

## Community 24

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Class Webpage: <http://mscynthiaprimary.wordpress.com>

Hello! I hope you've all had a wonderful summer! Ms. Teresa and I welcome you, and we're both looking forward to greeting you and the children at Open House. Following is some preliminary information that you may find helpful as you plan for the beginning of the school year.

**Supplies:** Preparing for the return to school can be a daunting task! Last year, I purchased the classroom supplies needed by the children and this plan was very successful. Not only was there cost savings because I can buy in bulk, it simplified the search for many families as there are sometimes challenges in finding the exact materials required for use in the Montessori classroom. Therefore, I'm planning to do so again. I will provide the necessary items each child will need throughout the year, including writing and colored pencils, glue, crochet/knitting items, composition books, wipes, binders, scissors, clipboards and community items such as wipes, Kleenex, hand soap, yarn, etc. Please bring a check made out to me, Cynthia Stone, to Open House or send with your child on the first day of school. Because the new students will need some items that returning students currently have, **the amount for new students is \$30.00; the amount for returning students is \$25.00.**

**Personal Items:** Each child should bring a cup or drinking glass labeled with permanent marker. New students should also bring a pair of ear buds for computer use. I strongly suggest labeling all personal items, (coats, sweaters, etc), as many times, these types of items end up in the school Lost and Found. Books brought from home should also be labeled.

*Please, please, please do not allow your child to bring mechanical pencils, pens, stuffed animals, toys, Poke Man cards, and the like to school. Pens are not appropriate for classroom work, and mechanical pencils cause disruptions and confusion among the students as they cannot differentiate ownership.*

We will begin the year with a couple of special projects and I'm asking that each child bring a shoe box (labeled) and a magazine with pictures appropriate for use by the children for collage making. We will need these items on the first day of school; feel free to bring them to Open House if this is easier.

**Snacks:** Please sign up for your snack week through the use of the Word Press link to Sign-Up Genie. Many families found it a simplified process by sending a week of snacks with their children on Mondays; the child is then responsible for setting up the daily snack each morning. Preferred snack items are fruits and vegetables, applesauce, and yogurts. Items to **avoid** include sugary snacks (cookies!), and crackers (goldfish, cheez-its, etc). Inappropriate items will be returned home with your children or shared with the staff. Be aware as you shop for weekly snack items that we have limited refrigerator space and many children have peanut, gluten and other food intolerance issues. Also, your child is expected to independently manage the snack process, careful planning is needed to ensure they can manage any needed preparation. As a community, we will develop a suggested snack list and post it on the class Word Press page during the first week of school.

**Birthdays:** We will have a celebration during the first couple of weeks of school to celebrate summer birthdays for our returning students. Please remember if you select to provide a special treat that CMS requires that any and all foods provided by families must be commercially prepared and labeled. You may also choose to have Ms. Linda, (our cafeteria manager, can make cookie treats for a nominal fee that will meet the CMS guidelines).

**Upcoming Events:** I am hosting a parent night very soon. The date will be determined and sent to you via email as soon as possible. Attendance at the meeting will be important as we will review homework and student expectations. In the meantime, please email me with any questions you may have!

Again, welcome to Community 24! Looking forward to seeing you all very soon!