



2023- 2024 School Year

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Blossom Montessori's 3-6 Classroom. I am so happy that you and your child will be joining our class for the 2023-2024 school year! My hope is you feel welcomed and involved. We will be learning and experiencing so many new things this year.

I'd like to start by telling you a little about what you can expect in our class. School starts promptly at 8:30am, and students *not* enrolled in Before Care may arrive at school as early as 8:20am to get settled before the academic day begins. Please make sure you arrive on time daily so your child will not miss the start of the school day. At 8:30am we meet in the lobby to sign the Pledge of Allegiance as a whole school, then we head to the classroom to have circle time and begin our 'Great Work' cycle. Afterwards, we have some fun outside on the playground and before we know it, it's time for lunch and rest. When we wake up, we have one more work cycle before our school day is done. If your child is not picked up at the end of the academic day for the 3:15pm dismissal, they will go to After Care (if enrolled). In the classroom, we will be using communication strategies tailored to your child's needs on a daily basis; we strive to have strong communication between teachers and parents as well. Our hope is that you will be as involved in your child's learning as we are. You are welcome at any time to ask how your child is doing, what they are working on or what work is being taught in the classroom. Remember to always check your child's daily agenda and take home folder for any important information and upcoming events.

The areas in our classroom are:

- **Culture / Geography**
- **Science**
- **Math**
- **Language / Writing**
- **Reading Corner**
- **Sensorial**
- **Practical Life**

Here are some items your child will need to bring:

- **A Blanket (small pillow-optional) for Nap.** In the afternoon, when the shades are closed, the room tends to get cool so we ask that every child bring a blanket that covers their entire body. Please make sure if your child brings a pillow, that it is travel size and fits easily into the box. **Due to space limitations, all items must fit neatly in the 16 quart storage bin that will be provided.** The blanket will be sent home every other Friday to be washed, please be sure to bring it back clean the following Monday!
- **For the girls in the class:** Parents please send your daughter with one (1) hair brush and a package of hair ties with their name written on it. Sometimes lovely locks become quite hot when playing outside. Hair ties help pull the hair up and off the neck.
- **A change of clothes (required).** Each child will have a 6 quart storage bin in his/her cubby to keep a change of clothes. Please bring in the following items to fill their box:

- ❖ 2 shirts
- ❖ 3 shorts
- ❖ **4 pair of underwear**
- ❖ 1 pair of socks

Also it is very important that when your child's wet clothes are sent home that the **next day** you bring in a clean pair of clothes to put back in the Ziploc. We understand that sometimes spills and accidents happen; we do not want your child to ever feel embarrassed about any of these things. We want them to feel as comfortable and dry as possible.

- **A lunch, two (2) snacks and three (3) drinks everyday.** Please send your child with a **HEALTHY** morning snack (i.e. bagel, fruit, granola bar, yogurt, etc. - *NO cookies or chips!*) & drink (i.e. juice, water), a filling lunch & drink, and one afternoon snack & drink **everyday**. Some ideas for a healthy and filling lunch are: sandwiches with meat and cheese –or- cold cut roll-ups, fruit, vegetables with dip, pretzels, crackers with cheese or peanut butter, yogurt and nuts. We ask that you do not send your child with anything that needs to be refrigerated or warmed up. Please limit the amount of sugar in your child's lunch and **absolutely no candy, soda or drinks that are high in sugar and/or caffeine**. We believe that healthy snacks and lunch help the child stay focused throughout the day. Please include an **ice pack** so that food remains cool and does not spoil.
- **Please keep these things at home:** Backpacks (there is NO NEED for them and they take up too much space in the cubby), folders, toys, candy, baseball or other trading cards, added accessories; necklaces, bracelets, things that can be easily removed, lost, or played with.

I am so happy that you and your child are a part of the Blossom family and I know you will see your child 'blossom' this year. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or comments through email or the daily agenda. What a wonderful year we will have!

Sincerely,

Ms. Potter, 3-6 Classroom Teacher

E-mail: mpotter@blossomschool.org

Office Telephone: (727) 539-7879

Office VP: (727) 223-6238