

Montreat Morning School

2023-2024 Parent Handbook/Calendar

Providing your family a Christ- Centered education; in which the morals and missions of Jesus Christ take on a living form through the daily lessons, crafts and activities; all led by our amazing teachers and loving staff.



WWW.MONTREATMORNINGSCHOOL.COM

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www.montreatmorningschool.com
www.cccmontreat.org

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The Montreat Morning School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. Financial scholarships are limited and need-based

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MMS Focus & Philosophy

The focus at MMS is on a Christ-centered education; one where the morals and mission of Jesus Christ take on living form through the teachers and staff, not merely religious rhetoric unsubstantiated by actions.

Our Philosophy of education is to create an educationally balanced, Christ-centered, play based learning environment where the focus is on discovering each child's unique gifts, talents, and learning style. Implementing this focus should, in turn, develop students with a love of learning, and a deeper understanding of themselves and their Creator.

Our commitment, as teachers and staff, to you, the families of MMS, is that we will seek to apply this philosophy of education by:

- Seeking the Lord's wisdom above all else, and loving Him with our whole heart, soul, and mind.
- Striving to build within our students a character that is Christ-centered in nature.
- Developing and maintaining a posture of active listening, which will aid and foster learning.
- To teach accurately and thoroughly the core subjects of: Bible, Character building, Language arts, English Literature, Math, History, Geography, Science, Environmental responsibility, Safety, Physical Education, Art, Cultural Studies, and Foreign Language.
- To model to our children the acts of being responsible, resourceful, and respectful to one another.
- To always be aware and sensitive to the various learning styles of our children and teach, when possible, in the format they understand best.
- To provide tools and practical life experience to enrich and develop a lifelong curiosity and love of learning.

Role of the Parent/Guardians

Just as the teachers are prepared to make a commitment to your family, we ask that you prayerfully and respectfully review this handbook and sign the signature page located in your Brightwheel App. Please know that every guideline is one that furthers the education experience of your child. We believe that you are your child's first teacher, and that no one knows your child more than you do! We would be remiss if we did not take advantage of the wealth of information and dedication that our families have for their children. While you will be asked to volunteer some of your time, you will also be asked for your input and suggestions to improve and grow our school.

MMS Curriculums

At the Montreat Morning School we use a variety of educational theories and philosophies. Most of our student's day is broken into two main curriculums; developmentally appropriate play based and academic. However, we also use some **emergent curriculums** using the child's interest to guide and drive the day's events. We are blessed by the beauty of Montreat every day, taking a group of student's on a nature walk and studying the activities of a tadpole in the lake or bugs on a tree trunk makes room for endless conversation, class wide learning projects, and beautiful art pieces.

Through our emphasis on **developmentally appropriate play based** philosophies, we promote our students to participate in age appropriate activities, such as unstructured hands on play, group story time, or themed activities. Our students are encouraged to learn through play. We believe that children have a natural curiosity to the world around them. Our job as preschool educators is to provide a safe, interactive, and imaginative world for our students where learning through their environment is encouraged and valued.

In addition to emergent and play based approaches, we also value **academic approaches**. Certain times of a student's day are structured more academically where teachers are leading students through a planned activity. This could be through learning shapes and colors in our two year old class moving towards letter and number recognition in our three year old class to finally putting letter sounds together to begin the initial stages of reading in our Pre K and TK classes. Beginning in 2022, we are implementing Heggerty's phonemic awareness curriculums in our Pre K and TK classes.

Role of the Teacher

Beyond the implementation of the MMS Philosophy, our teachers and staff are committed to being:

- *An example*: modeling peaceful and respectful behavior and words to one another, students, and parents. The teacher creates the environment where ground rules allow the student to flourish.
- *Proactive*: watching the children as they explore the works and materials around them, and creating a teachable moment that resonates with the child's individual needs.
- *Observer and Recorder*: making notes of the child's progress and changes as his/her education progresses.
- *Innovator*: changing the materials and workspaces to emphasize new units of study, and to re-energize the classroom.
- *Active listener*: allowing the children the freedom to express and explain themselves, their interest and their motivations.
- *Communicator*: attempting through conversations, invitation, newsletter and announcement to include and inform parents of events within the classroom.
- *Loving*: the MMS Staff love your children!

Encouraging Positive Behavior

Children often learn by watching and practicing positive interactions. They learn to take responsibility for their own actions and begin to make choices concerning their behavior. Taking these beliefs into consideration, Montreat Morning School employs the following forms of teaching/modeling positive behavior:

- Teachers create boundaries for the children, which allow them to consider their actions before misbehaving.
- Teachers model appropriate behavior and speech with the children, each other and parents.
- Teachers encourage active listening and peaceful conflict resolution; giving each child opportunities to speak and share the reasoning behind his/her behavior.
- Teachers are prepared to modify the classroom at any time if they see that a certain work or item is causing a stumbling block to proper behavior.
- Teachers are adept at offering choices which gives the child an active and responsible role in his/her school day. We reserve "mandates" and "must do's" for safety issues, primarily.
- We are committed to treating the child as a person and respect his/her needs and feelings, even if we don't agree with him/her. We may have to listen attentively and still say that his/her idea will not work within the classroom... but we will hear him/her out completely and respectfully.
- We will utilize REDIRECTION to distract a child who is focused on a behavior that is not conducive to a classroom setting. We will use short periods of time away from others for the child to rest and regroup if needed to get over a "hump" of inappropriate behavior. We are determined to stay consistent with our boundaries to prevent confusion to the child.

