



ARBORLAND MONTESSORI INFANT - 8TH GRADE PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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Welcome to Room 105!

Dear Room 105 Families,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful summer filled with fun, relaxation, and special memories. As we begin a new school year, I am excited to welcome both returning families and those joining our classroom community for the very first time.

My name is Mrs. Regina Villaruel, and I am honored to be your child's Lower Elementary teacher. This will be my 6th year at Arborland Montessori Children's Academy and my 35th year as a Montessori educator. Every year brings a new group of curious, capable children, and I truly feel privileged to be part of their educational journey.

I am very happy that our students have the opportunity to learn from an exceptional team of Montessori educators and assistants. Together, our Lower Elementary teaching team brings decades of experience, specialized training, and a shared commitment to helping every child thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our students will benefit from the unique strengths and expertise of each teacher while enjoying the consistency and close collaboration of a unified teaching team.

I am delighted that Ms. Caroleena and Ms. Shannon will be continuing to assist me in Classroom 105. Both assistant teachers loved their experience last year and are excited to continue working with us. We are grateful to have their positivity, nurturing approach and creativity in our classroom.

We are also thrilled to welcome back Ms. Fritzie Sebial following her medical leave. Ms. Sebial brings more than 30 years of experience in education, including 18 years teaching Lower Elementary at Arborland. She holds both a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Mathematics and has inspired countless students throughout her career. This year, she will focus on teaching the Language Arts Program with the Wonder Textbooks in both Classrooms 101 and 105, helping students strengthen their reading, reading comprehension, writing, and critical thinking skills while fostering a genuine love of literature and lifelong learning.

Lower Elementary is an exciting time in a child's development. During these important years, students build strong foundations in reading, writing, mathematics, science, social studies, and so much more. Beyond academics, they also develop independence, responsibility, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning. Our goal is to provide each child with the guidance, encouragement, and individual attention they need to reach their fullest potential while making learning both meaningful and enjoyable.

I look forward to partnering with you throughout the year. Together, we can provide the support and encouragement your child needs to thrive both academically and personally.

Working Together for Student Success

A strong partnership between home and school plays an important role in every child's success. You can support your child's learning by helping them:

- Arrive at school on time (8:30 a.m.) each day, ready to learn.
- Complete homework and classroom assignments responsibly.
- Read every day to strengthen vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.
- Share their school experiences with you.
- Develop responsibility, independence, and confidence.
- Know that you believe in their ability to succeed and always encourage them to do their very best.

Thank you for being an important part of your child's educational journey. Your support truly makes a difference.

Framework of Classroom Schedule

8:30 - 11:30 Morning Montessori Learning & Work Time
11:30 - 12:00 Class Meeting / Whole Class Lesson
12:00 - 12:30 Lunch Time
12:30 - 1:00 Outdoor Recess Time
1:00 - 3:00 Afternoon Montessori Learning & Work Time
3:00 - 3:15 Dismissal (home or childcare)

Our Curriculum

As part of the elementary curriculum, students will learn math, language arts, social science, science, PE, art, music, technology/digital citizenship, performing arts, public speaking, Spanish, and character education. The subjects are taught as an integrated curriculum with increasing complexity over a 3-year-cycle. This year's social science curriculum will focus on a study of people and places in the United States and bring in global and cultural learning about The Americas. This year's science curriculum will focus on life science in the fall and chemistry in the spring.

Technology in the Classroom

Technology is an important part of our classroom and will be used regularly to support learning across many subject areas. Each student is expected to bring a personal laptop or Chromebook equipped with a physical or detachable keyboard.

- Second and Third Grade: Please bring your fully charged device beginning the second week of school.
- First Grade: Please bring your fully charged device beginning the third week of school.

Students will use their devices for:

- Google Drive homework
- Research projects
- Presentations
- Typing practice
- Educational games and classroom activities

To help students remain focused during class, please disable messaging apps and notifications on your child's device. Technology is to be used for academic purposes only, and non-academic games or entertainment apps may not be used during the school day unless directed by the teacher.

Please ensure your child has access to:

- Gmail
- Google Drive
- Canva
- Typing Club
- Blooket

If your child does not already have a Gmail account, please create one for them so that I can send them the Google Drive homework. I strongly encourage creating one using a professional format such as: firstname.lastname@gmail.com.

Students will use this account to submit homework and access classroom materials throughout the school year. Please also make sure your child knows their Gmail password or keeps it in a safe place with their device so they can log in independently during class.

Technology Requirements:

- Laptop or Chromebook
- Fully charged each morning

Snack

A daily snack time of 10 minutes is available for your child. Please send a small nutritious snack such as a granola bar, fruit, crackers, juice, etc. Please help us by reminding your child that he/she may not have chips for snacks. Candy, gum, chocolates, nuts and soda are prohibited in school. Sharing of food is also discouraged due to allergy concerns. A 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 opportunities in their own homes to assume responsibility, accept the natural consequences, manage time, and choose activities wisely. Their homework packet is given every Friday and due the following Friday so that you may plan and schedule your child's other activities. However, lessons are given daily so while your child is welcome to work ahead, please note that lessons may not have been taught yet. Please remember that children learn by doing. They need to participate actively in all areas of life and living. They are capable, energetic, and ready to take on 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.

Show and Tell

Show and Tell will be every Friday for students who want to participate. Students are encouraged to share educational or meaningful items such as vacation souvenirs, nature collections, photographs, hobbies, or special interests. Please do not send toys.

This activity helps students develop confidence, organization, and public speaking skills while learning from one another.

Parent Communication - Jupiter

Jupiter Ed is the parent-teacher communication platform through which you will be able to see what your child is learning and working on. It is updated weekly, and that will act as the clearest picture of your child's week-to-week learning.

Communication between the parent, child, and teacher is vital in education. While I am happy to see you at drop off and pick up, there are better times to meet with the parents than just at the start or end of class. The office will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient appointment time. If there is an urgent need, I will be available from 8:00-8:30 am as I do my classroom preparation. You may also email me at msvillaruel@arborland.com.

School Handbook

Lastly, please take time to read through the school handbook for more information. It is located on our website at www.arborland.com → Parent's Corner → Parent Handbook. Again, I look forward to working with you and your child. I am excited for another meaningful and productive school year!

Supplies Needed (Bring on the First Day of School)

- One 5-subject notebook (RED for 1st grade, GREEN for 2nd grade, BLUE for 3rd grade)
- Three 1-subject college ruled notebooks (RED for 1st grade, GREEN for 2nd grade, BLUE for 3rd grade) - no spiral notebooks, please
- 1 graphing notebook for math - no spiral notebooks, please
- 1 white 1/2-inch three-ring binder for the weekly homework/classwork
- 1 one-inch three-ring binder for Spanish (any color)
- 2 pocket folders for Music and Art classes
- Ruler
- Pair of scissors
- Pencil Case/Box
- Pencils
- 1 set markers
- 1 set crayons
- 1 set of colored pencils
- 1 set of watercolors
- Eraser
- Sharpener (no battery operated please)
- Dictionary
- Art mixed media sketchbook

Supplies that will be collected at the beginning of the year

- 1 pack of card stock paper in assorted color
- 1 pack of white/copy paper
- 4 glue sticks

Thank you for taking the time to read through this welcome letter. I am truly excited to begin another wonderful year of learning, discovery, and growth with your children.

Together, I know we will make this a joyful, successful, and memorable school year. I look forward to getting to know your family and watching each child grow in confidence, independence, and a love of learning.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Regina Villaruel

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