

# MCHL NEWS

Montessori Children's House of Loudoun

August/September 2019



## WELCOME TO MCHL

As we approach the beginning of a new school year, please take some time to read our "Back to School" edition of the MCHL News.

Children who are new to MCHL are invited to a "New Student Orientation". Your teacher will contact you with more information.

On Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 8:30 – 9:30, parents of new children are invited to coffee/tea/donuts in the lunchroom where the MCHL PTA will be available for moral support. They call this "Hugs and Tears". It is an opportunity to meet some of the parents and give your child a chance to settle into his/her classroom.

*"The child can only develop by means of experience in his environment. We call such experience work."*  
-Dr. Maria Montessori



## FIRST DAY REMINDERS

Each child is required to have a set of clothes that stay in school. Please send in a shirt, shorts, socks, and underwear labeled with your child's name on each item and placed in a zip-lock bag that will stay in his/her cubby.

All students should also have a standard backpack. Also, please do not purchase backpacks with handles or wheels.

## NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

MCHL is extending an invitation to all of our new students to attend our New Student Orientation. This is the time to meet your teachers, see the classroom, and find your cubby! Your teacher will be contacting you with more information.

Room 2	August 22	12:00
Room 3		11:00
Room 4		11:00
Room 7		12:00
Room 8		10:00
Room 9		10:00
Room 10		9:30
Room 11		10:00

## UPCOMING EVENTS

August 22 – NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

August 23 – MCHL OPEN – ALL CLASSROOMS AND HUGS and TEARS / MCHL PTA / 8:30 – 9:30

September 2 - LABOR DAY HOLIDAY  
MCHL Closed

September 5 – FREE DANCE DEMO CLASS-3:00  
(Afterschool Program)

Sept. 9– FREE SOCCER DEMO-2:30  
(Afterschool Program)

Sept. 10 – FREE PIANO DEMO CLASS-3:00  
(Afterschool Program)

September 12 – FIRE SAFETY DAY / 9:00 & 9:45

September 19 – Back-to-School Night  
(T-5:00) (EC –6:00) (K –7:00)

## OFFICE NEWS

- ⌘ MCHL will send all important reminders, updates and newsletters via email. If you have not done so already, please stop by the MCHL office with a preferred email address.
- ⌘ ***If your child has a food allergy, please inform the office and your child's teacher.*** MCHL has specific guidelines for storing and dispensing medication.
- ⌘ Tuition is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. A late fee of \$25 will be imposed on all checks received after the 10<sup>th</sup>. If you need a tuition receipt, please contact the office. All families should be paying tuition through Tuition Express.

## CAR LINE SERVICE NEWS

### Upper Level Only



The "Carline Service" starts each morning on the **UPPER LEVEL ONLY** at 8:30 and ends promptly at 8:50. **All children must enter/exit on the passenger side to avoid passing between vehicles.**

**If you arrive after 9:00 you must "sign in" at the Procure Attendance Tracker computer and walk your child to his/her classroom.** If you have not used the Procure Attendance Tracker computer, stop by the office for a temporary passcode.

Please remember to never leave any unattended children in your car and also turn off the ignition.

"Carline Service" also runs from 11:40 to 12:00 and 2:40 to 3:00. You will be provided with a "name card" which you hold up for the staff to see. The staff will put your child safely in your car. Once your child is in the car, please **move forward or to a parking space to fasten their seatbelts – do not block or park in our handicapped spaces unless your vehicle displays a valid handicapped parking permit.** Please DO NOT get out of your car until you have safely pulled out of the carline. This will cut down on the wait time and help our service run more efficiently.