In some rare circumstances we may have a situation where a child must be removed from the classroom setting because of persistently dangerous or harmful behavior. In this situation, the child will sit with the MMS Director until they are willing to discuss their behavior or a parent is called.

Financial Arrangements & Tuition Payments

- Tuition is based on a September – May school year. Tuition payments must be set up on **automatic drafts** from your bank account or via debit/ credit card through your Brightwheel App. (see the office for assistance on logging into your account). Your first month's tuition is due by **August 15th, 2023**. Beginning October 1st, tuition is due the *FIRST OF EACH MONTH*. If payment is not received by the 10th of each month, there is a delinquent charge of \$30 added to the monthly tuition payment. There will be a \$25.00 service charge on all returned payments. Automatic payments will go through on the 1st of each month. If the 1st falls on a holiday or weekend, it will be drafted (or due) on the preceding business day. You may also pay by a cash or check in the MMS Office. If your tuition checks fall behind more than 30 days, and no arrangements or payment plan have been arranged with the school, the parents may be asked to withdraw their child/children. Application/Registration/Activity fees are not refundable.

Class	Days	Monthly	Bi-Annual Tuition	Annual Tuition
1's,2's & 3's	2 Days (T/TH)	\$200	\$900	\$1,800
	3 Days (MWF)	\$300	\$1350	\$2,700
	5 Days (M-F)	\$500	\$2,250	\$4,500
PreK/TK	5 Days (M-F)	\$500	\$2,250	\$4,500

Enrollment for returning MMS families for the 2024–2025 school year will begin in February of 2024. Open enrollment for the public will begin in March of 2024. You will be required to pay the enrollment fee of \$150 to secure your child's place for the upcoming school year.

*Please be prepared to make your \$150 enrollment fee in February 2024 when you re-enroll. Class space is tight with our enrollment. The enrollment fee is the only way to ensure your child's placement is saved for the following school year.

Late Pick ups and Late Fees

ALL LATE FEES begin at 12:30pm.

A late fee of \$1.00 per minute past 12:30pm will be charged to your account up to 10 minutes (\$10.00). After 12:30pm, you will need to send a message through the Brightwheel App or call the MMS office to have your child brought to the first floor lobby for pick up. If you have not contacted us by this time, we will attempt to contact those listed on the approved pick up list. It is our hope that you are "en route" and will safely arrive to pick up your child(ren) soon.

After the first 10 minutes, the office will begin to charge a flat \$10 for the next 11–20 minutes and so on in \$10/10 minute increments. Failure to pay the charge will result in suspension from all programs until this fee is paid. You will receive a late fee invoice the following day. Payment of this invoice must be received by the MMS office by the end of the week.

MMS + You = Great Things



Detailed information on topics below will be provided via the [Virtual Parent Orientation](#) and will be included in the Welcome Packs during your first week of school.

Volunteering and Substituting

We are bringing back volunteers! We ask each family to volunteer 10 hours per school year in support of your child's classroom. Opportunities to sign up will be provided at the beginning and throughout the school year.

We have a full time floater this year to, first and foremost, act as a substitute when a teacher is out. However, we expect there will be times when additional support is needed. Substitutes are on a paid basis. We offer a required orientation for those interested. The purpose of this orientation is to share information concerning daily schedules and procedures as well as to collect the proper information on all adults serving in your child's classroom. **Please notify the MMS office if you are interested and we will provide you with all needed forms.**

Daily Schedules, Teaching & Preparing for a Successful Year

Each day brings new adventure into the life of a child. We will provide you with a sample of each age group's daily activities and curriculum in their welcome packets and via our website. We will also provide you with a list of ideas and information to prepare your child for a great start to this upcoming year!

MMS Tote Bags

We are pleased to offer each first time MMS student enrolled in the 2022-2023 School Year a Montreat Morning School Tote Bag. These bags should be used to bring items to and from your house each day. The bags are not required but are a safer option than plastic grocery bags. The 2 year olds and 3 year olds have limited space in their cubbies/hooks. They will hang their tote bags on the hooks in the hallway.

For PreK/TK- if you choose to bring other bags/or bags in addition to the provided tote bag, we ask that all items fit neatly on a hook. For safety reasons, we will not be able to house items on the hallway or classroom floor that do not fit on the hooks properly.

For returning students who would like to order a new bag, you can order one for a charge of \$10. Please contact the office to order.

Please do not allow your child to bring any personal items from home, i.e.: stuffed animals, dress up, toys, jewelry, pacifiers, etc.

AUGUST 2023

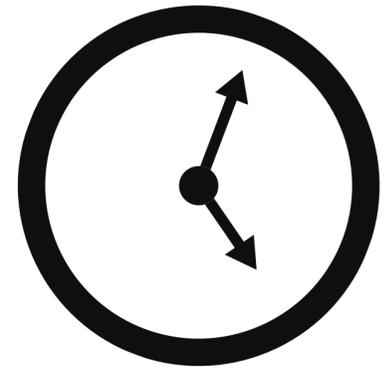
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Notes	
	<i>Teacher Work Day</i>	<i>Teacher Work Day</i>	<i>Teacher Work Day</i>	<i>Teacher Work Day</i>		

Day to Day Information



Hours of Operation:

Montreat Morning School is open for operation
Monday-Friday from 8:15am-12:30pm



Carline Information (Morning Drop Off & Afternoon Pick Up)

SAME ROUTINE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Morning Drop Off will only be offered through the car line this year and will begin on the 1st day of school. Please refer to the carline map that has been provided to you.

