

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; tennis shoe style with Velcro or elastic 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! Make sure your child has an extra set of weather-appropriate clothing in a 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. Warm food items should be placed in a thermos as we cannot warm up food for them in the classroom. Please 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 that 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. Walk your student to the door, do not carry them. 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 will have early dismissal at 12:00 pm for the first week of school to help them ease into their new routine. They will still eat lunch with us at school. Their first full day of school (9 am – 3:30 pm) will be on August 13th. We will schedule parent/teacher conferences during those afternoons to meet with each family.
- **Restroom:** All students need to be fully potty-trained (no pull-ups or diapers). 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 if needed 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 1st of every month. Your first payment of \$715 is due August 1st. 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 students for success!