

Dear Families,

Welcome to or back to Upper Elementary at Park Road Montessori. My name is Cecelia McGloughlin and our assistant's name is Barbara Dyer. Our classroom is in the C building which I like to call the "condo on the hill." This is the first "condo" that you approach when you exit the B building. Our classroom is the last room on the left.

We hope that you are having a very fun summer. We expect all of you to be reading everyday. So far this summer we have been very busy. We will tell you all about our many adventures when school resumes in August. We are not planning a long vacation anywhere so the many adventures will have to occur close by. See how many adventures you can have before school starts. A good place to start would be Latta Plantation, the Raptor Center, art museums, Brattonsville, Cowpens, Crowders Mountain, the list goes on and on. We have so many choices in our area; please take advantage of these places.

Supplies: The following is a shopping list for supplies. Most of the items will be shared by the community, but the notebooks may be labeled with your child's name.

- 5 sewn composition books (Language, Cultural, Math, and Geometry – hold two for mid-year)
- 60 WOODEN pencils (Black Warrior or Ticonderoga- please)-sharpened please
- 2 pencil sharpeners – that hold the shavings
- 2 family size box of tissues the second box will be shared with the special area teachers as all the students will be with these teachers as well.
- 2 rolls of paper towels
- 1 scissors – left handed if your child is left handed
- 1 zipper pouch (optional) – if your child prefers to keep up with their own pencils or if they have severe allergies and need to keep their own
- Baby wipes – non-aloe as we have aloe allergies in the classroom!
- 12 or 24 colored pencils

The rest of the supplies are broken down by grade level, so we have room for storage.

4 th graders	5 th graders	6 th graders
1 ½ inch binder for art (Ms. Tricia)	Eraser caps and/or pink erasers	Hand soap refill
1 set permanent markers	1 set permanent markers	1 set washable markers
1 pair of gardening gloves	1 set washable markers	1 box gloves – found in drug store

The markers can be your child's choice of color and thickness. Please let your child know that ALL SUPPLIES except the notebooks will be collected on the first day of school and placed in the community closet. If your child needs to have their own markers, please purchase them a separate set.

The above list will give us a great start to the school year. We may send a request during the winter for more supplies as needed. Thank you for your generosity.

Please do not send a book bag to school. We have many children in the class this year and cannot store book bags. A canvas bag or small nylon bag is appropriate.

Snack: This year, snack will be done individually. If your child needs a morning or afternoon snack they may bring one to consume in the classroom. We will no longer have group snack.

Over-night field trip: We are planning our over night trip November 5 - 7. The trip cost will be determined after our bulb fundraiser in September. Based on previous trips the total cost of the trip will be between \$175 – 200 per student.

First Project of the Year: The first project of the year will be student choice either a science demonstration or book talk. You will present your project to the class on Aug. 27-29(grades 5 and 6) and Sept 4 – 5(grade 4). A book talk consists of standing in front of the class with a visual aid (this can even be the book you read) and tell the class about the book. A science demonstration would include you bringing in the supplies or the results of your experiment and explain what you did to the class. This project can be as simple or as complex as you would like. Directions follow on the next page.

Have a great rest of the summer and we will see you in August!!

Ms. Cecelia and Ms. Barbara

Science Experiment/Demonstration

1. Choose a science experiment to conduct or a demonstration to share. Where can you find an experiment or demonstration?
 - Public library
 - Discovery Education website
 - Search elementary or middle school science experiments on the internet
2. Read your experiment so you understand what you are suppose to do and what the experience is teaching. Choose something that interests you!
3. Gather all of your supplies and get your parents approval before you start.
4. Be safe at all times!!! Use gloves, wear eye protection, etc.
5. Collect data.
6. Write up your experience.

Title:

Hypothesis – What am I trying to learn?

Materials:

Procedures – number each procedure and write each in a complete sentence

Outcome – What happened? Did you get the outcome you were expecting? Why or why not?

Illustration: Yes, draw a picture of what happened. You will remember more if you draw about it.

7. Have fun.

Book Talk

1. Choose an appropriate book on your level.
2. Read the book!!
3. Write a summary or introduction to your book.
4. Practice telling your family about the book you read.

You can choose to be creative – create a poster, diorama, video, or other visual aid to help you remember your book. Make it fun!