

# The Montessori Elementary School & TMES Casita Preschool



## How to successfully prepare your child for our Preschool & Kindergarten program

*“Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed.” Maria Montessori*

### All 3 year old, 4 year old & Kindergarten students:

- **Clothing:** Please help your child be comfortable and successful by following our dress code. Shirts should be solid or stripes only (no characters, wording, etc). Students should be able to pull their own pants/shorts/skirt, up and down on their own. Shorts should be worn under skirts or dresses. Shoes should be closed toe, no zippers, single lace, no heels, no sound or lights; tennis shoe style is preferred. No tutus, belts they cannot undo themselves, glitter/sparkles, etc. Dressing students in clothing that is comfortable and independent is an important aspect of their day at school! Please make sure your child has an extra set of weather-appropriate clothing in a gallon size Ziploc bag at school.
- **Bag:** Please use a nylon bag or reusable shopping bag instead of a backpack for your child. This helps us conserve space in the classroom. Please keep all toys and other distractions at home.
- **Food:** Students learn best when they have a healthy lunch and snack that is easy for them to eat! A thermos is listed on the supply list for hot foods as we will no longer microwave student lunches. Do not send cookies, candy or soda in lunchboxes. Lunchboxes should be plain, child sized with ice packs for cold food. We cannot place items in the fridge.
- **Rest time:** All 3 year old, 4 year old and Kindergarten students will have a dedicated rest time every afternoon. All students should have a small blanket and small pillow labeled with your child’s name, which is left at school every day. Items should preferably be solid colored, (no characters, cartoons, etc) and should fit in a cubby.
- **Drop-off & Pick-up:** Confident students learn best! It is important to have a consistent routine with your child for drop-off every day. We ask that you prepare your child (and yourself) to drop-off at the door and refrain from coming inside the classroom. Students will be ready for pick-up at 3:30 every day, outside waiting for you. You will have until 4:00 pm for pick-up but we suggest arriving as close to 3:30 as possible.
- **1st week of school:** Students must be picked up between 12:30 – 1:00 pm the first week of school to help them ease into their new routine. Their first full day of school (9 am – 3:30 pm) will be on August 14<sup>th</sup>. A parent/teacher meeting will be scheduled for each individual family that first week.
- **Restroom:** All students need to be fully potty-trained. 4 year old and Kindergarten students should be totally self-sufficient in the restroom and be able to wipe themselves. Please work on this important skill with you child over the summer! **3 year old parents:** Our staff will help your child wipe themselves but it is a good idea to begin working on this skill with your child.
- **3 year old & 4 year old families:** Tuition is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month. Your first payment of \$715 is due August 1<sup>st</sup>. You may send payment in with your child in their communication folder every month or mail it to our Montano Campus at: 1730 Montano Rd NW, ABQ 87107, Attn: Ms. Rachel.

*“The first essential for the child’s development is concentration. The child who concentrates is immensely happy.” Maria Montessori*

**Thank you for helping us prepare your student for success!**