



ARBORLAND MONTESSORI INFANT - 8TH GRADE PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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Welcome to the 2023-2024 School Year!

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I am incredibly excited to start a new school year! I also want to warmly welcome our new students and families. I am so excited to have you all here.

August is always exciting, yet anxiety and nervousness come for many students. I will do my best to ensure the transition is as seamless as possible and that each student feels loved, respected, and safe.

My goal is to provide a carefully planned, stimulating environment to help students continue developing the foundational habits, attitudes, skills, and ideas essential for a lifetime of creative thinking and learning. Each child will feel empowered to know how great it feels to learn independently. I am here to nurture, support, and guide them every day, and I am committed to making your child's Montessori experience productive, stimulating, and fun!

Regular, open communication with your child's teachers is imperative to quality education. Parent/teacher conferences are our formal avenues to discuss your child's progress, but please do not hesitate to contact us anytime during the school year with questions or concerns regarding your child's education. I would encourage you to present your questions to us by email at mwoo@arborland.com, and I will happily schedule a meeting with you. Please allow 1 business day for a response so that I may focus on the students in the classroom. If you would like an immediate response, please call the main office so that I can get in touch sooner. Please share your concerns with us in whatever method you choose as soon as possible so that I can resolve them together.

Our upper elementary curriculum includes language arts, math, science, and history objectives. Extra-curricular offerings, including P.E., Spanish, Art, Computer Technology, and Music, are incorporated for all students.

Because of our curriculum, I *highly* encourage students to bring in their personal technology device, which ***must have a physical keyboard attached (or a detachable keyboard)***. The devices will be used as academic learning tools only. *Please disable messaging apps, as these may*

distract your child during class. Also, no non-academic games during school hours—in or out of the classroom—will be allowed at any time. Students will use their devices for curriculum work, test practice, typing programs, presentations, writing curriculum, and research.

Our homework policy is based on reinforcing work being done in the class and is handed out daily. This policy will be explained in more detail during Parent's Night. A certain amount of reading is allocated every day. You are encouraged to show interest, listen to your child read, and make sure their homework is completed.

Class will begin at 8:30 am every day. Please ensure your child arrives on time to get the very best start to the day. When a child arrives late, it disrupts the latecomer as well as the lesson in progress, and he/she misses vital information and directions for the day.

Birthdays are celebrated with a creative activity in which all children participate. The birthday child may bring in a very simple treat to share. Please remember that no candy, gum, or soda is allowed at school. Please do not hesitate to check with me if you are not sure what to bring.

Students will take snack time in the morning. Please send a snack for your child. If your child has an early breakfast, please provide them with a healthy snack to ensure consistent energy throughout the day. We highly discourage the students from bringing chips, cookies, or anything too sugary.

Supply List

If you are unsure about anything on this list, please clarified it with me before you purchase. Please do not purchase any spiral notebooks; they fall apart, and children lose important notes.

- Inch/centimeter ruler, protractor
- 1 Pencil Case
- 3 book covers
- Highlighters
- Two thick and two thin black Sharpies
- Page Tabs
- 1-inch Binder with Clear Pocket on Front (aka View Binder)
- Pencils - regular or mechanical with refills
- Pencil Sharpener
- Colored pen (for correcting)
- Eraser
- Small/Medium scissors
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Glue Sticks (3)

- 8.5"x11" Weekly planner (Sturdy binding with enough space to write down class/homework log)
- Laptop/ iPad/ Tablet *With Physical Keyboard
- 3x5 Index Cards (quantity needed 300)
- Lined paper (4th - WIDE Ruled; 5th & 6th - COLLEGE-ruled)
- Construction paper (mixed colors, 50 sheets)
- 5 Composition Notebooks College Ruled (5th and 6th grades), Wide-Ruled (4th grade ONLY) - No spirals, please!
- 1 graphing paper Composition Book

5 two-pocket folders (1 for each subject below)

- Homework (Blue Plastic with three prongs)
- Social Science (Orange Plastic, three prongs)
- Science (Green Plastic, with three prongs)
- Spanish
- Music

Optional:

Correction tape

*** Art supplies will be determined by the art teacher

Please ensure that your child has sufficient supplies, but also that your student will not be distracted by their supplies. I urgently request the basic supplies outlined above to be sent on the first day of school.

Personal Technology in the Classroom

Cell phones: If you feel the need to let your child have a cell phone, certain classroom rules apply, and we request that you please discuss these with your child. No calls may be made from their cell phone during class hours. The phone must stay in their backpack. Incoming calls are not permitted, and the phone must be switched to off or airplane mode while at school. If these rules are not followed, the phone will be turned into the Front Office for the parent or guardian to pick up.

Our number one priority is to keep your students healthy and safe. That being said, please kindly review the following guidelines:

1. Students must stay home if they are ill, which includes vomiting, diarrhea, excessive coughing, temperature of 100.4° or above, etc.
2. Wash hands for at least 20 seconds whenever necessary (Please note: Hand

sanitizers are welcome, but students will still be expected to wash their hands).

3. Wipe down their desks or tables before and after every meal.
4. Students who are not feeling well should be resting at home. Time will be allotted for them to catch up on any work they miss.

In turn, the following is what we are doing in the classroom for the student's safety:

1. Parents are encouraged to stay in the lobby for drop off/pick up.
2. Regular disinfection of frequently-touched surfaces.
3. School supplies will not be shared (All personal supplies need to be labeled).

I hope I have touched on all major points, but you are requested to look through the school handbook (available on our website under “Parent’s Corner/Resources”) for further information.

I look forward to meeting all the new students and welcoming the returning students in a few weeks.

See you soon!

Sincerely,

Ms. Leah Woo
Montessori Teacher
mwoo@arborland.com