



2019 Fall Newsletter

MONTESSORI HOUSE FOR CHILDREN
& ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Take the Montessori Journey!

Have you ever asked your child “what did you do today” and hear the response “nothing” or “I don’t remember”? Most parents have not experienced Montessori education in their youth and are eager to know about their child’s day and the curriculum.

The Montessori Journey provides parents with first-hand exposure to the classroom, curriculum and experiences as seen through the eyes of your child; toddler through upper elementary.

The Journey is divided into 2 sessions, Friday evening and Saturday morning. Participants attend both sessions. Parents find the experience immensely rewarding and informative.

You will leave with a profound understanding and appreciation of how and what your child learns in their classrooms.

Spots are limited. Sign up through Bloomz/ MHFC+EL/ Calendar



Visit our new website!

www.mhfcschools.com

Letter from Head of School...

Dear Montessori House Community,

What a harmonious start of school we've had! This happens when the community works together to serve a common purpose. MHFC & Elementary School

*is grounded in Montessori Principles and Philosophy - our mission is to **Cultivate the Greatest Potential within Every Person;***

which is achieved through:

- *Authentic Montessori*
- *Nature & Environmental Education*
- *Dual Language Program, toddler through 6th grade**

I sincerely thank each and every person - parents, PAV, staff & extracurricular providers, for your involvement and tremendous support and dedication!

This year, we have many community events to look forward to ... Peace Day Parade, International Picnic, Book Fair, Friday 'Meet-ups', Family Garden Day and more!

I am also excited to announce that students from EC & Elementary will have many more opportunities to be involved in peer-mentoring, collaboration and leadership, across all school communities - Toddler, EC and Elementary! Opportunities include reading mentors, environmental awareness, science exploration and cultural understanding.

It is with a thankful and hopeful heart, that I consider the enormous positive impact we can make within our community – in the lives of our children, ourselves and each other. Let's keep momentum strong, carry out our mission, and make a positive difference in our world. I can think of no greater endeavor - to nurture and guide our world's future leaders.

*Dual Language Programs ~

Toddler Community: Guides in our toddler community speak interchangeably, between English and their native language.

EC Community: Spanish class begins at the Early Childhood level, occurring weekly, during their community group time. Spanish class is taught by a native Spanish speaker and offers an introduction to vocabulary, songs and literature. Additionally, children are exposed to many different languages, introduced through informal communication, songs, stories, etc., which could consist of Spanish, Hindi, Arabic, Russian, etc. (depending on classroom placement).

Elementary Community: Lessons with the Montessori materials are presented primarily in English (with exception of the Spanish language materials), and guides converse primarily in Spanish. All guides are bilingual in English and Spanish, with Spanish being their native language. Additionally, Spanish class is included in the weekly "specials" schedule, in addition to PE, Art, Music and Nature/Environmental Education.

Sincerely,

Barbara Nelson



Upcoming Events:

- 9/6 & 9/7** Montessori Journey, parts 1 & 2
- 9/11** Vision & Hearing Screening
- 9/12** Parent Coffee & Peace Day Parade
- 9/19** Parent Enrichment "Independence, Bridge between Home & School" (all communities)
- 9/21** **National Peace Day**
- 9/27** Early Release & Community Meet-Up
- 10/1** PAV Meeting
- 10/5** Family Garden Day
- 10/8, 9,10** **'Watch me Work' Night**
- 10/10** Parent Coffee: Family Nutrition
- 10/14** Montessori Holiday
- 10/14-18** Book Fair
- 10/18** School Closed: Parent Teacher Conferences
- 10/21-24** Elementary Parent Observation Week
- 10/25** Early Release
- 10/28-31** EC Parent Observation Week
- 11/1** International Picnic
- 11/5** PAV Meeting
- 11/8** Open House – Refer a Friend!
- 11/13** Parent Enrichment: Language Curriculum Explained
- 11/14** Parent Coffee: Questions & Answers:
EC 'Leadership Year' & Montessori Elementary
- 11/15** Mom's Night Out!
- 11/22** Early Release & Community Meet-Up
- 11/25-27** Montessori Holiday
- 11/28-29** School Closed: Thanksgiving Holiday
- 12/3** PAV Meeting
- 12/12** Parent Coffee: Community Service Project
- 12/16-19** EC Winter Programs
- 12/20** EL Performance: The Life of Maria Montessori
(All Families Welcome to Attend)
Early Release
- 12/23-31** School Closed: Winter Break
- 1/1 – 3** School Closed: Winter Break
- 1/6** Montessori Holiday



JOIN US FOR THE **14TH ANNUAL**

International Picnic

WHEN: FRIDAY, NOV 1ST, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

WHERE: GEORGE BUSH PARK, PAVILION 3

*Enjoy food from all over the world in our
International Potluck

***Bake Sale and Lemonade Stand** hosted by
elementary students

*Full access to **park and playground**

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT OPEN HOUSE!