Morning drop off begins at 8:15am and ends at 8:30am

If you arrive after 8:30am, you will need to park in front of the MMS (the Henry Building) and walk your child into the school building. You can either call the MMS office, message via Brightwheel, or use the intercom to be let in.

We also will now be requiring all approved pick up and drop off individuals to enter a 4 digit code to check-in/check-out a student. This code can be set up and changed in your Brightwheel app. See the office for assistance if needed.

Afternoon Pick Up also takes place via our carline.

Afternoon Pick Up begins at 12:15pm and ends at 12:30pm

1. During regular pick-up times, an MMS Staff member will stand outside and radio classrooms as families arrive for pick-up.

- Shared teachers will escort children to their family waiting outside/in their car.

2. If a family wishes to pick up before the scheduled pick-up time, they can send a message through the Brightwheel App or call the office to let them know they are there to pick-up.

- MMS Staff member or shared teacher will escort the child to their family waiting outside/in their car



SEPTEMBER 2023

Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Notes 	 Shape of the Month: Circle Color of the Month: Yellow				1 <i>Teacher Work Day</i> <i>Parent Orientation</i> <i>Drop In 9am-11am</i>	2
3 Week 1: All About Me/ Back to School Bible Theme: What is the Bible?	4 NO SCHOOL Labor Day 	5  <i>1st Day of School</i> <i>(M-F & T/Th)</i>	6  <i>1st Day of School</i> <i>(MWF)</i>	7	8	9
10 Week 2: Where Do I Live?/ North America Letter: A,a Number: 1	11 Weekly Bible Theme: "God's Creation: Genesis 1"	12	13	14	15	16
17 Week 3: Music to my Ears/ 5 Senses Letter: B,b Number: 2	18 Weekly Bible Theme: "Adam and Eve: Genesis 3"	19	20	21	22	23 <i>First Day of Fall</i> 
24 Week 4: Apples All Around Letter: C,c Number: 3	25 Weekly Bible Theme: "Noah: Genesis 6-9"	26	27	28	29	30

Need Based Scholarships

From time to time we all run into periods of financial hardship. Whatever your situation, we are here for you and your children. Please contact the MMS office or MMS Director to confidentially inquire about any funds that may be available and/or volunteer options for a % of tuition discount. These are extremely limited and are strictly need based.

The financial aid application including your most recent tax documents, must be complete, to include the W2 forms prior to any awarding of assistance. Applications are available upon request and award letters will be sent no later than July 15th.

It is expected that any child receiving financial assistance participate/attend at least 90% of the enrolled days each month. The only exception of this would be illness or emergency.

The MMS reserves the right to decrease the %, or remove scholarships based on the availability of the funding.

We ask that those receiving financial assistance as well as our other parents attending the MMS (without scholarship) agree to volunteer for our school and/or related activities a minimum of 10 hours per year.

MMS Policies

Placement of Students and Registration & Transition Kindergarten Class (Transition TO Kindergarten)

- MMS places students according to age but reserves the right to interview a child to determine academic or social readiness for placement. Parents can also request an assessment of their child's progress. The PreK and TK classroom are both kindergarten preparatory. Students are expected to attend a full school year. Like most PreK/TK programs, we are aligning our academics to a M-F (5 day) program.
- Registration for returning families and siblings of current students will be in February. New student registration will begin in March. There is a \$150.00 enrollment fee for both new and returning students. Once paid, this fee guarantees placement for your child and later is considered your child's consumable fee. These fees will cover the cost of bringing "field trip" style activities/events to our center throughout the year and enrollment costs. This fee is non-refundable.

Insurance

- We recommend that you carry your own medical and accident insurance on your child(ren). MMS does carry Nursery School Accident Protection Program Insurance. The policy is \$5.50 per child with a maximum medical benefit of \$25,000.00 accidental death and dismemberment of \$10,000.00 with a \$25 deductible. The cost for this is included in your tuition and is primary coverage insurance.

Withdrawal Notifications

- Families needing to withdraw their child from the Montreat Morning School must provide the school office with a 30 Day Advance WRITTEN notification of withdrawal. We will accept email, Brightwheel, or handwritten notices. We do not accept text notification, messages via social media, or in-person conversations as formally withdrawing your student. It is also asked that withdrawal notifications come from the parent/guardian of the child. Notifications from a grandparent or other paying party-will not allow us to make changes to a child's enrollment status.

Current monthly tuition and fees are not prorated or refundable.

