

The Montessorian



Summer 2011

Dear Parents and Friends of AMS

I hope that everyone is enjoying a safe and healthy summer.

AMS Administration has been busy during the summer, preparing for September. We miss our wonderful students and we are looking forward to welcoming them back and greeting our new students.

Please be sure to drop by the gymnasium during the Meet the Teacher on September 2nd to share light refreshments and a chat with Sandra Patterson, Susan Mueller and me.

The new academic year will be even more exciting than our previous years, filled with love, more enriched learning and unique educational opportunities.

Please feel free to call me anytime after August 22nd to share an idea or concern regarding your child's programme and happiness.

With Love, Brenda Glashan

Back To School!

Meet The Teacher: Friday, Sept. 2

Casa & Toddler - 9:00 - 10:00 am

Elementary - 10:00 - 11:00 am

School Begins: Tuesday, Sept. 6 - *(Toddlers have staggered entrance)*

Elementary Information Night: Thursday, Sept. 8

Toddler Parent Education Night: Tuesday, Sept. 13

Casa Parent Education Night: Thursday, Sept. 15

Grade 7-8 Trip to PineCrest: Sept. 14 - 16

Volunteer Tea: Wednesday, Sept. 21

Fall Fair in Celebration of Founder's Day: Friday, Sept. 30

Teaching Staff for 2011- 2012

Room 105 Toddlers: Lindsey Saleh, Christina Johnstone, Azar Saberi

Room 106 Toddlers: Trish Pitts, Marsha Weston, Lita Malixi

Room 107 Toddlers: Jennifer Hewett, Sharon Hampton, Nevine Awad

Room 108 Casa: Alyson Sarabun, Julia Karimzadeh

Room 109 Casa: Amanda Logan, Brenda Combdon

Room 110 Casa: Kristyn Jamieson, Linda McLeod

Room 111 Casa: April McFarlane, Lodi Vecchiarelli

Room 112 Casa: Nadia Guarino, Christine Boutin

Room 113 Casa: Patricia Johnson, Naina Bagga

Room 114 Casa: Nancy Knapp, Leighton Cone

Room 116 Gr. 7/8: Jamie Rossiter

Room 117 Gr. 5/6: Reza Beyzaei

Room 118 Gr. 4/5: Julia Liznick

Room 119 Gr. 3/4: Peter Sharpe

Room 120 Gr. 3/4: Shelley Black

Room 122 Gr. 2/3: Nicole Tal

Room 124 Gr. 1/2: Nicole Middleton

Room 125 Gr. 1/2: Lisa Walters

Room 126 French: Naglaa Gawad

Room 127 French: Danielle Scott

Room 129 Computers: Glen Haseman

Room 121 Art: Kim Steffen

Room 123 Music: Margaret Wierzba

Room 128 Media Coordinator: Nadia Kadey

Phys. Ed: Mo Kanji

Phys. Ed: Susie Ghattas

Drama Program: Shellie Broddy



Food Guidelines

AMS is a peanut / nut -free school. Parents are asked to ensure that all snacks and lunches are nutritious and free of peanuts, nuts and nut by-products. Please be sure to read the labels of food that is sent to school. There are other life-threatening allergies in the school in addition to nut allergies. Please check with your child's teacher for details.

Medication at School

Parents must complete a medication form for all types of medication, including prescription and over the counter drugs. All medication should be given to the classroom teacher, in its original container, for storage and administration - **do not leave any kind of medication, including puffers, in your child's backpack, cubbie, or locker.**

School Field Trips

Without exception, a parent, or assigned person, must accompany his/her child on trips outside of the school if the child has a life-threatening allergy. Reminder: the Grade 7/8 students will be attending the Camp PineCrest trip this Fall, from September 14 to 16.

Uniform Policy

In preparation for the new 2011- 2012 school year, we ask parents for your help and support. The AMS school uniform is worn as a symbol of pride and the students are encouraged to take pride in their personal appearance. It is the responsibility of both the parents and the students to ensure that the students comply with the uniform policies and guidelines and come to school each day properly dressed.

