

IN A NUTSHELL

Oak Forest Montessori School (OFMS)

2000 Greenleaf Street
Longview, Texas 75605

A note from Ms. Beth:

Dear Parents,

We had a wonderful turnout at Open House! Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to come and meet our wonderful teachers.

The school year is off to a great start and our classrooms are beginning to normalize. We have a number of new students and parents. It is important to us that all feel comfortable. The truth is transitions are harder on parents than children! Please feel free to call the office to check on your children.

Please remember OFMS will be CLOSED Monday, September 1st for the Labor Day holiday. Our lunch delivery program will resume on Tuesday, September 2nd.

If your child is potty trained and 3 years or older, there are a number of supplemental programs available. Please call the office for details. We are also pleased to announce OFMS will now offer Physical Education for our Primary, Kindergarten and Elementary students. This program will begin at the end of this month! We are excited and hope that you are too.

Beth

IMPORTANT DATES

September 1: Labor Day-CLOSED

September 2: Lunch delivery resumes

September 16: 1st PTO Meeting

September 23: CHICK FIL A Spirit Night

Purpose: To provide a carefully planned, stimulating environment with an enriched Montessori curriculum which will help the child develop within him/herself a foundation of habits, attitudes, skills and ideas which are essential for a lifetime of creative thinking and learning. To enable a child to become a compassionate, responsible contributing member of society who is respectful of others and the environment.

Logo: Our logo is the two hands reaching into the sky for two oak leaves. We chose the oak leaves because they symbolize the materials, tools and guidance that Oak Forest Montessori School provides. The hands reaching symbolize the child's learning potential and how there is no limit to what he/she can do.

Mission Statement:

The Oak Forest Montessori School is consistent with the philosophy and mission of Dr. Maria Montessori and her work with children – to help each child reach their full potential in all areas of life.



Policy Spotlight

Why do we encourage parents and students to use carpool?

Yes, carpool is a convenient service we offer parents, but we offer this for a number of reasons. First, it is better for the child. When parents get out and walk their children to the classroom it delays the moment of separation and makes it more difficult to say goodbye for the day. Carpool also ensures that students arrive on time. It is distracting for the students working in the environment when friends arrive late. Imagine sitting at your desk and someone walking in your office every 5 minutes saying good morning, unpacking their briefcase, etc. Naturally, it would be difficult for you as an adult to concentrate and accomplish your tasks. This is even harder for a child that has a smaller attention span. We simply want to make things as easy as possible for you and your child.

Other Important Reminders

Now Accepting Credit Cards:

We now accept Visa, Master Card, and Discover cards; however, we must charge a 2.5% processing fee. In order to use a credit card, we need the credit card number, expiration date, security code, cardholder's name and billing address, and a photo copy of the front and back of the credit card.

Uniforms:

Please stop by the uniform shop to get all of your school clothes for the 2014-2015 school year. As you know, the shop is located in Bldg 1, Room 100, behind the office. If we do not have your child's size please let us know and we will place an order for you. We will offer the OFMS navy blue zip up hoodie again this year. Pre-order forms will go out mid September. Each year we sell out quickly!

September PTO Meeting:

We have a number of new families at OFMS. Please join us for the PTO Meeting on September 16th from 12:00-1:00pm at OFMS. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to gmundt@sbcglobal.net so that we can ensure there is enough food.

Referrals:

Advertising keeps the name of the school before the public which is important in developing a strong presence in the community. We use a word of mouth approach. If you tell a friend about our school, and your friend enrolls their child for the year, the amount of \$300.00 will be credited to your Oak Forest tuition after they have been with us for three months. There is no limit to the number of times you can receive the credit. By doing this, advertising funds go to OFMS parents rather than outside companies. We like this idea and hope that you do too.

PTO Corner

Exciting Things the PTO is Working On



OFMS Chick Fil A SPIRIT NIGHT.

Tuesday, September 23rd from 4:00-10:00pm.

Chick Fil A has graciously agreed to donate 10% of all proceeds to the OFMS PTO. Please spread the word to your friends and family. Bring your receipt to the office so that you can be included in the chance drawing for \$50 off one month's tuition!

Classroom Fall Fest Silent Auction Projects

The PTO is working with the teachers and students on the Silent Auction Projects. For those of you that are new to OFMS, each classroom does a project and donates it the the Fall Fest Silent Auction. We have seen some awesome projects in the past including pottery, paintings, art work, aprons, tables, pictures and MUCH MORE!

A Change to Spring Fling...FALL FEST

The OFMS Fall Fest will be Saturday, November 8th. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Did you know that the biggest source of revenue for the PTO is the annual carnival? Would you like to get involved? We always need volunteers and baked goods for our bake sale. Another way for you to contribute is through a Business or Family Sponsorship. Did you know that we provide all kinds of advertising opportunities for those Sponsors? If you or your business (or a business you know) would like to Sponsor the PTO, please see the attached form.

**Please contact Gina Mundt at gmundt@sbcglobal.net or (903)806-0808 with any questions about the PTO. We still need volunteers for various events throughout the year!

If everyone donates a SMALL amount of their time, we can accomplish BIG things for our OFMS children!