OCTOBER 2023

Weekly Bible Theme:

"Abraham: Genesis 12-21" Psalm 56:3 "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Week 5: Transportation Letter: D,d Number: 4	2 NO SCHOOL  Teacher Work Day	3 NO SCHOOL  Teacher Work Day	4 Weekly Bible Theme: "Isaac: Genesis 24-25 & 27"	5	6	7
8 Week 6: Community Helpers/ Fire Safety Letter: E,e Number: 5	9 Weekly Bible Theme: "Jacob: Genesis 28-33"	10	11	12	13	14
15 Week 7: Pumpkin Patch/Leaves Falling Down Letter: F,f Number: 6	16 Weekly Bible Theme: "Joseph: Genesis 37-46"	17	18	19	20 Harvest Fest 	21
22 Week 8: Bats, Spiders, Snakes, Oh My! Letter: G,g Number: 7	23 Weekly Bible Theme: "Moses: Exodus 3-40"	24	25	26	27	28
29 Week 9: Long Ago & Far Away Letter: H,h Number: 8	30 Weekly Bible Theme: "Joshua: Joshua 2 & 6"	31 Trick or Montreat 	Notes  Shape of the Month: Square Color of the Month: Orange			

MMS Policies Continued

Transitional Kindergarten Class (Transition TO Kindergarten)

Started in 2015, the MMS opened a Transitional Kindergarten Classroom that provides an additional setting where younger five -year-olds can thrive and have the gift of time to develop in accordance with their natural pace. MMS admits children to this program “who would benefit from an additional year of growth- be it for academic, social/emotional or birth-age before entering Kindergarten.” Therefore, it is the policy for transitional kindergarten students to turn five between August 31st and December 31st or have completed the PreK classroom the year before. The class size for TK classroom is set at a maximum number of 15 students.

**If there are families that desire for their child to proceed to first grade from the MMS TK Classroom - it is their responsibility to register as a homeschool program and follow the path of the NC Standards for Kindergarten and/or other academic requirements.*

***The MMS TK Classroom is Kindergarten Preparatory and a “more formalized” extension of the PreK program offered at MMS, while still observing the importance of learning through play- based thematic lessons.*

Entrance Requirements

Our students span the age of 12 months to TK (usually 5 ½ old.) Children will be placed in classes based on the age they will be as of August 31st. Parents will need to fill out and return their registration form, medical facts, and emergency forms PRIOR to the first day of school. Children in the PreK/ TK class must be proficient in the toilet routine.

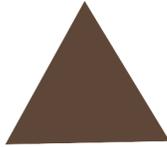
We require each child to have on file either their immunization records from their pediatrician/health dept. or a religious medical exemption form. If your child has an allergy or dietary restriction we ask that you have your pediatrician fill out the Allergy/Medical Action Plan.

We will adhere to all Allergy Action plans signed by your child’s pediatrician- and will accommodate any child’s needs as you navigate and discover new allergies. We hope that allergies are not discovered, but if so, communication between parent, teacher/office, and your child’s medical professional is important. If you need an Allergy Action plan, please contact our office.



NOVEMBER 2023

Psalm 107:1 "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Notes  Shape of the Month: Triangle Color of the Month: Brown			1 Week 9: Long Ago & Far Away Letter: H,h Number: 8	2	3	4
5 Week 10: Down on the Farm Letter: I,i Number: 9	6 Weekly Bible Theme: "David: 1 Samuel 16-17"	7	8	9	10 NO SCHOOL	11  VETERANS DAY
12 Week 11: Thanksgiving/ Pilgrims Letter: J,j Number: 10	13 Weekly Bible Theme: "Daniel: Daniel 6"	14	15	16	17	18
19 Week 12: Thanksgiving/ Giving Thanks Letter: K,k Number: 11	20 Weekly Bible Theme: "Jonah: Jonah 1-4"	21	22 NO SCHOOL 	23 NO SCHOOL 	24 NO SCHOOL 	25
26 Week 13: Kitchen Fun Letter: L,l Number: 12	27 Weekly Bible Theme: "Mary: Luke 1"	28	29	30		

Health and Sickness Policy

MMS will strive to make every effort possible to protect the health and safety of our students. All of our staff are Red Cross CPR & First Aid Certified, and trained in Pediatric Defibrillation. Please help lessen the spread of infectious and communicable illnesses by keeping a sick child home. Using the Center of Disease Control (CDC) supported guidelines;

We will call you to come pick up your child if we find that they have any of the symptoms listed below:

- If he/she has a fever of or over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- If there have been any episodes of vomiting or diarrhea in the previous 24 hour period
- If he/she demonstrates any symptoms of a communicable disease such as: lice, impetigo, pink eye, strep throat, chicken pox or whooping cough etc.



If your child has 2 or more symptoms listed below (but not limited to) we will call you to come pick your child:

- If there is a consistent cough
- If he/she demonstrates fatigue, crankiness or lethargy
- If there is yellow or green nasal discharge
- If the he/she is complaining of not feeling well or demonstrating behavior than is unusual
- If he/she is on an antibiotic, wait at least 48 hours from first dose

If we contact you to come and pick up your child due to illness, you must arrange for pickup **within 30 minutes of notification**. Please call if your child has been absent for more than three days or has a contagious illness.

Medication should be administered at home. The only exception is asthma inhalers and EPI pens. MMS WILL NOT administer medication, sunscreen, or bug spray. In the case of an injury beyond the occasional scrape or bump, we will make an immediate attempt to contact a parent. If we are unsuccessful, we will proceed to call the listed Emergency Contact number, and if necessary, we will call the child's physician and/or the ambulance. Incident reports will be filled out promptly via Brightwheel.