The Uniform Supplier for AMS is **Uniform Basics**. Their store is located at 255 Industrial Parkway South (near Englehard Drive) and they are open Monday to Friday, 9:00 am - 7:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. www.uniformbasics.com

Extended Care

The Before and After School programs (BASP) will begin on Tuesday, September 6th. Signs will be posted on all doors indicating the location of the program on the first day of school. The Before School program begins at 7:00 am. The After School program is available from 3:45 pm for Casa students and 4:00 pm for Elementary students, until 6:00 pm. Students must be pre-registered for the Extended Care program.

Change of Information

Please remember to let us know of any changes to your address, phone numbers or other contact information. Parent e-mail will be a primary avenue for communication with the school this year. It is imperative that we have current information throughout the school year in case of emergencies. You can inform the administration office of any changes, or they can be emailed to info@auroramontessori.com.

Absences and Lateness

It is necessary for parents to inform the school when their child is absent or late, by calling and leaving a message on the school attendance extension 390.

We do not want our students to miss one precious minute of learning time. Elementary students should be in their classroom by 8:45 am, as lessons begin at that time. Any elementary student arriving after 8:45 am must go to the office, and fill out a late slip before going to class. Casa students should be in their classroom by 9:00 am. Any Casa student arriving after 9:00 am must go to the office to pick up a late slip before going to class.

(Note: Elementary classroom doors open at 8:30 am, Casa classroom doors open at 8:45 am)

Care of Books

AMS is pleased to provide our students with math and language books. It is the responsibility of the students to take good care of the books assigned to them. We strongly recommend that the students have a separate bag for his/her books. Large backpacks may not fit into the locker and books may become damaged in them. The Tuck Shop carries waterproof book bags with the school logo.

After School Clubs

We are again offering a variety of After School programs. Please see the attached forms for details and to register your child. Club registration forms must be returned to the office by Thursday, September 8th. Clubs will begin the week of September 12th.

Lunch Programs

Please take a moment to mark the start and end dates of the lunch programs you have ordered for your child on your home calendars. This will help to avoid scrambling to provide lunch at the last minute and teary eyed children.



Busing - Saves Time, Money, Gas, and the Environment!

A Plus School Bus Service is returning to provide busing for AMS students. They can help solve time, gas, and traffic/parking problems by transporting your precious children to and from school. If you have any questions please speak to the Administration office or call Dib at 905-830-0015.

IAP Kids Plus Student Accident Insurance Program

This voluntary Student Accident Insurance Program provides valuable protection for parents and guardians of carefree and active students. Industrial Alliance Pacific Insurance is Canada's leading insurer of school age children with IAP Kids Plus Accident Insurance - a product used by School Boards since 1961.

Visit www.iapkidsplus.com for more information, and pick up a registration form at the Administration office.

Agendas

Agendas will be for sale in the front hall the first week of school. Every student in grades 1 to 8 is required to have an agenda. A magnetic calendar is included with the agenda for a quick reminder of school events.

Locker Clips

Elementary students will have a locker, and each student is required to have a locker clip for his/her locker. **These clips should not be a combination lock.** If a locker clip is missing you may purchase one from the Tuck Shop. Please note that students **should not** put stickers on or in their lockers.

Our Students Are The Best!

Congratulations to William Deo. The grade 6 students participated in the University of Waterloo online Caribou Math competition last April and May. The Caribou math competition is taken by students of different grades across Canada on a specific day of each school month and the students could check their marks online once all the tests are over. William Deo came 1st among the grade 6 private school students who participated in the test for the months of April and May. On behalf of AMS staff and William's fellow students, we would like to congratulate William on achieving such a great milestone.



ELEMENTARY SHOPPING LIST

To ensure a smooth start, every child in elementary will require the following items:

- A small zippered pencil case – child's name clearly marked
- Pencils: HB 6-sided pencil for grades 1 – 4
- Mechanical pencils are acceptable for grades 5 & up only
- A white eraser
- A glue stick
- Small Set of Coloured pencils
- Scissors
- A clear, non-bendable, plastic ruler
- A cloth bag for gym clothes (a school gym bag is available for purchase)

Students in grades 1 to 4 will also need:

- A separate folder for memos and books
- An AMS agenda (available through AMS)

Students in grades 5 and up will also need:

- An AMS agenda (available through AMS)
- Non- electric sharpeners
- Three ring binders - 1 1/2 inch binders - no flaps
- Compass - Staedtler brand- Masterbow Comfort Student Compass found at Staples

All students in Grades 7 & 8 will be asked to purchase their Novel Study books. It will be beneficial to the students to own their own book so that they can highlight important information and make notes.

