



# ARBORLAND MONTESSORI INFANT - 8TH GRADE PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new children and families!

I am Mrs. Regina Villaruel. I will be the Lead Montessori Teacher for Room 105 this Fall. Teaching is an absolute passion of mine! I am excited to work with you and your children!

I am a doting wife and a mom of two wonderful children. During our free time, we enjoy traveling as a family. This is my 3rd year here at Arborland and my 31st year of being a Montessori teacher.

My goal is to provide a carefully planned, stimulating environment which will help children to develop within themselves the foundational habits, attitudes, skills and ideas essential for a lifetime of creative thinking and learning. Respect and courtesy are the foundations for everything we do, from which each child will soon learn the following important skills:

- how to put their work away where they found it
- how to tidy up after themselves
- the importance of helping a friend in need
- the importance of respecting the materials, the teachers and each other
- how to direct themselves and find their own 'work'
- and most importantly, how to be independent!

Each child will feel empowered to learn how great it feels to do things on their own! 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! It is my mission to instill a love of learning so that they may grow up and develop a desire to become life-long learners.

As my partner with this academic journey may I ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- Complete all homework assignments
- Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve vocabulary and comprehension
- Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- Lastly, but most importantly, know that you expect him/her to succeed in school.

### **Daily Classroom Schedule**

8:30-11:30 Three-Hour Work Period (Morning Montessori Learning Time)

11:30-12:00 Class Meeting/Whole Class Lesson Presentation

12:00-12:30 Lunch Time

12:30-1:00 Play Time

1:00-3:00 Afternoon Montessori Learning Time

### **Snack**

A daily snack time for 10 minutes is available for your child. Please send a small nutritious snack such as granola bar, fruit, crackers, juice, etc. Please help us by reminding your child that he/she may not have chips for snacks. Please be advised that candy, gum, chocolates, and soda are not allowed in school. Sharing of food is also discouraged. Microwave is not available during snack time.

### **Homework**

Contrary to popular belief, Montessori children do have homework. Montessori education is continuous. Therefore, it is important that children have continued opportunity in their own home to assume responsibility, accept the natural consequences, manage time and choose activities wisely. Their homework packet is given every Friday, so you may plan and schedule your child's other activities. Please remember, children learn by doing. They need to participate actively in all areas of life and living. They are physically tough, gregarious and quite capable of responsibility.

### **Lunch**

For children who bring lunch from home, a microwave is available in the classroom to warm meals (not for cooking!). If you want your child to have instant noodles/macaroni and cheese for lunch, please cook it at home and place it in a microwavable safe container; we will be happy to assist your child to warm it up in school.

### **Laptop**

Part of our technology implementation will include having the students use technology devices on a regular basis throughout the school year. We highly encourage all the students to bring their own personal laptop. Their laptops will be used as an academic learning tool only. No nonacademic games will be allowed at any time on school campus.

### **Supplies Needed – to be brought 1st day of school**

- 2 college ruled composition notebooks
- 2 graph college ruled composition notebook
- 3 1-subject college ruled notebook (RED for 1st grade, GREEN for 2nd grade, BLUE for 3rd grade)
- 1 black 2-inch three ring binder for the classroom

- 1 white 1-inch three ring binder for the weekly homework/classwork
- 2 pocket folders
- 1 ruler
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 set markers
- 1 set crayons
- 1 set colored pencils
- 1 set of watercolors
- Erasers
- Sharpener (no battery operated please)
- Dictionary
- Supplies that will be collected at the beginning of the year
- 2 packs of college ruled reinforced paper
- 1 pack of card stock paper assorted colors
- 1 pack of white/copy paper
- 4 white glues
- 6 glue sticks

### **Teacher Contact Information**

We have planned conferences twice yearly, however, please be assured that this is not the only time that you can talk to me. I believe that communication is the key to your child's success and to a great parent-teacher relationship. If you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's progress or curriculum, please make these concerns known to me. The new school year is always a time of excitement, yet with that comes anxiety and nervousness for many children. I will do my best to ensure the transition is as seamless as possible and to ensure that each child feels loved, respected and safe.

Regardless of how small or unimportant you may think your concerns are, you may reach me by either leaving a note in my mailbox. You may also reach me by email, [msvillaruel@arborland.com](mailto:msvillaruel@arborland.com) or by sending me a message (562)556-7668. Please send me an email with your child's name in the subject section as soon as possible so that I can put the correct email address in my list of contacts.

Thank you for trusting me with your child. I am looking forward to meeting you and getting to know your children. It is going to be a year full of fun, enjoyable learning and lots of memorable adventures. I cannot wait to see what the year has in store for us!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Regina Villaruel