It is imperative that your emergency numbers are kept current and up to date. Please provide us with written or email documentation of all changes to this information.

Tuition credits are not issued for short-term illnesses nor can days missed be traded for attending alternate dates.

DECEMBER 2023

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Notes  Shape of the Month: Star  Color of the Month: Red			Week 13: Kitchen Fun Letter: L,l Number: 12	Weekly Bible Theme: "Mary: Luke 1"	1	2
3 Week 14: Christmas Letter: M,m Number: 13	4 Weekly Bible Theme: "Jesus is born: Luke 2:10"	5	6	7	8 <i>Christmas Party/Program</i>	9
10 Week 15: Christmas Letter: N,n Number: 14	11 Weekly Bible Theme: "The shepherds visit Jesus: Luke 2:10"	12	13	14	15 <i>Christmas Break Begins! See you in January!</i>	16
17	18 <i>Teacher Workday</i> 	19	20	21	22 <i>First Day of Winter</i> 	23
24	25  <i>Happy Birthday Jesus!</i>	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Special COVID-19 Addendum

The health and well-being of our families and staff are our highest priorities. In the interest of limiting the opportunity for transmission to our vulnerable community, we are taking the following precautionary measures:

We will now require approved drop-off individuals to complete a brief health screening questionnaire via Brightwheel each morning before the child can enter the school.

Should you or any household member have any of the following symptoms, we ask you to remain out that day and notify the school:

- **Fever of 100.4 or higher, now or in the preceding 24 hours (or would have, but have used fever reducing medicine)**
- **New Cough**
- **Sore Throat**
- **Muscle Aches**
- **Difficulty Breathing**
- **New Loss of Taste or Smell**
-

Consistent with our COVID-19 Policy, the household will be required to remain out of the center for 10 days unless medical clearance is provided by a physician indicating that the presenting symptoms are associated with a known non-COVID-19 illness. The physician's note must not be from a family member.

Exclusion from the school is sometimes necessary to reduce the transmission of illness. For your child's comfort, and to reduce the risk of contagion, we ask that children be picked up within 30 minutes of notification. Until then, your child will be kept comfortable and will continue to be observed for symptoms.

Confirmed COVID-19 Exposure

- At this time, we do not exclude for COVID-19 exposure, only symptoms and/or positive tests.

Please note, depending on the circumstances we may require you to obtain medical clearance before return to the center will be allowed. This policy is subject to change at any time and you will be notified of the changes as they occur.

It is your responsibility to inform Montreat Morning School **immediately** if anyone in your household has tested positive for COVID-19. We urge you to be diligent in practicing the CDC's recommendations of regular hand washing with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer with 60% or greater alcohol content when soap and water is not available, maintaining at least 6 feet distance between you and those outside of your household, wearing face coverings when social distancing is not possible, and staying home if anyone in your household does not feel well. Following these guidelines will not only help to reduce your family's risk of illness but will help to protect over **100 children and staff members** at Montreat Morning School that your child may be in contact with.

If there is a confirmed case at MMS:

1. If a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, our Local Health Department will be notified immediately and the infected person may not return until proper documentation is provided by a medical provider stating they have followed required protocol for recovery and are well to return.
2. Classes will not be closed for exposure. However, if there is a confirmed case in your child's class, you will be notified of the exposure.
3. If a child begins to feel unwell after they have been dropped off at school and is found to have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above, taken with our infrared non-contact thermometer, parents will be notified and asked to pick up their pick-up, to help mitigate exposure of any illness to other students and our staff. During any outbreak of illness we will increase our sensitivity to these safety precautions to protect children in our care as well as our staff.
4. Children who test positive will be excluded for 10 days, with the 1st day of symptoms being day 0. Adults who test positive will be excluded 5 days and be required to mask for an additional 5 days.

JANUARY 2024

Psalm 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He restores my soul. He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake..."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>Week 16: It's a New Year Letter: O,o Number: 15</p>	<p>1 HAPPY New Year Weekly Bible Theme: "The wise men visit Jesus: Matthew 2"</p>	<p>2 NO SCHOOL  Teacher Work Day</p>	<p>3 First Day Back</p>	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<p>Week 17: Winter/ Antarctica Letter: P,p Number: 16</p>	<p>Weekly Bible Theme: "John the Baptist: Matthew 3, Luke 1 & 3, and John 1"</p>					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<p>Week 18: MLK/ Friendship Letter: Q,q Number: 17</p>	<p>NO SCHOOL  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.</p>	<p>Weekly Bible Theme: "The Lord's Prayer: Matthew 6"</p>				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<p>Week 19: Nursery Rhymes Letter: R,r Number: 18</p>	<p>Weekly Bible Theme: "The sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5-9 and Luke 12"</p>	<p>NO SCHOOL  Teacher Work Day</p>				
28	29	30	31	Notes		
<p>Week 20: Groundhog/ Hibernation Letter: S,s Number: 19</p>	<p>Weekly Bible Theme: "Jesus walks on water: Mark 4, Matthew 8, & Luke 8"</p>			<p>Shape of the Month: Diamond Color of the Month: Blue</p> 		

Clothing

Please dress your child in comfortable, washable play clothes and shoes. Please no flip flops or sandals without back straps. We ask that you do not send your child to school in clothing or shoes that will limit their ability to quickly maneuver steps, slides, climbing or running. We also ask; in an effort to prevent “potty” related accidents, you consider your child’s ability to remove/replace their clothing quickly for using the restroom.

