



AM, PM session & Extended Day Program – September 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

A warm welcome to our returning and new families to our classroom community. We hope you had a great summer, and we look forward to an exciting and wonderful year.

When school starts, there seems to be an expectation of fresh beginnings for everyone in the family. There are new schedules, new environment, new and renewed friendships. Therefore, we have taken the opportunity to enclose a few reminders of the classroom and school procedures.

New children only! For many children school is their first experience in a group situation. Therefore, the new children have been scheduled to start with a shorter day. This allows for individual attention during their process of adaptation to the new environment and the classroom community. At first your child will attend class for 1 hour (2 hours for the extended day children). The second day your child will stay for 2 hours (until 12:45 pm for the extended day children) and will have snack at school. We will try to have our new children for the full session on the third day, unless there are other recommendations from the teachers related to your child's adjustment in previous days. Please make sure that we have your cell phone number so that we can reach you if needed. It will help your child to adjust to the school routine easier and without any separation anxiety. It is important that you allow your child plenty of time to get ready for school so that she/he can feel calm on arrival. To ease the transition and support your child's independence, please respect our policy of keeping your goodbyes brief and sweet, outside the classroom, and reassure your child of your return.

Stay home when sick!!!!

Parents and caregivers must assess their children daily for symptoms before sending them to school. All children with common cold, influenza, Covid-19 or other infectious diseases symptoms (even minor ones) must stay home until symptoms have resolved or have been assessed by a health care practitioner to exclude any infectious diseases and confirm that it is safe for the child to return to school.

If children develop symptoms while in school, one of the teachers will contact the parent/ caregiver to pick them up right away.

Please send all of the below items (school clothing and emergency kit) with your child on the first day.

School clothing Children should wear comfortable and appropriate clothing. To foster independence please make sure that the clothes and shoes are easy to manage by herself/himself. Please put your child's name on all items of clothing to avoid confusion.

Your child's bag, which remains in the classroom, should contain:

- ✓ Spare pair of pants
- ✓ Spare pair of socks
- ✓ Spare pair of underwear
- ✓ Long short sleeved shirt or t-shirt
- ✓ Hard soled shoes (clean pair of shoes/runners/crocs style)
- ✓ Two plastic grocery bags labeled with your child's name

Emergency kit (new children only)

Please provide on the child's first day of school the following items in addition to the Basic Student Emergency Kit provided by school (its price was included in the registration fee):

1. Label with child's name, address, and phone number as well as parents' work name, address and phone number.
2. List inside with - 1 emergency contact 100 km outside Vancouver
- 3 emergency contacts in Vancouver
3. Family picture
4. Tiny comfort toy
5. Band-aids small & large

Snack, Lunch (only for the extended day program), Water must be sent to the school with your child every day. Please put your child's name on every item (snack or lunch containers, eating tools, water bottle). We encourage parents to provide a healthy and nutritious snack/lunch. Please avoid sending any sweets to school for lunch – no donuts, cakes, chips, candies, chocolates, etc. Remember that we are a free nut environment, and we have students with severe allergies enrolled in our school.

Toys/ books Please explain to your child that toys should be left at home. Children are welcome to bring books or items related to the monthly theme on every Friday, for Show and Tell activity. To avoid confusion please remember to label the items with your child's name.

Drop off and pick up times Use the entrance on Rumble Street for drop off and pick up. Please DO NOT block the bus station and avoid U-turns in the front of the school for the safety of the children, yourself, and others. There are lots of parking spots along Rumble Street. It is required that your child be dropped off at the school by 9:00 am/12:45 pm at the latest. Your child should be picked up no later than the dismissal time as following:

11:30 for AM class

3:15 for PM class & Extended Day program

by 5:00 pm for the Extended Program with Before and After School

\$ 1/min late fee will be charged if the teacher will be required to stay after her working schedule ends. We thank you for your cooperation.

To access Parent's Corner on our website www.brightstarmontessori.ca the username is brightstar and the password is 3503. You can find here Newsletters, School Calendar and Parent Documents (including school policies).

Newsletters A newsletter will be sent every month (September – June) via email with information about the topic of the month, events, and reminders. Some of this information will be also posted on the school door so please take the time to read it.

Please let us know if any of the information that you provided on the registration form changed (phone number, address, email address, persons authorized to pick up the child, medical information as allergies, medication etc.).

Sincerely,

Ms. Florina, Ms. Feng, Ms. Kavita, and Ms. Joy