Mabel's Labels – labels for the stuff kids lose!!

Personalized sticky labels, clothing labels, shoe labels, bag tags! AMS PAC is running a fundraiser with Mabel's Labels. Please go to www.aurora.mabel.ca to place your order and support our school. AMS PAC will receive 20% from every sale.

Emergency After School Care

Please remember that the Occasional Care Before & After School Program is available on an **emergency basis only**. We must ensure that enough staff is on hand for the number of children in the classroom. Overloading the students in After School classes is not permitted. Please be sure to make your arrangements in advance to ensure proper supervision of your child.

2011-2012 AMS SCHOOL CALENDAR

Friday, September 2, 2011 – Meet the Teacher: Casa and Toddler- 9:00 a.m.–10.00 a.m.; Elementary- 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.

Monday, September 5, 2011 – Labour Day Holiday

Tuesday, September 6, 2011 – School Begins for all Elementary and Casa Students
- Toddlers will begin according to prior notification from Administration

Thursday, September 8, 2011 – Elementary Information Night and barbecue

Week of Monday, September 12, 2011 – After School Clubs Begin

Tuesday, September 13, 2011 – Toddler Parent Education Evening

Thursday, September 15, 2011 – Casa Parent Education Evening

Wednesday, September 21, 2011 – Volunteer Tea – 2:30 p.m.

Friday, September 30, 2011 – Fall Fair in Celebration of Founder's Day

Monday, October 10, 2011 – Thanksgiving Holiday

Thursday, October 13, 2011 – Grade 5, 6, 7 and 8 Social Evening

Thursday, October 20, 2011 – Grandparent's Afternoon – 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Friday, October 21, 2011 – Grandparent's Morning – 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Friday, October 28, 2011 – Professional Development Day (no classes)

Monday, November 21, 2011 – Report Cards Go Home

Thursday, November 24, 2011 – Parent-Teacher Evening Interviews

Friday, November 25, 2011 – Professional Development Day (no classes) – Parent Teacher Morning Interviews

Wednesday, November 30 – Montessori in Motion Evening – The Transition from Casa to Elementary

Wednesday, December 14 and Thursday, December 15, 2011 – Casa Evening Event

Thursday, December 22, 2011 – Dress Down Day - Last Day of School before the Holidays

Friday, December 23, 2011 – Professional Development Day (no classes)

Monday, December 26, 2011 to Friday, January 6, 2012 – Christmas Holidays

Monday, January 9, 2012 – Return to School

Wednesday, January 25 and Thursday, January 26, 2012 – Elementary Open House

Tuesday, January 31, 2012 – Last Day for Re-enrolment

Thursday, February 16, 2012 – Winter Carnival – weather permitting

Friday, February 17, 2012 – Professional Development Day (no classes)

Monday, February 20, 2012 – Family Day Holiday

Tuesday, February 21 to Friday, February 24, 2012 – Montessori Week

Monday, March 5, 2012 – Elementary Report Cards Go Home

Thursday, March 8, 2012 – Parent-Teacher Evening Interviews

Friday, March 9, 2012 – Professional Development Day (no classes) - Parent Teacher Morning Interviews

Monday, March 12 to Friday, March 23, 2012 - March Break

Monday, March 26, 2012 – Return To School

Friday, April 6, 2012 – Good Friday Holiday

Monday, April 9, 2012 – Easter Monday Holiday

Thursday Evening, April 26 and Friday Afternoon, April 27, 2012 – Elementary Event

Monday, May 7 to Friday, May 11, 2012 – Standardized Testing Week

Friday, May 18, 2012 – Professional Development Day (no classes)

Monday, May 21, 2012 – Victoria Day Holiday

Thursday, June 7, 2012 – Casa Graduation Evening

Monday, June 18, 2012 – Grade 8 Graduation Evening

Friday, June 22, 2012 – Dress Down Day - Last Day of School Before the Summer Break