



***You may find this letter on the website in both Spanish and Creole under Family Resources!**

July 29, 2024

Dear Sussex Montessori Families,

It is with great excitement and warmth that we welcome you and your family to Sussex Montessori School! You have chosen a very special educational experience for your child; one that is time-tested, child-centered and invites and encourages hands-on learning and exploration. You have chosen to share your child with us and as a school community; we take that responsibility very seriously. A few quick items:

- The first day of school for Grades 1, 3 and 5 and 6 is 9/4
- The first day of school for Grades K, 2 and 4 is 9/5
- The first day of school for ALL students is 9/6
- Carline begins at 7:45 a.m.
- **Class begins at 8:00 a.m. – It is IMPERATIVE THAT CHILDREN ARRIVE ON TIME FOR SCHOOL!**
- **Please note: The school day ends this year at 3:15!!!**

We have a long list of things to share with you! The following information is important and will help you navigate the school year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us!

ATTENDANCE, ABSENCE AND EARLY DISMISSAL

Please understand how important it is that children have regular attendance at school and arrive on time. It is important that they have time before school begins to socialize with their classmates and teachers. Arriving between 7:45 a.m. and 8 a.m. in the morning will help your child begin their day successfully. If your child is absent for any reason, we **must** receive an email or written note explaining their absence. Please send your email to: attendance@sussexms.k12.de.us to ensure that it is noted as an excused absence. You may copy your child's teacher on this email, but they do not have time to review during the school day. **If you arrive after 8 a.m., you must park in the front parking lot and check-in at the front office before your child goes to class.** If your child needs an early dismissal, please send an email to the front office via: dismissals@sussexms.k12.de.us **before noon**. Please bring a photo I.D. (i.e. license) with you whenever you are picking your child up for early dismissal. On the landing page of our website, (www.sussexmontessoricharter.com) there is a button to send absence and dismissal information as well.

YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER and STUDENT SUPPLY LIST

You will be receiving a letter in the mail (and an email) from your child's teacher after August 21st. The supply list will be included but it can be found on our school website as well. (<https://sussexmontessoricharter.com/school-supplies/>) Plan on coming to our ice-cream social which will be an opportunity for your child to meet their teacher, find their classroom, for you to

socialize with other families and get any questions you have answered. You are welcome to bring your child's supplies to the Ice Cream Social... you may bring them directly to your child's classroom. Additionally, if you have NOT turned in enrollment paperwork yet, please bring this at this time as well. Front desk staff will be there to help! If you cannot attend the Ice Cream Social, you may drop off your paperwork in the large plastic container located on the front porch of the farmhouse. (or mail these in) If you have already turned in your enrollment paperwork... great!!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

8/29/24:

K-1 from 12:30 – 2:00

2-3 from 2:30 – 4:00

4-5-6 from 4:30 – 6 pm

THURSDAY FOLDERS

Every Thursday your child will bring home a bright green folder with important calendar information such as the breakfast and lunch menu, and other school wide calendar updates. Please review the folder every Thursday evening and **return the folder to school on Friday**. Making this a routine will help keep you informed of all that is going on at school!

TRANSPORTATION

BUS

If your child is riding the bus this year, you will be receiving a colored index card that corresponds to the bus your child will be riding. This will be in the letter/packet from your child's teacher. Please write your child's full name, bus number, and bus hub location on it. (The color of the index card will indicate to us, and to the bus drivers, just exactly what bus your child should be riding.) **Please make sure your child is wearing this every day for the first two weeks of school. Please remember that a responsible adult is required to stay with the child awaiting the arrival of the bus in the morning and must meet the child at the bus hub at the end of the day. If you need to change your bus or bus hub, please call Kaneisha Trott-Savage at: 302.404.5367**

CARLINE

Please place a large card on your driver-side dashboard with your child's name and teacher's name. Please save and use this card every time you are picking up or dropping off your child. We have two (2) carline routes: Route A will go to the right and behind the barn for drop off and pick up and Route B will go to the left for drop off and pick up in front of the Farmhouse. You will be assigned Route A or Route B depending on your child's teacher and classroom quad location. **(Siblings in different quads will be assigned to CARLINE A. Your specific carline route will be forthcoming from your child's teacher.** We will be outside to direct traffic the first week.

Please do NOT get out of your car when dropping your child off. Our staff will be there to assist the children. Please be patient as we navigate carline the first few weeks of school. All staff will be outside to assist with directions and will be wearing bright orange vests. **PLEASE REMEMBER PATIENCE!!**

CALENDAR UPDATES

The school calendar can be found on the website. Please plan on attending **OPEN HOUSE** noted on the calendar. **SAVE THESE DATES!**

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

Your child may bring a packed lunch or receive breakfast and/or a warm lunch at school. Both Breakfast and lunch are FREE!

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

We contract with Infinite Campus who help to provide important school updates, any emergency messages and general information via text, email, and phone. **Please, advise the front office any time your phone number or email change. And PLEASE.... Clear your voice mail regularly so that you can receive our phone updates. THANK YOU!**

Maria Montessori often spoke of the importance of keenly knowing each child as an individual and adapting their educational practice to their unique learning style. Our dedicated and well-trained staff of teachers are prepared to meet your child wherever they are and to guide them to where they need to be, building a strong sense of independence, confidence, and motivation along the way. We are committed to providing the very best Montessori education and experience for you and your family.

Dear families, we as a school are dedicated to ensuring that your child has a safe, engaging, happy, wonderful, growing school experience! We cannot wait to work in partnership with you as together we watch your child soar! Please know we are here for you. We are only a phone call away.

“A child who has become master of his acts through long and repeated exercises, and who has been encouraged by the pleasant and interesting activities in which he has been engaged, is a child filled with health and joy and remarkable for his calmness and discipline.”

Maria Montessori—The Discovery of the Child

Peace,

Lisa Coldiron
Head of School