If you arrive after 12:00 or 3:00, you will have to come into the school to **sign out** on the Procure Attendance Tracker computer and pick up your child. If you need a name card for pick-up, please contact the office.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY PROCEDURES

### RELATED TO ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

1. **The traffic flow at MCHL is one-way only, clockwise around the building.** Please remember we have two additional entrances (Toddler and Infant) on the lower level.
2. **There is NO PARKING in front of the building between 8:30 - 9:00, 11:30 - 12:00 and 2:30 - 3:00.** Our Carline Service utilizes this space at that time. Parents are asked to be considerate and park in the outer parking spaces. Please observe the safety rules in our parking lot. Parents are asked to supervise their children during arrival and dismissal at MCHL.
3. During our Carline Service children may not exit their vehicles until a staff member is present to escort them into the building.
4. Unless your contract includes Early Morning Care (7:30 – 8:30), please do not enter the MCHL building until 8:30 a.m. Virginia Department of Social Services requires appropriate staff-to-child ratios to insure every child's safety.
5. Please be **ON TIME** for dismissal. Children have difficulty waiting. Late arrivals can upset the children. It is imperative you pick up your children at their designated contract time.
6. **INFORMAL TEACHER CONFERENCING at arrival and dismissal is not permitted.** Teachers must give their complete attention to maintaining a safe environment for the children during these times.
7. Please refrain from talking on your cell phone during drop-off and pick-up. **MCHL is a no cell phone zone.**



## LUNCHROOM NEWS

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES!**



If you have signed up for this service, the lunch contract will continue until you submit a letter/email requesting the termination of your contract BEFORE the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Payment (\$75 per month) is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. The menu will be posted on our website and additional copies are available at the office.

If you have forgotten your child's lunch, the daily rate is \$4.00. Please be advised, we do not always have additional lunches for purchase.

## **LUNCH FROM HOME**



Please pack nutritious foods for your child. Also, label your child's lunch box on the outside so the staff can find it quickly, and use a thermos or ice pack to keep your child's food at an acceptable temperature. Parents are asked to send their child's lunch ready-to-eat. Do not send in food that requires heating for lunch – Hot Pockets, ravioli, frozen foods, etc. Candy is not permitted at MCHL. Also, please make sure your child has his/her lunch each day.

## EXTENDED DAY NEWS

If your child is a napper, s/he will need a crib size sheet and a small blanket. Pillows are optional once a child is two years old, but must be travel size.

All bedding will go home on Friday to be laundered and returned on Monday. As always, please label all items.

## KINDERGARTEN NEWS

—CLASS OF—  
**2020**

**Kindergarten Parents:**  
**Please make every effort to arrive on time.**  
**Class starts at 8:30.**

At MCHL, the Kindergartners spend the mornings (8:30 – 11:30) in their mixed age classrooms. After that time, the “K’s” combine into a team-taught class with only Kindergarten students. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the MCHL Office at (703) 421-1112.

All Kindergarten students must submit an updated Health Form.

*“Success in life depends in every case on self-confidence and the knowledge of one’s own capacity and many-sided powers of adaptation.”*

*-Dr. Maria Montessori*

## KINDERGARTEN SUPPLY LIST



Please send in the following items with your child:

- 2 pkgs. colored pencils (24 pack Crayola brand)
- 2 large erasers
- 1 box Crayola crayons (24 pack)
- 2 Crayola water color sets (24 colors)
- 4 boxes glue sticks - small
- 1 Fiskars blunt scissors
- 2 pkg. tracing paper (9x12)
- 1 box of #2 pencils
- 1 pkg. unlined index cards (3x5)
- 1 pencil box

These items will be put into a general supply for all to share. MCHL will re-stock items throughout the year as needed. Therefore, it is not necessary to label items.

All children must have a standard backpack to transport their work to and from school. Please do not purchase backpacks with handles or wheels.

Your child must bring his/her supplies on the first day of school. Thank you for your support.

