

Corpus Christi Montessori School
 822 Ayers Street
 Corpus Christi, Texas 78404
www.cc-montessori.com

August 10, 2023



Dear CC Montessori Families,

As we close our first week of school, we would like to share how much we appreciate our families and their support. Our students focused on grace & courtesy lessons, procedures and team building this week. New lessons, work cycle and using work plans begins next week. We've had many "fun" moments with our getting to know you games and activities. In the Montessori environment we give students 6 weeks to "normalize" or acclimate into our community. This time is filled with learning routines, receiving lessons, building connections and gaining confidence. Some good questions to ask during this time - "What was your favorite activity today? Who is someone in your classroom you enjoy being around? What is something you learned today? What is your favorite piece of work? Did you help anyone today? What was the best mistake you made?" Family conferences and opportunities for observations will begin shortly after the "normalization time." Exciting news - We are recipients of two grants. The first for incorporating more food/edible gardening into our curriculum was written by Mr. Tevin and Ms. Heather. The library/multipurpose room received a grant and was written by Ms. Terri. Enrichment will begin September 5th in the afternoons. We are sure everyone will be excited. Please check out the **Website** (www.cc-montessori.com), Our school **ClassDojo** linked on the parent page, our **public Facebook page** (Facebook.com/CCMontessoriSchool) and our **parent Facebook page** (search Parents of CCMS and request to be added). We hope to see everyone at the upcoming Maria Montessori Social on Wednesday, August 30st, at 5:30 p.m. Our first PTO meeting will be that evening and our classes are preparing some interesting information about Maria Montessori and the Montessori Method. Please read the reminders and share with your child(ren). Also, please take a moment to read *Starting Each Day: Tips to Get out the Door on Time* to find ways to help your child(ren) be less stressful for all.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ms. Cerise

Upcoming Events

- August 12 Mini Community Work Day
7:00 am - ?
- August 14 Volleyball practice begins 7 a.m.
- August 30 Maria Montessori Social 5:30 pm
- August 30 & 31
NCI Team Building for Middle School Community
- September 1 Student Holiday
- September 4 Student/Staff Holiday
- September 5 School resumes

Gentle Reminders:

- Drop off time begins at 7:45 a.m. – tardies begin at 8 a.m.
- Water Bottles daily! It is hot outside!
- Outdoor shoes/hats for P.E.
- Snacks for growing bodies each day and especially on Fridays.
- Fast food Thursday with parents will begin on August 24th. Come with enough time to get signed in and out. Lunch is 12:00 pm-12:30 pm.
- For our littles, please send a change of clothes to be kept in their cubbies. Sometimes new spaces and confusion can lead to accidents.

PTO News

The first day of school went swimmingly thanks to the many parents that donated \$100 to PTO for their school supplies! Remember, you are now a part of PTO and we look forward to our meeting on Maria Montessori Night!

Starting Each Day: Tips to Get out the Door on Time

– By Anne Prowant

Mornings can be tough. Everyone needs to get up, get dressed, have breakfast, and be ready to go, often in a short amount of time. We parents can end up rushed, frazzled, and short on patience. No one wants to begin the day that way! Here are a few simple, sanity-saving tips to help mornings with young children feel more manageable.

1. Establish a nighttime routine. A good morning starts the night before. Children thrive on consistency, so implement a predictable bedtime routine at the same time every night. Maria Montessori observed that children find security in a predictable schedule. Sticking to the same ritual (perhaps a bath, then story, then song, then lights out) each evening will comfort your child and make it easier to start winding down. Turn off any screens 60 minutes before bed, as these can interfere with restful sleep.

2. Prepare the night before. Minimizing the number of things you must do in the morning is a simple way to streamline your routine.

Encourage your children to select and lay out appropriate clothing for the next day, engage them in preparing lunches and/or starting the next day's breakfast, and remind them to place items that need to go to school by the front door.

Children as young as 1 can begin to be independent in dressing themselves, and older children can pack their own lunches. Resist the urge to step in—allow children to struggle a little, helping only when you see they may be becoming frustrated. Affording responsibilities like these offers children opportunities for input and thus a sense of ownership.

3. Stay organized. One way to avoid a frantic last-minute search for backpacks and shoes is to keep all these items in the same place. Establish a cubby area near the doorway that has a place for shoes, backpacks, coats, and mittens. Make sure it is attractive and child-size to promote independence and a desire to keep it organized. (Montessori was the first educator to stress the importance of child-size furniture in the

classroom.) Set and uphold the expectation that this is where your children should neatly store their things and take time with your children to restore order if the cubbies get a little messy during the week.

4. Use the clock. In this busy world, children can feel rushed around without any understanding of why, and this can lead to tantrums and power struggles. Explain to your child that everyone needs to be out of the house at a certain time. Show them that time on the clock (or use a sand timer for Montessori Parents of younger children). In the morning, point to the clock and say, “Oh, look! We need to leave in 10 minutes. What should we be doing now?” Wait for an answer, but if the child cannot give one, be direct: “Now is the time to put on our coats and shoes.”

It's possible to make the morning routine a team effort, rather than a competition with parents doing all the heavy lifting. The keys are to be prepared, give yourself plenty of time, and allow your children to be independent. Yes, it may be faster in the moment to dress them yourself and rush them out the door. But in the long run, offering your children some ownership over their morning will enable a more peaceful routine for everyone. Listen to your children's input and involve them in the process—by doing so, you show respect and positively impact self-esteem.

As Montessori (2014) asserted, “Children are human beings to whom respect is due, superior to us by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future.”

Ways you can help

Sign up to be a room parent

Sign up to volunteer

Ask your child questions about school to show them the importance of education

Read to your child(ren) 15 minutes each night

Read emails, newsletters, Class Dojo information
