

# Montessori School of Lemont

Since 1972

## Save the Date!

- September 1  
Tuition Due  
Labor Day, No School
- September 2  
First Day of Regular  
Schedule for All  
Students  
Coffee in the  
Courtyard
- September 8  
PA Meeting
- September 11  
WJR Registration Due
- 6:30<sup>pm</sup> Parent Ed Night
- September 16  
Picture Day
- September 27  
Walk, Jog, (Color) Run

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## Nature and the Whole Child



We are excited to welcome Geoffrey Bishop, Founder and Executive Director Nature's Classroom Institute and Montessori School, to speak at our upcoming Parent Ed Night.

In 1996 Geoffrey started Nature's Classroom Institute Environmental Education. NCI is a residential environmental education program serving schools throughout the US. The NCI program helps students understand the natural environment, participate in ecosystem exploration and study, and work together with their peers and teachers as a community. The program serves over 4,000 students across the Midwest, Texas, California and

Florida, which includes over 90 Montessori school.

After developing a strong academic and environmental outdoor based curriculum, he formed Nature's Classroom Institute Montessori School on 140 acres in Mukwonago WI, serving students 3 years to high school. The Montessori school models the core philosophy of Montessori with a marriage to his environmental principles. Geoffrey is a dynamic speaker and has presented all over the world. His focus over the past years has been on organics and sustainability in schools and promoting getting children back outdoors and helping adults understand the importance of instinctive play in the nature

world. He is on the Board of Director's for AMS and the Chair of the Montessori Life advisory Board.

For our Parent Ed Night, Geoffrey will be leading a workshop focusing on **"Nature and the Whole Child."** Nature is a fundamental and essential aspect of educating the whole child. In mainstream education, the natural environment is often sidelined or overlooked, treated as inconsequential to a child's well-being. Yet research has consistently shown that a strong connection to the natural world enhances children's ability to focus, concentrate, create, take risks, and imagine. This connection also provides profound benefits to social, emotional, and physical health.

We long for a time when nature was part of everyday life.

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## Walk, Jog, Color-Run!

We hope to see you on September 27<sup>th</sup> for our annual *Walk, Jog, Run!* event. This PA fundraiser is fun for everyone so bring your family, friends and neighbors. And you don't have to run...you can walk, dance, skip, stroll, jog, trot or turn cartwheels! Participants will be sprayed with water-based color along the one-mile route,

followed by a celebratory eco-friendly confetti toss at the finish line.

The PA is asking for a minimum donation of \$30 per participant. Participants that register by September 12<sup>th</sup> will receive an event t-shirt. All proceeds benefit our outdoor learning environment and physical education program.





Geoffrey Bishop

***“I think I  
need glasses. I  
can’t even see  
my own  
eyes!”  
-A.H., age 6***

*(Continued from page 1)*

Today, surrounded by electronics, mass media, and busy schedules, finding the time and energy to reconnect with the natural world can feel overwhelming. Phrases like “*Nature Deficit Disorder*”, “*No Child Left Inside*”, and “*The Edible Schoolyard*” often highlight our sense of inadequacy, leaving us feeling powerless to push back. But the truth is clear—nature is as vital to our health and development, socially, emotionally, and physically, as any academic or social pursuit.

This workshop will give parents both inspiration and practical strategies for weaving nature back into their children’s everyday lives —helping them rediscover the joy, calm, and creativity that the natural world brings. Together, we will explore ways to nurture curiosity, creativity, and calm through nature-based experiences, including:

- **Art and Nature** – creative projects that use the natural world as inspiration and material.
- **Silence and Listening** – activities that help children tune in to the subtleties of the natural environment.
- **Literature and Writing** – exercises that bring nature into the forefront of storytelling and reflection.
- **Play and Loose Parts** – harnessing the open-ended possibilities of natural materials to encourage focused, imaginative play.

By the end of the workshop, parents will leave with fresh ideas and tools for supporting their child’s connection to nature at home and beyond.

## Parents’ Association News

**-Kristin Wade**

The Parents Association plans for [various events](#) throughout the year, but none of what we do is possible without your input and help.

We work to support the school’s philosophy, programs, and activities for the benefit of all students, staff, and families. The PA welcomes you all to participate by sharing your ideas and talents.

**General questions for the Parents Association** [msolpa50@gmail.com](mailto:msolpa50@gmail.com)

**Questions about the annual fundraiser** [msolpa50@gmail.com](mailto:msolpa50@gmail.com) or [pa@lemontmontessori.com](mailto:pa@lemontmontessori.com)

**Questions about your classroom - contact your teacher or room parent.**

### **\*MSOL PHILANTHROPY PROJECTS\***

#### **CAMPUS CARE DAY**

Join us for our second annual [Camps Care Day](#)! Families, students, and staff will come together to help Mr. Ruddick with outdoor projects like cleaning, gardening, organizing, and other tasks to help get our campus ready for Fall Fest and a great school year.