We ask that each child have one COMPLETE set of clothing (including undergarments, socks, and shoes) in their MMS Tote Bag or cubbie at ALL TIMES. We will send out reminders when the season changes so you can “update” the style of clothing.

For those children in the “potty training” process, we ask that you:

- Keep extra diapers/pull-ups in your child’s cubby.
- Keep two sets of clothes (including socks and shoes)
- Make sure their clothing is manageable for them...not the adult.



Inclement Weather

To preserve the rhythm in our student’s lives we will make every effort to stay open during the snowy season, however; we must take into consideration the many families and staff that may live at higher elevations and travel remains risky for them long after roads in town look suitable or have been cleared. We will use several resources to make our decision and ultimately following Buncombe County Schools Owen district decision.

You will be notified of school closings via Montreat Morning School Facebook Page and Brightwheel notification.

Please be aware that a NOTIFICATION of a DELAY may actually turn into a CLOSING. Please double check your sources before venturing out for a school day.

If we have a weather situation where we need to close school early, while our day is in operation; you will be informed via the same methods as above and/or personal calls from your child’s teacher, MMS Staff, or CCCM office personnel. You will be given a scheduled “closing time” and late pick up fees will apply. It is our goal to provide the safest environment possible for our children as well as our staff. We ask for your consideration and promptness.

We do not refund monthly-tuition based on snow days or school delays.

FEBRUARY 2024

John 13:34 Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Notes 	Shape of the Month: Heart Color of the Month: Pink 		Week 20: Groundhog/ Hibernation Letter: S,s Number: 19	1 Weekly Bible Theme: "Jesus walks on water: Mark 4, Matthew 8, & Luke 8"	2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> 	3
4 Week 21: Passport to Asia Letter: T,t Number: 20's	5 Weekly Bible Theme: "Jesus feeds 5,000: Matthew 14, Mark 6, & Luke 9"	6	7	8	9	10 <i>Chinese New Year</i> 
11 Week 22: Valentines Letter: U,u Number: 30's	12 Weekly Bible Theme: "The parable of the hidden treasure: Matthew 13"	13	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 	15	16	17
18 Week 23: President's Week Letter: V,v Number: 40's	19 <i>President's Day</i>  Weekly Bible Theme: "Jesus and the Children: Matthew 18, 19, Mark 10, & Luke 8"	20	21	22	23	24
25 Week 24: Dr. Seuss Letter: W,w Number: 50's	26 <i>P/T Conferences</i> Weekly Bible Theme: "Zacchaeus: Luke 19"	27 <i>P/T Conferences</i>	28 <i>P/T Conferences</i>	29 <i>P/T Conferences</i>	<i>P/T Conferences</i> NO SCHOOL  <i>Teacher Work Day</i>	

Snacks & Birthday's

During the first week of school, your student's teacher will ask you to sign up for up to 4 weeks out of the school year to provide snacks for your child's class. The week before your selected week, you will be receiving a Brightwheel message or hard copy list of the suggested snack items for the particular class. Please talk with your child's teacher concerning WHEN they need you to deliver the items. The TK and 1 Year Old Classroom will handle snacks differently than the rest of the classrooms and will be addressed in a separate letter.

Birthdays are an exciting time for EVERYONE! If you would like to send in a special treat to school on your child's birthday, please do! It will be helpful for your child's teacher to know in advance what you would like to do so that they can be accommodating with their teaching schedule. The teacher will also need to provide you with any food limitations or restrictions in the classroom. We want everyone to be able to participate on these extra special occasions. Please consider mini cupcakes and snack sized options rather than full sized desserts.

Summertime birthdays will not be overlooked! We will gladly hold a special day closer to the end of school to celebrate your child. These parties will need to be scheduled by classroom, so be sure to check with your child's teacher prior to April.

This year we ARE NOT ALLOWING ANY PERSONAL ITEMS FROM HOME to be brought to the school. This will help reduce the spread of germs and help to keep everyone healthy. Do not allow your child to bring ANY items from home in their MMS tote bag.



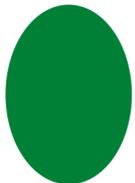
Communication

Montreat Morning School utilizes Brightwheel for communication. Your child's teacher and office staff will provide you with reminders, newsletters, events, and school closures via the Brightwheel app. This is our main method of communication; please make sure you are signed up and connected to your child. If there is a private matter that you need to discuss, please email the office or your child's teacher directly.