## MCHL PTA

The MCHL PTA is a group of parents, whose collective talents provide support to MCHL through fundraising and organizing social events for MCHL. The money earned through the various fundraisers has gone towards classroom materials, field trips, books for our library, playground improvements and social events. Please join our PTA. There is a one-time \$20 fee per family. For more information, please visit their website:

<https://www.mchlpta.org/about-us>

### 2019-2020 MCHL PTA Board Members

- **President**  
Marina Klusas  
marina@mchlpta.org
- **Secretary and Social Media**  
Erika Moore  
erika@mchlpta.org
- **In-School Events Coordinator**  
Eliza Luna  
eliza@mchlpta.org
- **Spirit Nights Coordinator**  
Ali Miller  
ali@mchlpta.org
- **Treasurer & Co-Fundraising**  
Clara Satterwhite  
clara@mchlpta.org
- **Fundraising Chair:**  
Rosalyn Espinoza  
rosalyn@mchlpta.org
- **Teacher Liason:**  
Luz Gomez  
luz\_s\_gomez@hotmail.com
- **Parent Representatives for each classroom: VACANT**

If you are interested in volunteering, please do not hesitate to email any of our Board members.

The MCHL PTA has also created an MCHL Parents Facebook page where we post upcoming news and events. This page features LOTS of photos of the children.

Please click on the link below to go to the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mchlparents/>

## FIRE SAFETY DAY



On Thursday, September 12, Loudoun County firefighters will visit MCHL to speak to the children about fire prevention. The children will learn how to “stop-drop-and-roll” if their clothing is on fire and they are instructed to have a specific plan of action in case of fire in the home.

They will also watch a volunteer don a fire-fighting suit and equipment. Getting a close-up look at the fire truck will truly be the highlight of their day!

## “BACK – TO – SCHOOL NIGHT”



Our “Back-to-School Night” is scheduled for Thursday, September 19. Please join your child’s teacher for a meeting according to the schedule below.

<b>Toddler</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
<b>Early Childhood</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

*This event is for adults only.* Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to seeing you!



From time to time we come across an interesting article or website that we would like to share. This month we will feature an article about bedtime stories.

### **Bedtime Stories for Young Brains**

<http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/08/17/bedtime-stories-for-young-brains/>

# ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS OFFERED AT MCHL

Sign up for a free demo in the office!

## *Mother's Morning Out*

This unique class offers children (18 months – 3 years) their first experience in a classroom setting with activities such as story time, songs, dancing, circle time, art projects, recess and free play. MCHL staff will guide your child through these activities while your child also gets the opportunity to socialize with other children their same age.

Class is in session Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 – 11:30 / \$35 per morning or monthly at a discounted rate (\$25 per morning).



**Happy Feet Soccer** continues each Monday. The cost is \$65 per month. You can register online at [www.happyfeetsoccer.com](http://www.happyfeetsoccer.com).



**FREE DEMO CLASS ON  
Monday, September 9 @ 2:30**

## **Piano Keys 4 Kids**



Piano Keys 4 Kids will resume in September. Enrollment is limited to 7 children per session. Enrollment forms will be located on the table outside of the office after the demo class. For more information, please email Donna Hancock at [donna@pk4kids.com](mailto:donna@pk4kids.com).

**FREE DEMO CLASS ON  
Tuesday, September 10 @ 3:00**



Mercier School of Dance is pleased to be offering onsite dance classes for the 2019-20 season! We offer Creative Dance/Story Ballet for the youngest age group (2.5-3.5) and Pre-B ballet/Jazz for the older age group (4-6).

Dance class is on Thursday afternoons starting at 2:50pm. Our registration is all-online and classes are \$60.00 a month with a \$20 enrollment fee.

The teacher for MCHL is Ms. Catherine Bacha; she has been teaching for 23 years and is amazing! Her bio is on our website.

We will offer a complimentary trial class the 5th of September, hope to see your little one in class!

Register Now:

[www.mercierschoolofdance.com/register](http://www.mercierschoolofdance.com/register)

**FREE DEMO CLASS  
Thursday, September 5 at 2:50**



Play-Well TEKnologies will return to MCHL with their popular LEGO and DUPLO classes! These classes will start September.

The DUPLO class is for children 3-4 years old and is 1 hour long.

The LEGO class is for children 5 years old and is 1 ½ long.

Please visit their website, [www.play-well.org](http://www.play-well.org) for more information. Class size is limited to 14 students.

**DEMO CLASS IS NOT AVAILABLE**



# SUMMER FUN

For those of you who did not join us during the summer months, please enjoy the photos!

