

LEAP International Montessori School

2019-2020 Community Newsletter I

August 2019

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School and Classroom Updates

Privet! The new school year is upon us and we are all so excited. The classrooms are prepped and ready and we, as teachers, have been busily working on new materials and classroom arrangements for the children. It is going to be an exciting new year!

School Reminders & Announcements

- Classroom welcome packets were distributed at the parent meeting. If you have not picked up your packet yet, it is in your child's mail folder at the sign-in table. If your child will be transitioning at some point through the school year from the Toddler Classroom to the Primary Classroom, you will have 2 letters.
- Ages and Stages Questionnaires (ASQ's) have been printed and placed in the mail folders. Please complete these and return them to Mrs. OH as soon as possible.
- Parent Handbooks are coming. There are a couple alternations from New Mexico PreK, otherwise information is the same as from previous years. LEAP will distribute the handbooks electronically in an effort to save paper. We will be more than happy to give out printed and bound copies though by request.
- Home visits are being scheduled now. Please see Mrs. Griffin and/ or your child's teacher to schedule a visit.

Staff Introductions

Administration

- Head of School: Mrs. OH
- Director/ Curriculum Coordinator: Mrs. Griffin

In-House Substitutes: (We are looking for more substitutes)

- Mr. Hannagan

As usual, if there any questions, suggestions, thoughts or concerns, please direct them to Mrs. OH, Mrs. Griffin, Ms. Eden, or Ms. Krouse.

Toddler

- Lead Toddler Teacher: Ms. Eden
- Assistant: Ms. Leslie

Primary

- Lead Primary Teacher: Ms. Krouse
- Assistant: Ms. Kari
- Assistant: TBA
- After-school: TBA
- Early Morning Assistant: Mr. Hannagan

Welcome Ms. Krouse!



Linda's love for the Montessori Method was born when in 1980 she walked into a Montessori School in Grand Junction, Colorado and knew she was home. Ever since then she has pursued the Montessori Method in any position she has held in life and education. She states "It is a privilege to work with LEAP International Montessori School, the children and families we serve"

Linda Krouse is a long time educator and Montessori teacher/advocate. She has taught in many educational settings from home schooling her own children following the Montessori Method and following the child to presenting ecological and natural science lessons to elementary children and Girl Scouts. She has been involved in Civil Air Patrol working with cadets and aerospace education, ethical conduct and search and rescue.

She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Child Development and Psychology and a Master of Science in Early Childhood Education, and Montessori Training 3-6 from Adrian Dominican Montessori Teacher Education Institute in Adrian MI.

Motto: "Experience is the best teacher. Celebrate the human potential."

Elementary (Montessori Map)

- Lead Elementary Teacher: Mrs. Griffin

Good news is on the way! Filming for lessons has started and our graphic designer has been working on the map overview and subject islands. Stay tuned for more information!

Music with Mr. Clement

Mr. Clement has added additional times on Tuesday for private keyboarding lessons. If interested please sign up in the office or call Mr. Clement at 228-2781.

Brain Foods

Our children are using their brains at school and we are so grateful for the quality snacks that have been coming. We have been talking in the classrooms about choosing quality "muscle foods" that will help brains and bodies to grow healthy and strong. The Parent Handbook has a strong list. A short list for examples though include:

Protein	Vegetables	Fresh Fruit
Turkey or Chicken	Carrots	(In Season)
Peanut Butter	Celery	Apples
Tuna	Broccoli	Pears
Nut Butters	Cucumber Slices	

Scholastic Books

Scholastic leaflets were included in the Welcome Packet. Mrs. Rachel Noek (Koden's mother) will be the school's contact for Scholastic. Please direct all orders to her at 505-400-5231 or rachelnoek@gmail.com.

Trips

Popejoy plays and dates, along with permission slip(s) have been printed and distributed in mail folders. Permission slips (with payment) for Popejoy are due September 1 to make sure we can buy tickets. Please see Mrs. Griffin with any questions.

The Pueblo trip this semester is to Ohkay Owingeh. More details will be coming as plans are finalized.

Sister School in Australia!

Culturally, we are thrilled to report that we have joined up with another Montessori school in Geelong, Australia and are starting to prepare for pen-pals and cross-cultural research opportunities.

Uniform Reminder

We would like to respectfully remind parents that to help encourage concentration, we do have a uniform policy that is basically plain colors. Please, keep refrain from any characters on clothes especially, as these often turn out to be distracting for all of the children when in the work cycle. Please see the parent handbook with any questions.

