



Montessori School of Lemont

Since 1972

Save the Date!

- March 1st
Tuition Due
- March 2nd
Casimir Pulaski Day,
No School
- March 6th
Adolescent Student-Run
Conferences
- March 9th-13th
Iowa Testing
- March 23rd
PA Meeting, 8:45^{am}
- March 27th
Parent Appreciation Day
- March 30th-April 6th
Spring Break, No School
Classes resume April 7th

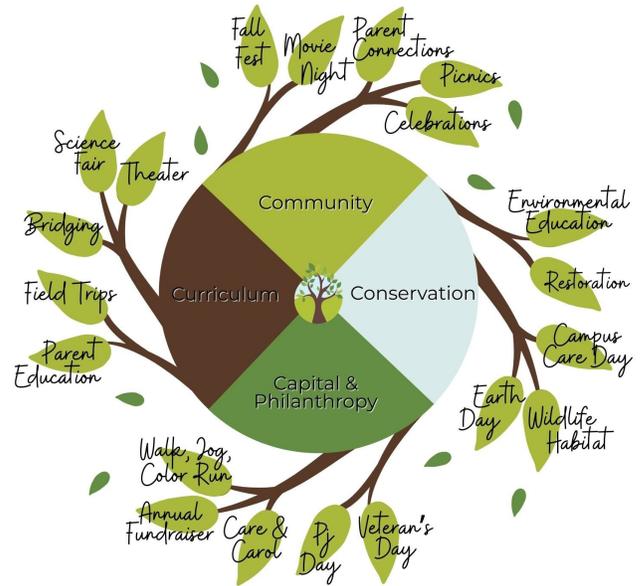
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Rooted in Purpose: How We Live Our Strategic Plan

This year marks the beginning of a meaningful new chapter as we bring our 2025–2030 Strategic Plan to life. Grounded in four guiding pillars, it reflects not just where we are headed, but how we choose to practice our mission together each day. You'll recognize these pillars in the moments and experiences that shape our community.

Our *Community* grows stronger through parent connections and the gatherings that bring us together. Our strength in *Capital* allows the school not only to thrive, but to serve others through philanthropy. Our *Montessori Curriculum* is enhanced through parent involvement, bridging activities, art, music, theater, foreign language, and field trips that deepen student learning. Through environmental education we commit to *Conservation* and live our responsibility to the natural world through restoration efforts and wildlife habitat support.



Together, these pillars reflect both who we are and what we value. Thank you for being part of this work, your presence and partnership truly sustain it.

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AMS Family Connection

-Heather White

[Maria Montessori: A Pioneer of Education and Human Rights](#)

Maria Montessori was a pioneer whose life and work transformed our understanding of childhood and education. Born in 1870, she became one of Italy's first female doctors, a significant achievement that was only the beginning of her lifelong commitment to advancing both human rights and education. Her insights and innovations in these areas have had a lasting impact worldwide, shaping how we think about child development and social responsibility.

Breaking Barriers as One of Italy's First Female Doctors

As a medical doctor, Dr. Montessori's early work focused on children with disabilities,

particularly those from marginalized communities. She was deeply invested in observing their behaviors, responses, and interactions. In doing so, she began to see how adapting the environment to better meet their needs could have a profound effect on their growth and development. Maria Montessori's observations and the knowledge she gained through her work with these children became the foundation for her educational philosophy—a pedagogy that emphasized respect, independence, and the prepared environment to support each child's individual potential.



Community

Coming Soon

PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

Monday, March 23rd at 8:45. Come join in on the discussion and planning for our family events.

PARENT APPRECIATION DAY

We love our parents and volunteers, so come let us celebrate you on March 27th in your child's classroom.

GRANDPARENTS/SPECIAL PERSON DAY

Come celebrate and honor grandparents or your special person and strengthen the bond between generations. Special Guests will come to class and the Parents' Association will be providing a fun keepsake craft. Be on the lookout for more details about this event, hosted on April 11th during the school day.



Room Parent, Sylvia helping the Purple Room host their Friendship Tea with the Kindergarteners



Consider sharing your **Time, Talent, Treasure** with your MSOL family

- We understand **TIME** is precious. If you're able to give some of your time to help cultivate the MSOL experience for our kids we value your **TIME!**
- As the world keeps growing and evolving the MSOL family is interested in your **TALENTS** that you would be willing to share with the school.
- Lastly, in this fast paced world you may not have the resources to share your time or talent, though would be interested in sharing (donating) your **TREASURE** to assist with MSOL reaching its highest potential.

