

Volunteering/ donating for school service hours:

Welcome to the 7th Week of school! I want to say 'thank you' to those families that have volunteered to bring things into the classroom for food prep, practical life, and other activities! The children have been enjoying orange juicing, peeling, fruit and vegetable slicing, cheese cutting and other activities daily! For those families interested in Volunteering/ Donating to the classroom Jenny and I have created an album full of ideas. If you cannot find one that you think suits your family's schedule, we have loads of other ideas in mind! You can find the album in the front of the children's folder box.

Drop off and Pick up:

Just a reminder that we are reaching the point in the beginning of the year when all of the children are becoming what we like to call "Normalized". This means that drop offs are easier and faster and often done at the door. This has cut back a lot on tears, disruption of the classroom, and Traffic Jams!! If you find that your child is still having rough drop offs (clingy, tearful, or refusal do things for himself); remember, that the longer you stay in the classroom the harder it will be to leave for you and your child. All of our children are fully capable of taking care of their shoes, coats, and lunch boxes. We have seen fantastic results at drop off by simply walking the child in, a simple hug and kiss, and a goodbye. By doing so you are allowing the child to flow freely into the the environment and take responsibility for themselves and their belongings and at their pace, not yours! It is completely normal for a child to stand and observe their friends for a few minutes before putting their belongings in their rightful place.

I also wanted to send out another reminder that if your child is going to be absent or arrive late to either **notify the office or myself. If your child is not here by 9:00am s/he will be counted absent for the day. The work period is from 9:00am-12:00pm. Any child arriving after the work period will**

not benefit from the program and will possibly have a difficult transition into the classroom from home. Out of respect for your child, the environment, and our staff, if your child cannot arrive by 11:30 then they should not attend for that day. As consistency is the goal here, keeping with the schedule is the most important thing to your child!

Which brings me to pick ups! If you will be picking up early please let us know as soon as you are able so that we will be able to have your child gathered and ready for you so as not to create a disruption for the rest of the class. You can do this by phoning the office or myself. If you will be picking up during nap time please get either my or Jenny's attention through the observation window and wait patiently outside the door. This allows us to have your child get ready quietly while the other children are sleeping. If someone else will be picking your child up, please, talk to your child about the change of events. They will be prepared and less likely to feel anxiety or disappointment when it is time to go home.

Up Coming Events:

School in-service day: Friday, Oct. 8th NO SCHOOL

Picture day: Oct. 12 (Tue) and Oct. 13 (Wed)

Montessori Voyage: Oct. 21

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Oct.28th and 29th

ETC...

I have a few copies of the FABULOUS book by Tim Seldin (Pres. of the Montessori Foundation), How To Raise an Amazing Child: The Montessori Way. Jenny and I will be starting a group soon to discuss the contents of the book. If you are interested in borrowing a copy and/or reading this book please see me. They will be circling around the Willow community for the next few weeks.

Thank you all so much for you dedication and your cooperation to/for your child and our community,

Sarah & Jenny!