Uniform shirts are being embroidered. Please see Mrs. OH if you would like to order additional shirts and to make sure we have your child's size.

Enrollment

Do you know a family who is looking for a great school for their children? Would you like some help with your tuition? We still have room in the Toddler classroom. To say thank you for the referral and help with growing our community, we are extending an offer to our families that for every new child that enrolls at LEAP and comes from a referral, we would be happy to credit \$100 to the referring family's next month's tuition payment. 😊

Tuition Reminders

Tuition is due on the 1st of every month; if not received by the 5th, on the 6th of the month, a \$25 non-negotiable fee will be assessed to the account. Please see Mrs. OH with any questions.

Upcoming Events:

Legislative Committee Visit to LEAP- Tuesday August 20th

The State of New Mexico is coming into see what LEAP is all about. Photos will likely be taken.

Scholastic Orders Due- Friday August 30th

Contact Rachel Noek with any questions: rachelnoek@gmail.com

Staff In-service for PreK (No School)- Thursday September 5th

If any parents are needing childcare or want to organize a large "play date" we would be happy to have a sign-up/ interest list at school.

Labor Day- Monday September 9th; No School

Fall Portraits- Wednesday September 4th

Please come to school in a plain-colored Oxford or Polo shirt and pants. Pictures will be taken in the morning (before snack or lunch). Photos will likely be available to parents the following week. Contact Stevie Romero for more information at: bravhart83@gmail.com.

Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo Trip- Thursday & Friday, September 12-13th

This is a 2 day field trip. The children go home at night though. Please see Mrs. Griffin and plan to join us for this wonderful event!

Dinner and a Movie- Saturday September 14th

LEAP hosts Dinner and a Movie, the second Saturday of every month, from 6-10pm. The cost is \$25 per person and includes dinner and activities. All children ages 3 and older are invited. All proceeds from the event benefit Teacher's Continuing Education fund. Please see Mrs. Griffin if you are interested.

Fall Equinox Party- Friday September 20th

This is a full day, fun event. Holiday assignments will go out in the beginning of September. Please see Mrs. Griffin with any questions.

Mrs. OH's Birthday!- Thursday September 26th



As her daughter, I couldn't resist letting out this important date to our community! 😊

Quarterly CQI Meeting- Saturday September 28th

Everyone is invited to our quarterly "Continuous Quality Improvement" meetings for FOCUS. 5pm Please RSVP.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Projects are getting started and we would certainly appreciate any crafty hands. Please let us know if you're interested in helping with any of the projects. ☺ Right now we're working on:

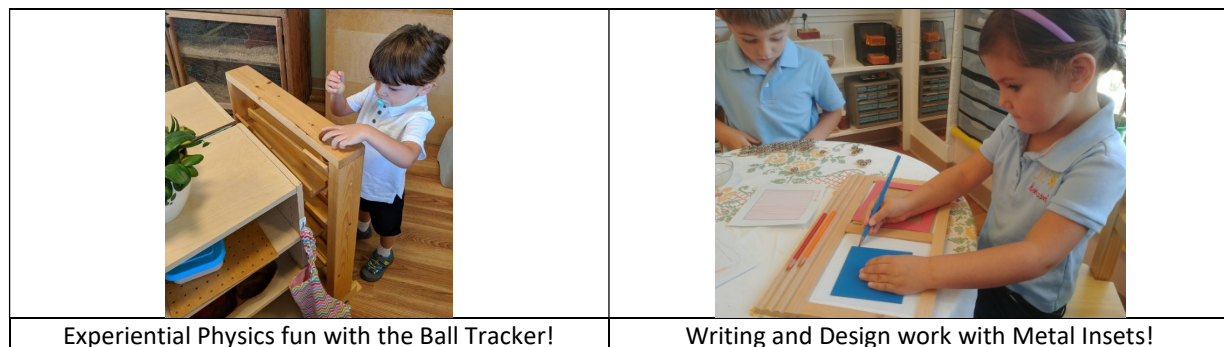
-  Sewing Projects
-  Natural Labyrinth for the Playground

Wish List

Do you happen to have lots of extra items around the house and would rather reduce the clutter? We are looking for the following items for projects:

Toddler	Primary	Playground	General School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Edible plants ✓ Vegetable tops/ guinea pig food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Large size crickets and meal worms ✓ Bird Toys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Large, smooth Stones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Plants! (Both indoor and outdoor) ✓ Solar Lamps

Pictures



Your Partners in Education,

Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. O'H, Ms. Eden & Ms. Krouse,