

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to welcome all new families, siblings, and rising kindergarteners to our classroom community. My name is Carey Montgomery, and I will be your child's teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Montessori is a very special method of education; you have all made an excellent choice for your children. We will be talking about the Montessori philosophy at parent meetings, so please come and ask us questions.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions and concerns. I want everyone to feel a part of our classroom community, and I believe that we can accomplish that through open communication. The best way to reach me is through email [carolm.montgomery@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:carolm.montgomery@cms.k12.nc.us); I will do my best to respond as soon as possible. However, if it is during the school day, I want to share with you that I will be working with your children and not sitting at the computer.

### Staggered Entry

I want to share with the parents of our rising kindergarteners that we will be doing a staggered entry again. We realize that this could make child care for that week an issue, which is why I am letting you know about it now. We are staggering the children's entry to school in order to give all of the children, including kindergarteners, the time they need to have a peaceful re-entry into the school environment. Each child will have an assigned day to come to school during the week of August 28th through September 1st. On each of those days, there will be six children in the room, a combination of K's and pre-Ks. On Thursday, only Kindergarten students will attend. On Friday, only Pre-K students will attend in their newly assigned classrooms. Full-day students will stay all day, and half-day students will be dismissed at 1:30.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Assigned Day	Assigned Day	Assigned Day	Only Kindergarten Students	Only Pre-K Students

Please let me know if you have any questions. The primary team is excited about having the chance to give all of our children the individual attention they need to make a smooth start to their school year.

### Supply List

- Complete change of clothes in a Ziploc bag that is marked with your child's name (mark each item of clothing as well)
- Full-day students will need a regular-sized yoga mat (marked with their name) to rest on. Please send a regular-sized yoga mat, not an extra thick mat, due to limited space.
- Bookbag and lunch box with a name on them (no wheels on bookbag, please)
- One box of tissues
- One package of pot holder loops
- 1 set of watercolors
- **1st Year Students:** 1 package of pot holder loops and 1 set of watercolor paints.
- **Returning Students:** 1 box of tissues and black triangular Ticonderoga pencils from [Office Depot link for pencils](#)

## **Lunch**

If your child will be buying lunch in the cafeteria, please deposit money into his/her PAM lunch account ahead of time; please add any dietary restrictions to the account. If your child will be bringing lunch to school in a lunchbox, please include a cloth napkin to be used as a placemat. The children need to be independent and open all their lunch containers in their lunch boxes themselves. We stress healthy eating habits at our school, so please send in food that is as nutritious as possible. Water and plain milk are preferred beverages for your child at school. Fridays are the only days that are "dessert days" at our schools.

## ***Clothing***

Always be sure to send your child in seasonally appropriate clothing and clothing that is easy for them to dress, undress, and toilet independently. **Please send a change of clothes that are seasonally appropriate to be kept in the classroom (shirt, pants, underwear, and socks) in a Ziploc bag. Please LABEL each piece of clothing.**

## **The First Day of School**

You may only walk your child into school on the first day of school. I know this can be a big step for many families, but please know that there will be staff members to ensure your child gets safely to their classroom.

I look forward to seeing our returning families and meeting our new families in August!

Warmest regards,

**Ms. Carey**