MARCH 2024

John 8:12 "When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Notes 	Shape of the Month: Oval Color of the Month: Green 		Week 24: Dr. Seuss Letter: W,w Number: 50's	Weekly Bible Theme: "The story of Zacchaeus: Luke 19"	1 NO SCHOOL  <i>Teacher Work Day</i>	2  <i>Dr. Seuss Birthday</i>
3 Week 25: Out of this World Letter: X,x Number: 60's	4 Weekly Bible Theme: "The Prodigal son: Luke 15"	5	6	7	8	9
10 Week 26: St. Patrick's Day/ Passport to Europe Letter: Y,y Number: 70's	11 Weekly Bible Theme: "Jesus is anointed: Mark 14, Luke 7, & John 12"	12	13	14	15	16
17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Week 27: It's Spring! Let it Grow! Letter: Z,z Number: 80's	18 Weekly Bible Theme: "Palm Sunday: John 12"	19 <i>First Day of Spring</i> 	20	21	22	23
24 Week 28: Easter Letter: Review Number: 90's	25 Weekly Bible Theme: "Easter: Matthew 27-28 John 19-20"	26	27	28	29 <i>Good Friday</i>	30
31 EASTER <i>He is Risen</i> 						

Allergies

MMS takes great pride in protecting your child from adverse effects of allergens. With great amount of prayer and consultation we have purposed to be able to accommodate the following allergies:



Gluten/Wheat

Dairy

Egg

Peanuts

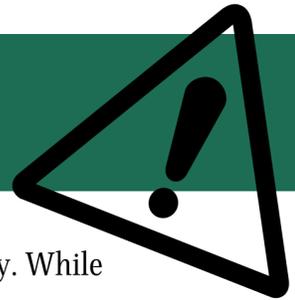


Please note: As of 2010 we have been a PEANUT-FREE School. This means peanuts, peanut products, and any/all foods containing PEANUTS (or PEANUT PRODUCTS). This does not require you to search out food labeled as, “not produced on machinery processing peanuts” or the like.

We are SERIOUS about protecting ALL of the students in our care. When you sign up for your weeks of snack provision, your child’s teacher will give you a suggested snack list that reflects foods that are safe for the individuals in that particular classroom. If for some reason you purchase items that are not consumable in your child’s class by mistake, we will return the unopened items to you. We will then ask that you supplement the class with items included on the teachers list.

The PEANUT-FREE School Zone is ALSO to include any snack items, party items, off-campus events and receptions that MMS families participate in as a school function. *If your child has an allergy, we will provide you with an “ACTION PLAN” form that will need to be completed by your child’s doctor. Food aversions will be accommodated on a case-by-case basis.*

Parking Lot/ Carline & Elevator Safety



Safety in our parking lot is a major concern. Parents are responsible for their children as they are being brought to/from school and anytime a parent is with their child during the school day. While outside in the parking lot, the adult should hold the child by the hand so that the child cannot run out in front of or between cars.

Parking Lot & Carline Safety Tips

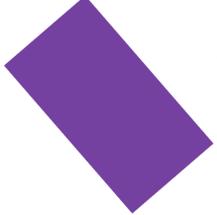
- Do not leave a child alone in a vehicle, not even because it’s raining.
- Keep vehicles locked at all times.
- **Teach children never to play, run or hide around a vehicle.**
- Keep keys out of the child’s reach.
- If you see a small child alone in a car, find the parent or contact any of the MMS Staff or Director.
- Never leave your car running unattended while in the parking lot...even in the winter months.
- DO NOT park in front of the HENRY BUILDING STEPS. (This is a fire lane and is a hazard to any and all people inside of the building or those that may be trying to access the stairs.)
- When in afternoon carline, do not park and leave your car.
- Do not walk up to the carline pick/up breezeway. Remain in your car. When it’s your turn to load your child/ we ask that you wait until then to get out to buckle your child in their car seat.
- We cannot release your child to you in carline if you do not have a car seat/booster.

Elevator Safety Tips

- Please do not allow your child to ride the elevator or run up the steps in a “race you” style.
- Do not send your child ahead of you or behind you- unattended on the steps or elevator.

APRIL 2024

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Spring Break</i>	2 <i>Spring Break</i>	3 <i>Spring Break</i>	4 <i>Spring Break</i>	5 <i>Spring Break</i>	6 <i>Spring Break</i>
7 Week 29: Fairytale/ Once Upon a Time Letter: Review Number: 100's	8 Weekly Bible Theme: "The story of Jesus' ascension: Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, & John 14	9	10	11	12 <i>Fairytale Day</i> 	13
14 Week 30: Zoo/ Safari/ Africa Letter: Review Number: Review	15 Weekly Bible Theme: "The story of Pentecost: Acts 1-5 and John 15"	16	17	18	19	20
21 Week 31: Earth Day/ Taking Care of God's Earth Letter: Review Number: Review	22 <i>Earth Day</i>  Weekly Bible Theme: "The story of Paul: Acts 12	23	24	25	26	27
28 Week 32: Rainforest/ South America Letter: Review Number: Review	29 Weekly Bible Theme: "The story of John: Revelation 1-22"	30		Notes 		

Shape of the Month: Rectangle
Color of the Month: Purple

MMS School Supply List 2023-2024

One Year Old's

- Diapers
 - Wipes (8 packs)
 - Clorox Wipes
 - Bubbles
 - Kleenex
 - Red Folder (plastic no prongs)
 - Hand Sanitizer (Germ-X or Purell)
 - Water Color Paint
 - 1 ream of copy paper
- Boys:
- Magic Erasers, White Card Stock
- Girls:
- Gallon Ziploc Bags, Color Card Stock