#### **VETERANS DAY**

On November 11th, our adolescents in the Silver Room will lead a [Veterans Day philanthropy event](#), honoring our veterans while giving students a meaningful opportunity to serve and give back.

### **\*SEPTEMBER AGENDA\***

Join us for our annual Walk, Jog, Run fundraiser!! Enjoy a 1-mile **FUN** race with water-based color

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Chicken Checkers  
reporting for duty!

(Continued from page 2)

sprayed along the way and a confetti toss at the end! This Saturday morning event is on campus and for kids of all grades and ages!

Register by **9/11** for an official race-day T-shirt. Your registration fee directly helps maintain and improve our outdoor education area and our PE program!

**REGISTRATION FEE IS \$30!**



### UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2, 2025: [COFFEE IN THE COURTYARD](#)

September 8, 2025: [PA MEETING](#)

September 11, 2025: [PARENT ED NIGHT](#)

September 27, 2025: [WALK, JOG, RUN](#)

October 3, 2025: [ANNUAL FUNDRAISER](#)



**The Parents' Association unites families to share their *Time, Talent, & Treasure* in support of MSOL's community...**

***"To assist a child, we must provide him with an environment which will enable him to develop freely."***  
**-Dr. Maria Montessori**

## MSOL Mobile App



The Montessori School of Lemont recently unveiled a brand-new mobile app designed to streamline communication and provide families with easier access to important school information.

The app, available for both iOS and Android devices, brings together all of MSOL's digital tools in one convenient place. Parents can now view classroom updates, student progress, event details, and school announcements right from their phones.

One of the app's key features is its full integration with Transparent Classroom, MSOL's record-keeping and parent communication platform. Families can expect the same detailed updates, photos, and progress reports they are accustomed to, but with the added convenience of push notifications and direct access through the school app.



First Day of School vibes!

*...for all the little reasons*

The Montessori School of Lemont, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization recognized by the State of Illinois and accredited by the American Montessori Society, has been educating children ages 3 through 9th grade for over 50 years based on the methods and philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. The school was established in 1972 by teachers dedicated to offering families an individualized educational approach for their children. The school relocated to Lemont in 1990. In 2001, the school moved to its permanent location after the construction of a new campus on 7.5 acres of donated land. In 2010, a third building was completed to accommodate the growing enrollment and in 2011, a "natural" playground and an organic community garden were created. Funds are currently being raised to improve and grow our campus.

*Montessori School of Lemont does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, age, socio-economic level, physical ability, genetic information, and learning style in the administration of its educational policies, admissions, hiring, scholarships or other school programs.*

16427 W. 135th Street  
Lemont, IL 60439

Phone: 815-834-0607

Fax: 815-834-0681

info@lemontmontessori.com

FB: montessorischooloflemont

IG: @montessorischooloflemont

lemontmontessori.com

It is the mission of the  
Montessori School  
of Lemont  
to provide for the  
physical,  
intellectual,  
emotional, and  
spiritual  
education of children ages 3-15  
years  
following the methods and  
philosophy of  
Dr. Maria Montessori.



**MONTESSORI**  
School of Lemont



## Fresh Market

The Adolescent Fresh Market is open for business! Each Thursday throughout the school year the students will operate their parking-lot store front during arrival and dismissal. They will kick off the year by selling eggs, homemade baked goods, handmade jewelry, handcrafts and seasonal items like pickles, made from cucumbers picked fresh from our gardens. Proceeds are used to care for the animals, special classroom purchases and trips. 10% of annual profits are donated to a charity selected by the students.

Past recipients include Lurie Children's Hospital, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Ehlers-Danlos Society, The Marfan Foundation, and American Cancer Society.

Thanks in advance  
for supporting our  
Adolescents' micro-  
econ project!



## Coffee Anyone?

Are you interested in learning more about Montessori?  
Join us for one of our monthly "Coffees!"

Tour the school, learn about Montessori, observe a class in progress  
and talk to current parents, faculty and students.  
For upcoming dates & details, call or email us at

[info@lemontmontessori.com](mailto:info@lemontmontessori.com)

\* Curriculum \* Classroom Observation \* Student Ambassadors \*  
Parent Mentors \* Q & A \* Admissions Process

***Join us for coffee and stay for a few years!***

### Upcoming Coffees:

November 6, 2025  
December 4, 2025  
January 8, 2026  
February 5, 2026  
March 5, 2026  
April 9, 2026  
May 7, 2026

