



# Elementary Newsletter

August 19, 2011

## Welcome!

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year! We are excited to begin, and know that this will be a wonderful year.

## Staffing

The following is the Elementary staff list for the 2011-2012 school year:

### Elementary I, San Jose

*Directresses:*

Jeanette Montoto & Karina Rivera

*Aides:*

Selena Sanchez & Chelsea Cunningham

### Elementary II, San Jose

Laura Weiss-Lampert & Ryan Francis

### Daycare, San Jose:

Carly Lerma

### Elementary I, Santa Clara

*Directress:* Lola Ross

*Aide/ Daycare:* Kai Shuart

### Enrichment:

*Art:* Lydia Rosso

*Music:* Juliette McDonald

*Spanish:* Marcela Haro

*PE:* Leanne Emery

### Heads of School

Jeanette Montoto continues as the Head of the Elementary Program, and Rebecca Keith as the Head of the Primary Program. They are both also members of the Board.

## Office Staff

San Jose Office Manager: Julia Arndt

Santa Clara Office Manager: Pascale Marion

San Jose Receptionist: Jill Musick

Bookkeeper: Liz Jamero

## Orientation Notes

### Planners

Each student in Elementary will receive a planner in which the teachers will record the given weekly assignments. Starting on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, all students will be bringing their planners home for their parents to review the work they have completed. Parents are requested to sign the planners so the teachers will know the planners have been reviewed.

Please ask to see your student's planner each Monday and have him/her bring it back to school each Tuesday morning.

### Homework



**For Elementary I first year students**, homework is spelling and will be assigned weekly. **For second year students**,

spelling and math will be assigned weekly.

**For third year students**, spelling, math and creative writing will be assigned weekly.

Third year students will also be assigned four book report projects.

**In Elementary II**, homework is assigned for the week during the Monday planning sessions, and recorded in the planner. Homework will be highlighted in pink. It is

the responsibility of the students to budget their time in order to complete their homework. Please review your student's homework assignments, and help him/her to make sure it gets done on time. Occasionally there are special assignments (such as reports) that are due on other days, in which case a note will be sent home, and a notation made in the planner.

### Spelling

Spelling tests will be given weekly on Friday mornings beginning September 23<sup>th</sup> (Elementary II) and September 23<sup>th</sup> (Elementary I).

First year students will be asked to write each word five times.

Second year students will write ten sentences using one of their spelling words in each sentence.

Third year students will write the meanings of each word and write sentences using each word on their list.

Fourth through sixth year students will write the definitions of each word, and sentences which use each word appropriately in context.

Spelling homework that is given on Monday or the previous Friday will be due Wednesday of each week.

### Classroom Schedule

8:00 – 8:30	Morning Daycare
8:30 – 9:00	A.M. Recess
9:00 – 12:00	Work Period
12:00 – 12:30	Lunch Break
12:30 – 1:00	Afternoon Recess
1:00 – 3:00	Work Period
3:00 – 6:00	P.M. Daycare

#### Art & Music

San Jose students will have art with Lydia Rosso and music with Juliette McDonald every Friday.

Santa Clara students will have art with Lydia

on Thursday afternoons and music with Juliette on Wednesday afternoons.

#### Physical Education

Starting in October, Little Movers will offer an optional physical education program once a week. Tuition is \$50 per month. If you are interested, please see the office for an enrollment form.

#### Spanish

San Jose campus students will have Spanish with Marcela Haro on Mondays and Wednesdays; Santa Clara students will have Spanish on Thursday afternoons.

### Birthdays

Your student may bring a special treat for the class to share in honor of his/her birthday. Please keep in mind that some of our students have allergies or special diets so check with the teachers about the treat choice.

San Jose campus, we ask that you refrain from bringing treats on Mondays and Fridays, as the students are broken into groups and not together for most of the day.

Santa Clara campus, please discuss with the teacher ahead of time so as not to conflict with other events that may be going on.

### Sharing

Your student may bring something from home to share when s/he is Teacher of the Week. Unfortunately, we do not have enough time in the school day for everyone to share at once. Your student's planner will note when s/he is Teacher of the Week.

### Monday Snacks

There will be a sign-up sheet next to the sign-in/out table for parents to sign up to bring snacks on Mondays. If your first year student is hungry in the morning, you may send a snack in his/her lunchbox to eat Tuesdays – Fridays.

### Field Trips

Elementary I and II will be going on several field trips this year, and we will be needing

parents to volunteer to drive the students on some of them. If your student still rides in a booster seat, please don't forget to drop off his/her seat on the day of the field trip.

### Attire

There are to be no Heelys or any shoes with wheels in them. These shoes are dangerous and inappropriate for school attire. Children should wear shoes that fit them and are suitable for running outside.

