



CCMS LOVES THEIR STUDENTS

Montessori Minutes

Corpus Christi Montessori School

February 2018

Dear Families,

Amazing that it is already February. We have had such a great month back with the students and everyone is engaged and learning. Our students are enjoying their gardening experiences and many of our crops are almost ready to harvest. This month is filled with on-campus and off-campus events. We have several upcoming events to be mindful of. Please check the calendar, Our Parents of CCMS Facebook page and remind 101. Ms. Terri has also created a public Facebook page to promote interest and share information about our school. Check it out and share with friends and family. This month is our Annual Art Expo. The PTO parents have worked hard to ensure this is a huge success. The theme is *The World of Imagination* and is a family geared event. Please check out their website and Facebook post for ways you can help. I would like to remind parents that your child's attendance is so important. When your child is absent they miss vital lessons and work time. The teachers do everything in their power to ensure all students receive the lessons, sometimes it is difficult for the students to catch on after a missed

lesson. The concern is also a monetary one. CCMS loses \$51.00 per child for each day absent. That may not seem like a huge amount but it adds up. For the first Three Six Weeks or up to January 5th our attendance went from 98% to 90%. CC-Montessori lost \$27,000.00 in revenue. This could send 3 teachers to training, buy 1/2 of a covered top for our Basketball Court, pay for a full-time assistant teacher, purchase 27 computers for our school, etc.

It is required by Texas law that if a student does not attend 90% of school days, they can be retained and parents will be referred to truancy court.

Ayers will be one-way towards Six Points for the next 3 months. This should begin soon. Please plan your route accordingly.

Mr. Monte will be away for a time while he undergoes training to be a better Service Dog and improve his Social Skills as he has grown into an adolescent.

STUDENT NEWS

SPORTS

I LOVE THAT WE PLAY LOTS OF OTHER TEAMS. IT IS AGGRESSIVE – SO THAT IS DIFFERENT, BUT IT IS FUN. (KAYTLYNN 7TH)

I AM NOT THAT GREAT AT BASKETBALL, BUT I LIKE TO PARTICIPATE AND DO THINGS WITH THE SCHOOL. (ADIE, 6TH)

IT IS GREAT TO PLAY WITH THE MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM. MY DEFENSE IS GOOD. I AM GLAD TO BE ON THE TEAM. (TROY, 5TH)

HARBOR PLAYHOUSE THEATRE STUDENTS

I ENJOY PERFORMING WITH FRIENDS AND IT BRINGS OUT MY CHRISTMAS SPIRIT. IT IS FUN TO PERFORM IN FRONT OF A FULL AUDIENCE. (ADDIE, 5TH)

USUALLY DURING THE WEEKENDS, WE HAVE A PERFORMANCE. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING MY FRIENDS THERE. SOMETIMES WE PLAY HIDE AND SEEK. (ALEX, 6TH)

I LOVE BEING IN PLAYS BECAUSE I GET TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS. (ZARA, 3RD)

Upcoming Events

- February 9 Staff Development
No school
- February 12 School Holiday
- February 13-16 8th graders visit local high schools
- February 15 Class Group Pictures
- February 23 Late start 9 a.m.
- February 24 ART EXPO!
- February 26 – March 2
Montessori Week &
Scholastic Book Fair
- February 26 – March 9 - Open Enrollment

Four Keys to Raising a Self-Disciplined Child

Written by [Maren Schmidt](#)

Do you dream of having a child who is self-composed, articulate and respectful of others, young or old? In our children's pre-verbal days, it seems like those attributes may be impossible, but there are some teaching tools you can use to help your child have the self-discipline to live a peaceful life as a toddler and beyond.

Respect. If we expect to get our children's respect, we must first give it, and then expect respect in return. Respect has a boomerang effect. When we understand and respect the immense effort the young child expends to learn and perform daily living skills, perhaps we can be more patient with our child's frustrations. We need to set clear and realistic expectations for behavior, remembering to remind our children of those behaviors. "When we sit down for dinner, we don't get up. We put our napkins on our laps."

We need to [catch our children doing something right](#), and thank them for their efforts. "I see you put your napkin on your lap. Thank you."

Problem-solving skills. We need to help our children learn to solve the frustrations that pop up in life. We begin by allowing our children [simple choices](#).

"Do you want to wear your blue shirt or the green one?"

When a problem does occur, we can step through a thinking process: Stop. I think we have a problem. I think the problem is...

Do you want to work on the problem?

What can we do to fix the problem?

What choice is the best way?

Later, we need to check back, and ask if the choice is working. If not, go back to square one for problem

solving. Sort of like Chutes and Ladders.

Patience. Self-discipline requires patience and learning to wait. Instant gratification is 180 degrees from self-discipline on the behavior scale. The adage of learning to count to 10 works here. Learning to refocus on something else while you wait is a big help. Using the problem-solving technique from above, we might say: We must wait for 10 minutes. What should we do? Count to 300? Read? Sing a song? Walk around the block? What do you think is best? Is this helping you wait?

Acknowledge feelings. We can help our children put words to their emotions. Having to wait in line for the promised ice cream cone? A friend took your toy? Your sister ate your cookie? Help your child put words to the emotions of impatience, anger, frustration and more. Assist your child in understanding that everyone has feelings and that we can learn to recognize those feelings and put names to those feelings.

Learning to interpret non-verbal cues will also help our children in their quest for self-discipline. "Did you see what her face looked like when you gave her your present? She was happy." Or perhaps, "Did you see his face when you took his ball. He was upset."

Giving our children respect along with helping them learn to solve problems, being patient and acknowledging feelings aid our children on their paths toward internal discipline.

WISH LIST

All sizes of rain boots for work in the garden and splash in puddles.

Donations for Free Little Pantry – can food, snacks, drinks, socks, hygiene products.

Garden tools and chalk for outside play.

Meet Our Staff

Ms. Terri - Librarian and more

What is your favorite thing about CCMS?

The sense of community. It ensures that we are always striving for the best as individuals and as a group.

What is your favorite book?

It is impossible to choose. My favorite author is Mercedes Lackey.

Favorite Hobbies

Drawing, coloring, painting, writing. I also enjoy reading and playing video games.

Favorite Quote

"It matters no how straight the gate, how charged with punishment the scroll. I am the master of my fate. I am the captain of my soul."

Dr. Melissa Hernandez (Diagnostician & Special Education Director)

What is your favorite thing about CCMS?

Compassion, encouragement, pleasant dispositions, community-like atmosphere while still developing a sense of striving for excellence in yourself as a student and staff member.

What is your favorite book?

Right now - Without Conscience: The Disturbing World of the psychopaths among us.

Favorite Hobbies

Crochet, drawing, painting, playing with my granddaughters and scuba diving.

Favorite Quote

*"Mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible."
- Sister Faustina*