Two Year Old's

- Diapers
 - Wipes (2 smalls or 1 large)
 - Yellow Folder (plastic, no prongs)
 - White Paper Plates
 - 1 pack of 4 glue sticks
 - 1 ream of copy paper
 - 1 pack of jumbo crayons
 - 1 box of Kleenex
- Girls:
- Clorox Wipes (1 container)
 - Hot Glue Sticks (small)
- Boys:
- 1 box of sandwich sized Ziploc bags
 - 1 box of gallon sized Ziploc bags

Three Year Old's

- 2 boxes of Tissues
 - 4 packs of Flushable Wipes
 - Green Folder (plastic, no prongs)
 - 1 Pack of large Paper Plates
 - 1 ream of copy paper
 - 1 pack of colored cardstock
 - 1 box of gallon sized Ziploc bags
 - 1 pack of Watercolors
 - Clorox Wipes
- Girls:
- Painters Tape, Foam Shape Stickers, Dry Erase Markers, Big Pom Poms(for crafts)
- Boys:
- Magic Erasers, Packing Tape, Sharpies, Small Pom Poms(for crafts)

Wish Lists:

Our classrooms will have a few items posted at the beginning of the school that are considered a "wish item" to be used in their classroom. You are under no obligation to purchase these items, however; if you would like to bless your child's classroom with a few extra items for a specific holiday, event or theme unit - please fee free, and we thank you in advance. Your child's teacher(s) can help you out if you have any question concerning their wish list.



Each school year, you will need to relink your Ingles Advantage Card to the school or charity of your choice. Why not link it for the next few years to the Montreat Morning School? We'd love for you to! Last year, we were able to use these points to freely select over \$1,500 in wonderful items like classroom art supplies and education supplements.

Contact mms@cccmontreat.org with your Ingles Card #

School-Wide Recycled Loose Parts

Donate any of these items that you have around your home. These items are not required.

- measuring cups/spoons
- napkin rings
- silicone muffin liners
- sponges
- empty spice containers
- glass baby food jars
- funnels
- kitchen scales
- big buttons
- fabric scraps
- lids
- big beads
- big nuts and bolts
- golf tees
- fake flowers/plants
- baby clothes for dolls
- doll accessories
- tea sets
- plastic tubes
- cardboard egg cartons
- bottle caps
- old phones, cameras, calculators
- paint chips

Pre K Red Pandas:

- (1) 8 count Crayola Crayons
 - (1) 10 pack Washable Markers
 - 1 Blue Folder (plastic, no prongs)
 - (1) 6 pack Elmer Glue Sticks (purple)
 - 1 ream of copy paper
 - 1 pack of white cardstock
 - (1) 4 ct fine tip black dry erase markers
- Boys:
- 1 roll of packing tape
 - 1 small pack of thin non coated paper plates
 - 1 box of gallon sized slider storage bags

Girls:

Choose 2 of the following:

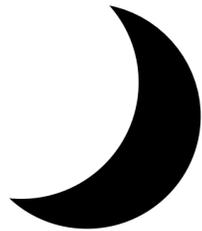
- 1 box of tissue
- 1 pack of Mr. Clean Magic Erasers
- 1 pack of disinfecting wipes

TK:

- 2 - 12 packs of fat markers
 - 2 packs of Kleenex
 - 1 box of gallon sized Ziploc bags
 - 1 box of quart sized Ziploc bags
 - 1 box of snack sized Ziploc bags
 - 1 orange folder (plastic, no prongs)
 - 2 packs of Clorox Wipes
 - 1 pack of baby wipes
 - 1 ream of copy paper
 - Play-doh (4 packs or more)
 - 2 packs of treasure box toys
 - 2 packs of glue sticks (6 count)
 - Large and Small paper plates(flimsy kind)
 - Hand Sanitizer Bottle or refillable jug
 - 1 inch binder (any color)
 - 1/2 inch binder (any color)
 - 1 pack of Post Its (medium to large size with lines)
 - 1 pack of Index Cards
- Please choose 2:
- colored cardstock, packing tape, skinny or wide popsicle sticks, scotch tape, pipe cleaners, duct tape, sharpies, tissue paper, glitter, ribbon, sticker eyes

MAY 2024

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
Notes  Shape of the Month: Crescent Color of the Month: Black 			1 Week 32: Rainforest/ South America Letter: Review Number: Review	2 Weekly Bible Theme: "The story of John: Revelation 1-22"	3	4
5 Week 33: Under the Sea Letter: Review Number: Review	6 <i>Teacher Appreciation Week</i> Weekly Bible Theme: Review	7 <i>Teacher Appreciation Week</i>	8 <i>Teacher Appreciation Week</i>	9 <i>Teacher Appreciation Week</i>	10 <i>Teacher Appreciation Week</i>	11
12 <i>Mother's Day</i>  Week 34: It's Hot!/ Australia Letter: Review Number: Review	13 Weekly Bible Theme: Review	14	15	16	17 <i>Fun Day!</i>	18
19 Week 35: Summertime Fun Letter: Review Number: Review	20 Weekly Bible Theme: "Review"	21	22	23	24 <i>Last Day of School Graduation</i>	25
26	27 	28 <i>Teacher Work Day</i>	29 <i>Teacher Work Day</i>	30 <i>Teacher Work Day</i>	31 <i>Teacher Work Day</i>	

JUNE 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 <i>Father's Day</i> 	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



WWW.MONTREATMORNINGSCHOOL.COM

Montreat Morning School

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