### Lunch

We ask that you send a healthy lunch with your child every day. As we would like our students to learn about nutrition and making healthy food choices, we ask that your children prepare or assist in preparing their lunches.

In an effort to be more environmentally conscious, we are asking parents to send napkins (preferably cloth) and re-usable flatware in the lunches, and to send food in re-usable containers that the children can eat out of.

We have only one small microwave and mini-fridge for the elementary, so if hot or cold food could be sent in thermoses, that would help us out tremendously.

#### Hot Lunch at the SJ campus

We have selected a local caterer, Simpleicious, to provide the hot lunches starting September 2011. Wholesome meals will continue to be \$3.50 per day.

Should you wish to order lunches for September, please return your order form and payment to the school by Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. **Forms must be completed in full, including room # (Elementary 1 or 2).**

Simpleicious will be hosting a tasting for all interested parents at the San Jose campus immediately before the Primary orientation meeting on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:45 am – 12:30 pm. Please stop by and sample the delicious meals they will be providing your children.

#### Pizza at the Santa Clara site

Pizza will be ordered every Friday. If your child would like to order pizza, s/he will need to bring **\$2.00 per slice**. Have your child pay his/her teacher directly. Money for pizza will be collected at 9:30 am on Friday mornings. If your child arrives to school after that time, pizza cannot be purchased for him/her.

As part of One World's commitment to sustainability and waste reduction, we encourage parents and students to pack lunches that are as close to waste-free as possible. Here are some suggestions for reducing the amount of waste in students' lunches:

Pack lunches in a reusable lunch box or bag rather than a paper or plastic bag.

Plastic and glass food containers for both heat-ups and cold items cut down on the need for disposable plastic bags, which are difficult to recycle and therefore wind up in our landfills. Another alternative to Ziploc bags for smaller items are reusable fabric sandwich and snack bags, which can be purchased or even made if you're handy with a sewing machine.

For more information about packing a waste-free lunch, please visit <http://wastefreelunches.org/>, or contact Lisa at the San Jose Campus.

### Bathrooms in San Jose

During the school day, the students use the bathrooms across the courtyard. During after school daycare, students will use the indoor bathroom downstairs.

After 3:00 pm, the outdoor bathrooms are to be used by members of the church only.

### Morning Arrival

Although the work period begins at 9:00 am, we ask that you bring your student to school at 8:30 am so that s/he can have a morning recess. Students are more productive and focused when they have an opportunity to play outside prior to starting their work.

# International Day of Peace



On **Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**, we will celebrate International Day of Peace with the Primary children,

honoring Sadako Sasaki, the young Japanese girl who became a symbol of peace. Each campus will join the chain of Montessori children all around the world who will be singing “Light a Candle for Peace.” We will be singing the peace song from 11:00 am – 11:05 am.

For more details, check the following links: <http://singpeacearoundtheworld.blogspot.com> and <http://www.peaceday.org/en/welcome>

## Picture Days

Tuesday, September 27<sup>nd</sup>: San Jose Elementary and Infant Community pictures  
Wednesday, September 28<sup>rd</sup>: Primary 3 and Primary 4 pictures  
Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>: Santa Clara Elementary, Primary 1 and Primary 2 pictures

## Drop-Off and Pick-Up



For the Santa Clara site, we are using a manual sign-in/out system. The sign-in/out sheets are located just inside the classroom entry door, at the rear of the elementary building.

For the San Jose site, we are using an electronic sign-in and sign-out system, utilizing a keypad. Each student is responsible for using his/her PIN to sign in and out each day. Students are expected to keep their PIN confidential. If a student shares his/her PIN with anyone, his/her keypad privilege will be revoked and the parent will need to sign-in and out each day.

A manual check-in list next to the keypad is still required in case of a system failure.

Sign-in and sign-out differs from the primary: students in the elementary are allowed and encouraged to sign themselves in and out. This procedure is for security and billing reasons, so please remind your child to follow through.

If your student is new to the San Jose elementary program and did not attend summer school, you will be responsible for training your child on how to use the electronic system.

Santa Clara pick-up: School Day students may be picked up just outside the classroom door at the rear of the building; daycare students may be picked up from inside the classroom.

We would like to remind you that extended care can be available on an emergency basis. This allows children enrolled in the School Day program to occasionally stay late if there is space available. Ask Jeanette Montoto at the San Jose site and Lola Ross at the Santa Clara site at least one day ahead. A \$15.00 per hour fee will be charged on your regular statement.

If you are going to be late picking up your school day child, please call and let us know so that we can bring him/her into the daycare program until you arrive.



## San Jose Parking Lot Safety

It has been brought to our attention that parents are forgetting to SLOW DOWN as they enter and drive through the parking lot. We understand that you are often in a hurry, but we all need to be extra careful around our precious children.

Please remember that the parking lot is **NOT** a playground and that your children need to be under your close supervision at all time. The parking lot is not a place for the adults to socialize and the children to play freely.