Conservation

Environmental Education

Within our Environmental Education program, students to explore, question, and care for the world right outside our classroom doors. On campus, children engage in hands-on learning through gardening, composting, caring for our chickens, and observing the rhythms of the seasons. They learn about wild animals, local habitats, and the land itself, developing an understanding of how ecosystems work and how we can be thoughtful stewards of them.

Mr. Ruddick spares no expense when it comes to the creativity and expertise he brings to our school. Students eagerly ask what "weird things" he has to show them each day. Perhaps a beautifully grained piece of wood, a taxidermy mole, or an elk antler bigger than they are! These tangible experiences spark wonder, fuel curiosity, and nurture a genuine desire to absorb knowledge about the earth around us. The excitement for discovery is truly abundant among our students.



IOWA Testing

IOWA testing will take place the week of March 9th for students in 1st–9th grades. This year will look a little different for us, as we will be administering the IOWA assessments **online for the first time ever**. While this is a new format for our school, we are confident our students will transition smoothly and appreciate the streamlined testing experience.

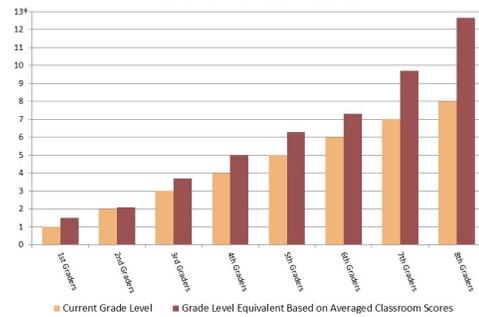
Each year, our staff administers the IOWA Test of Basic Skills to gather benchmarking data and to gently introduce students to standardized testing in a no-stakes environment. Since Maria Montessori’s vision was “Education for Life,” we view test-taking as a practical life skill that helps prepare students for experiences beyond Montessori. By introducing the IOWAs within our familiar environment, students’ first exposure to standardized testing is low-pressure. and even enjoyable for some!

While standardized tests do not measure social-emotional intelligence and may not always align perfectly with the scope and sequence of our curriculum, they can still provide helpful data for measuring learner outcomes and overall program effectiveness. The tests are scored on a scale from 1st–13th grade, and our students consistently perform above grade level—even without the test preparation commonly used in conventional programs.

To help your child do their best, please ensure they get a good night’s sleep and begin each testing day with a healthy breakfast. Parents who prefer that their child not participate may choose to opt out.



2025 Iowa Test Results



Spelling Bee

The Scripps National Spelling Bee began in 1925, making it the U.S.’s largest and longest-running educational program. MSOL proudly participates in this great program and our students continue to prove their place in the competition.



The Will County Regional Office of Education “continues to sponsor the spelling bee event to encourage the exploration of words, lifelong curiosity, beneficial study habits, and to give students experience with public speaking.”



Congratulations to 8th grader, Lukas Branski who will represent MSOL at the Will County Regional Spelling Bee on March 17th against other students from around the region.

Good luck, Lukas!

Patriot’s Pen

Each year, MSOL proudly participates in the Patriot’s Pen contest sponsored by Lockport VFW Post 5788. Last month, the Lockport VFW recognized Emma, one of our 8th grade Adolescent students for earning 2nd place in the 18th District’s Annual Patriot’s Pen essay contest.

We’re so proud of our students for participating and standing out among all the entries! A big congratulations to Emma (and a special shout-out to Mrs. McClenning, too)!



...for all the little reasons

The Montessori School of Lemont is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been educating children ages 3 through 9th grade for 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 with two custom designed buildings on 7.5 acres of donated land. In 2010, a third building was constructed to accommodate the growing enrollment and in 2011, a natural playground and an organic community garden were created. Funds are currently being raised to continue 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, Illinois 60439

Phone: 815-834-0607
Fax: 815-834-0681

info@lemontmontessori.com
FB: montessorischooloflemont



lemontmontessori.com

Science Fair

This year's Science Fair was a wonderful success! Our students impressed everyone with their creativity, curiosity, and thoughtful presentations. From innovative experiments to carefully researched displays, each participant demonstrated hard work and a true love of learning.

A special congratulations to Nico for earning first place. Second place went to Max and Third place to Ryan. Congrats to all of you! Well done! We are so proud of all of our students for their dedication and enthusiasm.



Coffee, Anyone?

Interested in learning more about Montessori?
Join us for Coffee on April 3rd

Philosophy • Curriculum • Campus Tour
Admissions Process • Q & A

Join us for coffee and stay for a few years!



MONTESSORI
School of Lemont

To register, call or email us at
info@lemontmontessori.com