Invite a friend or family member
to tour the school and meet the
director.

Don't forget about the referral
program!

MEFI Mission...

MEFI, the Montessori Education Find, Inc., was founded in 2012 and is a 501© (3) nonprofit corporation. The nonprofit is committed to the continual learning and improvement of **Students, Staff, and Community**.

Why Should I Contribute?

- You benefit by having access to professional guest speakers to aid you in the day-to-day challenges of parenting.
- Your child benefits from having well-trained, professional, capable, and certified guides.
- We benefit from involvement with charitable organizations, growing compassion throughout our community.

How are MEFI Contributions used?

Last year, contributions totaled \$8,651.75 was allocated as follows:

\$5,000	Tuition Assistance
\$1,500	Community Outreach
\$1,500	Slush Fund

This year's goal is \$10,000. With this, the MEFI goals are:

Students: Add a [Babel Drum](#) to each outdoor environment, Toddler, EC & Elementary

Staff: Supplement professional development (assist with additional expenses associated with out-of-town conferences). This year's AMS National Conference is in Dallas, TX., March 2020.

Community:

- Child Advocates of Fort Bend (providing books, toiletries and donations of time)
- Tuition Assistance (for parents experiencing temporary financial set-back)
- Parent Enrichment (guest speakers on family/parenting related topics)

How can I contribute?

The MEFI gratefully accepts contributions of **time, talent & donation** through a direct donation or participation in our events this year:

MEFI Mission: To Donate Now [Click Here](#) - 100% goes directly to MEFI

Artwork Keepsakes: Child's artwork on personalized products (great for gift season)

Mom's Night Out: Express Yourself! (An evening of painting, wine & friends)

Legacy Wall: Child's artwork permanently displayed as part of the "Legacy Wall"

Other Ways You Can Support the MEFI:

- Volunteer your time & talent to the classroom and/or PAV events.
- Utilize Company Donor-Matching Programs

If you have any questions, please contact Norma by email at norma@mhfcschool.com

Welcome from the PAV...

Dear Montessori House Community,

We welcome back our new and returning families!

We are the Parent Association of Volunteers (PAV). We are made up of parents, guardians, and administrators who function as the backbone of our volunteer force! We work as a volunteer body to organize events and support the activities of the school. Our main goal is to build community, and to support the MEFI Mission.

Knowing the biggest obstacle for parents is time, we have structured events and meetings to coincide with childcare or involve the entire family. Please note the following regularly scheduled events:

- PAV meetings are the first Tuesday of every month, 8:30 – 9:30 am.
- Monthly Meet-Ups coincide with Early Release, usually the last Friday of each month, 5:00 -7:00 pm, location TBA (Meet-Ups provide community building; parents and children meet up at locations within Katy for fun/friendship)
- Parent Coffee is usually the second Thursday of each month, 8:30-9:30 am, in the Elementary Handwork Studio. Parent Coffee is a time for building community and learning, often with a guest speaker, providing family-related information and tips.

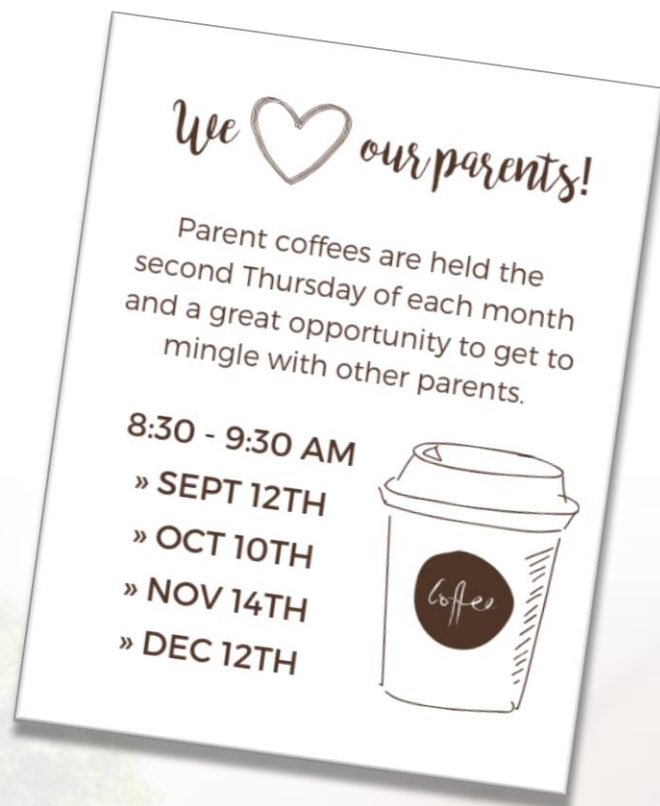
Whether you are a strategic planner, organizational guru, creative artist, baker, gardener, social butterfly, or anything else - WE NEED YOU! You will have the support of the officers and staff. To learn more about the PAV, contact Norma, at norma@mhfcschool.com.