Also, our students play in the part of the parking lot that is fenced in with the orange flexible fencing. Please use caution when parking or driving near this fencing.

Thank you in advance for your attention and cooperation.

## Absences

Any time your child is absent from or tardy to school, a written note is required from the parent or guardian indicating the reason for the absence.

## Information Update



It is of the utmost importance that you let us know IMMEDIATELY when you have a change of phone number, (including pagers, cell phones and work phones)

or address. It is frustrating when we try to contact a parent and our information is outdated. You would not want this to happen in an emergency. If we cannot reach you at your number, we will be forced to try to contact other people on your list.

## Fundraisers and Community Efforts



In September we have our first philanthropic effort, Pennies for Peace, in conjunction with the International Day of Peace.

Over the holiday season we will assist families and communities in need both locally, through a food drive for Second Harvest Food Bank, and globally, by donating to Heifer International.



Participation in each of these events is entirely voluntary. More details on these efforts will be shared with you by email and

in the newsletter as they approach. Please feel free to contact Lisa at the San Jose campus with any questions.

## “A Taste of California 2012”



We are finalizing the date for our Annual Wine and Cheese Tasting and Auction fundraiser. We are planning on holding it in the spring of 2012 and will let you know as soon as the date is finalized.



**E-Script:** We would like to remind you that all families are required to register for the e-scrip program.



This is an easy way to donate a portion of your regular expenses to the school without cost to you.

Please register directly by going on their website at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). The school account is 0137612721.

You can register any of your credit, payment or grocery cards with eScrip. Any time you use one of those cards at participating merchants, they will donate a percentage of your purchases to the school. The e-scrip program protects the confidentiality of your credit card numbers, so you don't have to worry. This is an easy, safe way to donate, without spending any more than you already do! Merchants include Safeway, Whole Foods, Round Table Pizza, American Airlines, Chili's and many more. See the office for any additional information.

We would like to remind you that you must renew your Safeway registration every year between September 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>. Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and click on “Yes! Click Here to Renew” in the lower left-hand corner of the screen. You will be asked for your Safeway card number or registered phone number.

**Box Tops:** Clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of participating



General Mills products with the original Box Tops program. Box Tops are worth 10 cents each.

**Amazon:** The school will receive 5% of any purchase made through our website link and 15% of the purchase of some Montessori books listed on the website link.



It's EASY! When ordering anything from Amazon.com, go to [www.oneworldmontessori.org](http://www.oneworldmontessori.org) and click on "fundraising," then click on "ways you can help," then click on the Amazon link.

**Ink Cartridges & Cell Phones:** We will be happy to accept your used cell phones and ink cartridges for recycling. Talk to the office for more details.



## Parent Class List

By October, a class list will be made available to all parents, which includes the names, addresses, home and work phone numbers and e-mail for all enrolled children and their families. Let us know if there is anything you do not want to have included. We will release no information by phone without your permission. It will be a lot easier for the office staff if we can systematically share the information through this class list. Thank you in advance.

## Wishes



**Coupons:** We frequently purchase classroom supplies at Michael's for the classroom and would like to take advantage of their weekly 40% discount coupon. If you receive the Sunday San Jose Mercury News and do not use the coupons, we can make good use of them. Each coupon is only valid for one item and for one week only.... so we need a lot of them.

**Remember your child's classroom when you are traveling**

We are always looking for new artifacts for our cultural shelves. Please check with your child's teacher when you are traveling overseas to see if we need something from the country you will be visiting.

## Wish List

In December, we will distribute our class wish lists. We greatly appreciate what you do for our classrooms, the school as a whole, and your continued generosity.

## Parent Folders

Each student has a hanging folder in the elementary sign-in/out area. Please be sure to check this folder daily, as this is where we place important written notices and permission slips.

## Newsletter

Monthly newsletters will be distributed by the last school day of every month. In support of our green initiative, we will e-mail future newsletters to parents. If you still would prefer to receive a paper copy, please contact the office.

The newsletter is also available on our website at [www.oneworldmontessori.org](http://www.oneworldmontessori.org).

## Elementary Events Calendar

Soon after school starts, we will send a tentative events calendar for the school year. There may be additional events planned and some events may be rescheduled. Please see your monthly newsletter for the final schedule.

## Looking Ahead to October

### Gandhi's Birthday

Gandhi's birthday will be honored on **Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**. There will be no school and no daycare.

## **United Nations Day**

On **Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>** the students will celebrate United Nations Day at the Foxworthy campus. This is also a minimum day. School will end at 12:00 p.m. There will be no daycare.

## **Upcoming Field Trip**

On **Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**, the Elementary 1 students will travel on buses to visit Casa de Fruta's Pumpkin Junction.

## **Halloween**

The students will celebrate Halloween at the Foxworthy campus on **Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**.