom for pre-primary students; such as book fair assistants, material making and International Parade of Nations set-up/clean-up. The PTO also offers lots of volunteer opportunities through various committees.

### **Separation Anxiety**

Getting your Toddler off to a Good Start!

You have made a great choice by enrolling your child in our Montessori Pre-Primary Program. Toddlers are developing their sense of independence and benefit from time away from the family to interact with other children.

#### **Some Suggestions:**

- Examine your attitude about dropping your child off for school. This is the biggest road block to separation. Children are very intuitive and can read and imitate parent's reactions to events. If your child senses that you are feeling apprehensive about him/her going to school, he/she is likely to exhibit the same feelings.
- Communicate with confidence that your child will be fine and that you are happy and excited that he/she is going to school because you know how much fun he/she will have.
- Sometimes parents are not ready to "let go" of their babies and have a more difficult time separating than the child.
- A quick good bye with a clear point of departure outside the classroom or from the car is best. Drop your child off quickly and let him/her be drawn into the classroom by intriguing activities and his/her day will get off to a great start.
- Tell your child how you are going to be spending your day and that you will be back to pick them up after school. Allowing him/her to leave you from the car or the classroom door allows the child to feel empowered as opposed to feeling left behind.
- Your child is safe with us and we are going to take great care of him/her. We know each child is different and we want to work with you to make his/her first school experience as smooth as possible. Let us know how we can help!

## Sunflower Room

### Daily Schedule

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 7:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.   | Early Arrival Drop Off   |
| 8:40 a.m. – 8:59 a.m.   | Arrivals   |
| 9:00 a.m.- 9:15 a.m.    | Snack  |
| 9:15 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.   | Outdoor Gross Motor Development Time                                   |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Group Circle Time  |
| 10:15 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.  | Indoor Work Cycle  |
| 11:15 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.  | Story Time   |
| 11:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.   | Music & Movement   |
| 11:45 a.m.-12:00 noon   | Transition Time  |
| 12:00 p.m.-12:45 p.m.   | Lunch  |
| 12:45 p.m.-2:15 p.m.    | Resting Time   |
| 2:15 p.m.-2:40 p.m.     | Wake Up/Transition   |
| 2:40 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.    | Story Time   |
| 3:00 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.    | Dismissal for Extended Day Students<br>Work Cycle for All Day Students |
| 3:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.    | Extended Activities  |
| 5:30 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.    | Dismissal for All Day Students   |

### Themes

| <u>Month</u> | <u>Theme</u>          |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| August       | Grace and Courtesy    |
| September    | All About Me          |
| October      | Shapes and Sizes      |
| November     | Colors                |
| December     | Winter/Holidays       |
| January      | Five Senses           |
| February     | Transportation        |
| March        | Fruits and Vegetables |
| April        | Ocean Life            |
| May          | Animals               |
| June         | Water                 |