GET INVOLVED, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, and MAKE A DIFFERENCE in your school. Your children will notice and thank you for it. Let's make it a fantastic year at Montessori House!

We look forward to meeting you, through community events we have planned throughout the year – Annual International Picnic, Family Garden Days and the Pancake Brunch, just to name a few. Please refer to the school calendar on Bloomz, for events and dates.

Sincerely,

Your Parent Association of Volunteers



Intro from ECO Team...

Our upper Elementary students proudly lead the 'Eco-School' initiatives.

Each year, our 'Eco-Team', starts with conducting audits. Then, they develop an 'Eco-Action' plan with specific goals for improvement. Throughout the year, they carry out their plan while involving all communities within the school! At the end of the year, the Eco-Team conducts a final audit, noting achievements and lessons learned.

Each year, the Eco-Team builds upon prior experience and knowledge – in a continual path of improvement!

The three primary initiatives are...

- Reducing Waste & Consumption
- Enriching Biodiversity
- Enriching Schoolyard Habitats

To learn more about Eco-Schools, click here: <https://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA>

Future news about Eco-School initiatives will come to you, via the newsletter, from our Upper Elementary students!



Take Advantage of our Referral Program!



When you refer a friend or family member, you will receive a **\$200 credit** towards your next month's tuition upon their enrollment. Your referral will also receive a \$200 credit towards their first month's tuition.

We also encourage you to invite referrals to our Open House:
November 9th & January 11th at 9 AM!

Looking Back on Summer...

Children in all communities had a summer chock-full of fun and activities! From learning how to bake to creating authentic arts, exploring robotics, and diving into new cultures, it's safe to say that everyone thoroughly enjoyed their time and accomplishments.



Welcome New Members!

On behalf of the entire Montessori House family, we'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new families and staff members.

New to the Toddler Community: Amelie Ajami, Aryan Suryaprakash, Emma Rodriguez, Erik Larson, Evelyn Liu, Julia Stein Roth, Lara Alchatta, Mason Holzer, Marie Kearney, Mayah Suarez, Milana Kuchinskaya, Zyla Ali, and Zoe Khan

New to the Early Childhood Community: Conor & Rhys Dunne, Jacob Deng, Kathleen O'Gorman, Dara Ayanga, Claire, Tristan & Zoe Fisher, and Zayn Ali

New to the Elementary Community: Anika Potdar, Anjali Madhuvanesh, Gabriella & Zoe Garrett, MacKenzie Wolter, Raphael Fisher

Parent Involvement Opportunities:

Parent Enrichment nights:

- ◆ 9/19 "Independence: Bridge from Home to School"
Presenters: Lead guides from all Communities (Toddler, EC, Elementary)
All Parents Welcome!
- ◆ 11/13 "EC Language Curriculum Explained"
Presenter: EC Lead Guides
Toddler and EC parents are welcome to attend!

Parent Coffees:

- ◆ 9/12 Peace Day Parade
- ◆ 10/10 Nutrition: Foods for the Brain & Body (plus Tips for getting your child to EAT)!
- ◆ 12/12 Community Service Project

PAV Community Events:

- ◆ Meet-Ups: 9/27, 11/22 (Location TBD)
- ◆ 11/1 International picnic

Parent Resources:

Dyslexia, Dysgraphia & Dyscalculia Programs

MHFC Schools is proud to announce that we now offer Dyslexia, Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia screenings.

With a Dyslexia Practitioner on staff, and our partnership with Dyscalculia Services, we have the tools to both tutor and guide children through hands-on exercises to improve their reading, writing and mathematical abilities.



To inquire about programs, email margie@mhfcschool.com

[Back-to-School Success Tips](#)

[Does Montessori Work? Common Critiques of Montessori Education](#)

[Age Appropriate Chores for Children](#)

[Top 10 Helpful Montessori Tips for Parents](#)

[The Absorbent Mind: A Classic in Education and Child Development for Educators & Parents](#)

[The Elementary Child: A Whole New Ballgame!](#)

Wishing you and your family a fantastic New School Year!