

July 2009

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Montessori Peaks Academy! I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and is excited about the upcoming school year! My name is Jill Daniels and I will be your child's teacher this year. I am also excited to announce that Ms. Peggy Sanchez will continue to be a part of our classroom this year. This letter is full of valuable information concerning the beginning of the school year. I hope it answers all your questions but if not you can reach me at 720-720-2627.

Back to School Picnic

This year the Back to School Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 30th, at 5:00pm at Clement Park. This is a great opportunity for you to meet other parents and for your child to socialize with the other students in his/her classroom. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket! I hope to see you there!

First Day of School

The first day of school is Monday, August 24th for new students and Tuesday, August 25th for returning students. You are welcome to walk your child in to the school on the first day. Should you decide to walk your child in, please remember to say a quick good-bye at the classroom door.

Keep in mind that the first day of school is one of high anxiety for many parents and children. Many children are hesitant to be left but are fine within minutes of their parents' departure. Some children may come to school very excited for the first few days then decide they do not want to return, and others have no problem with the transition at all. All of this is normal for beginning school behavior. A positive, nurturing attitude and consistency from the parents is very important. If you continue to reflect a positive attitude your child will feel that positive energy.

Drop Off and Pick Up

All preschool children need to be walked to the classroom and signed in on the attendance sheet located outside the classroom. It is required that you initial and record the time your child arrives and departs from school. Kindergartners who use the carpool line will be signed in by Ms. Peggy or me. Should you arrive more than 10 minutes late (after 8:10am) please stop by the office to pick up a "late slip" on your way to the class room.

Full Day Students and Lunch

Full day students will need to bring a lunch on a daily basis. These lunches are not refrigerated. Blue ice cold packs work well in keeping the lunch cold for a few hours and can be found at most stores. Please keep the lunches healthy and try to include an item from each food group: fruits, vegetables, proteins, dairy, and whole grains. We do not recommend sweets, sodas, or treats. Please include any utensils that your child may require to enjoy their lunch.

A very important volunteer need is a lunch time assistant. This opportunity is from 11am-12pm. A lunch volunteer sign-up sheet will be posted outside the classroom if you would like help.

Snack

A snack calendar will come home at the end of the first week. Typically your child will be responsible for snack one day per month. Snack will be for 20 children and should consist of two different food groups (cheese/crackers, fruit/yogurt...) and should include any needed utensils/napkins. Please keep the snacks healthy and low in sugar. Snacks containing peanuts or tree nuts will not be allowed in the classroom.

If any returning families would like to provide snack during the first week of school we would greatly appreciate it! Please call me to let me know so that we can make sure each day is covered. Thank you!

Sharing

Your child's opportunity to share is the same day your child brings snack. Sharing is a wonderful opportunity for your child to develop oral speaking skills and to learn how to feel comfortable in front of a group. It is asked that sharing items have some educational value such as a special book, a special collection, or a family picture. Toys and stuffed animals should remain at home.

Birthdays

Birthdays are celebrated with a simple ceremony in the classroom. When it is time for your child's birthday please let me know and we will set a time for this special occasion. If your child's birthday is during the summer months we are happy to celebrate their half-birthday.

Toys, Candy, and Gum

All toys, candy, and gum should be kept at home. Please do not bring them into the classroom.

Medications

All medications require a doctor's written permission and should be checked into the clinic by the parent. This includes cough drops. Do not send any medications in back packs or lunches. Please see Ms. Fran for any required paper work needed to dispense medicine.

Visitations

Visitors to the classroom will be welcome to make arrangements with me after the first month of school. This allows the children time to adjust in the classroom with minimal distractions. Should you have any concerns during this time please call me.

Communications

During class time Ms. Peggy and I need to direct our attention to the children and are not available to answer questions. Should you have any questions or concerns please leave a message using the note paper located on the table outside the classroom or call my voicemail at school. I will respond as soon as I am able which is usually at the end of the school day.

Parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled in October to discuss how your child is doing.

I hope I have answered many questions already! If not, please call me at 303-720-2627. I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and I will see you soon!

Ms. Jill