

The Montessori School

Two Montessori Way
Camden, South Carolina 29020

of Camden

March 20, 2009

Dear Parents,

It is time again to plan for summer “vacation”. As we have done for the past several years, we will be guiding children on a tour of various countries around the world. Playing on the notion of summer travel (and borrowing from the Verne classic), this program is called *Around the World in 90 Days*. This program is becoming a favorite tradition and offers global cultural studies to our students. It serves as the skeleton for a modular program that MSC offers each summer. While the continents and focus regions vary (to ensure that the program will be an exciting adventure) the basic notion remains: the academic disciplines do not exist in a void but are part of a rich tapestry that is humanity. Though less formal than during the academic year, the summer program will be enriching and full of educational adventure.

This summer the children will hop from island to island around the world, with stops off the South Carolina coast, Cuba, the Galapagos Islands, the Falklands, Ireland, Sri Lanka, Sicily, Japan, Hawai'i and the Florida Keys. Each week's study will introduce the highlights of each geographical area, and the students will discover new lands through research, presentations and projects on the level appropriate for each age group. Beginning with Week 2 when they “go abroad”, children will be issued a passport to mark their journey. Throughout the summer, cultural studies may include art, music, drama, literature, sports, geography, science, history, and cuisine of the regions selected. In addition to the wide range of Montessori lessons and materials, staff will supplement the experience with opportunities such as field trips, special guests, and recreational activities. For more details, see the attached flyer.

In addition, we will be offering four of the special afternoon camps that were so popular last summer. These are described in the separate flyer. If you wish to enroll your child in these special camps and also want the one-rate Extended Day rate, we will deduct 15 hours of the cost of Extended Day from your bill during those weeks.

Friday will be swim day at the Kershaw County Aquatics Center. Our requested swim time is 9:10-9:50. Parents are welcome—in fact, encouraged—to join us at 9:00 to help the children change into their swim suits and enjoy the water fun.

Following is a typical daily schedule:

7:30	Building opens	1:00	Afternoon activities begin for non-sleepers; special camps begin
8:00	School opens		
8:30	Program begins		
11:30	Dismissal for primary class	2:30	Dismissal for elementary class
12:00	Lunch	6:00	School closes
12:30	Quiet Time or Napping		

The summer staff will include: Jill Simpson (coordinator), Kenia Bermudez, Oscar Avila, Chrissy Muehlbauer, and Janet Calkins.

The summer program will be available for individual weeks and, for easy budgeting, full summer payment plans for the ten weeks are available. The full summer plan will include two weeks of summer for free. Charges, programs and program times are detailed in the chart below. Elementary children will be encouraged to stay the whole day; however, a half-day rate is available.

Extended day fees are applied at the rate of \$4 per hour, the same as during the 2008-2009 school year. Again for easy budgeting a one-time fee for extended care for children enrolled in full summer plans is offered. The cost to add extended care is shown below.

<i>The Montessori School of Camden Summer 2009 Program Fee Schedule</i>					
<i>Program</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Weekly Rate</i>	<i>Whole Summer Rate Plan</i>	<i>Full Extended Day Plan</i>	<i>Total for Full Day Summer *including full Extended Day Plan</i>
<i>Kindergarten/Elementary</i>	<i>8:30-2:30</i>	<i>\$90</i>	<i>\$720</i>	<i>\$420</i>	<i>\$1,140</i>
<i>Kindergarten/Elementary Half-Day only</i>	<i>8:30-11:30</i>	<i>\$65</i>	<i>\$520</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Toddler/Primary</i>	<i>8:30-11:30</i>	<i>\$70</i>	<i>\$560</i>	<i>\$780</i>	<i>\$1,340</i>

The Whole Summer Rate Plan and Full Extended Day Rate Plan may be broken into two payments, one due June 1st the second due July 1st. For students enrolled weekly, a one-week deposit will be required to reserve a student's place in the summer program. This deposit will serve as the last summer week's tuition. For full summer students a \$100 deposit is required. This deposit is applied to summer tuition. Payments for weekly tuition are due in advance on Monday mornings. Hourly Extended Day charges are invoiced monthly.

Children will need to bring their lunches and afternoon snack. In the summer, most morning snacks are provided by the school; parents, however, are encouraged to share seasonal fruit and vegetables and other donations. Little Caesar's will offer a pizza Friday once each summer month at a cost of \$2.50 per person—parents are welcome to join us.

Early registration is advisable. Summer programs have limitations on the number of participants and classes tend to fill up quickly. Changes may be made with no penalty with notice to the office not later than Friday noon prior to the week the student is to attend. A charge of \$25 will be assessed for any week a registered child does not attend.

Please note: On Thursday and Friday, August 20 and 21, prior to the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year, we anticipate no child care being available because the entire staff is committed to activities all day in preparation for the new year.

Sincerely,

John Moncure, Ph.D.
Headmaster