

2025.04.17 Boletin



Dates to Remember

April 22: Kindergarten STAR Math
April 23: Board Meeting 6pm
April 24: Kindergarten STAR ELA
April 29: STAR Math grades 1-2
April 29: Polk Elementary Music Showcase (select students)
May 1: STAR Reading grades 1-2
May 5-9th: Staff Appreciation Week
May 6: F.A.S.T. Math Grades 4-7
May 7: F.A.S.T. Reading Grade 3
May 8: F.A.S.T. Reading Grades 4-7
May 13: F.A.S.T. Math Grade 3
May 14-15 EOC Civics and 5th grade Assessment
May 15th (afternoon): Mr. Snow Cone Celebration
May 16: Early Release (after care offered) (Note, PCPS does not have an early release on this day, but Mi Escuela Montessori still does, due to us coming back for a full day after the hurricane)
May 19: 7th grade Internship
May 22: Moving Up Celebration
May 26: No School
May 29: Last day for Students, Early Release, NO AFTERCARE



Telemundo Visit

On Thursday, the Spanish television station, Telemundo, visited our preschool and upper elementary classrooms. Before we opened in 2020, they did a story about our proposed school. This followup story will highlight how we have grown, the impact we are having on our community, and the benefits of dual

language education. The story will air on their Thursday news. If you miss the news, you can check it out on their website:

<https://www.telemundo49.com/noticias/local/> Thank you to the Davis family for volunteering to be interviewed for the show.



State Test Information for Parents and Families

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.) is a progress monitoring system that is administered three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the Benchmarks of Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards throughout this school year. The purpose of this letter is to give you information on the following assessments:

- See above for your child's testing dates for the **PM3 (Progress Monitoring 3)**.
- The results from **PM3** will show how well students have mastered the grade level content standards for the **FULL YEAR**. You will be provided with information about how to access the results after testing is completed.
- Your child's F.A.S.T. assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get less or more difficult depending on how a student responds, and each student will see different questions. **If you or your student would like to review Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and/or Star Math sample items at home, sample test items are available at <https://flfast.org/resources/renaissance-star/renaissance-star>.**
- The Star Early Literacy assessment typically takes less than 15 minutes to complete.
- The Star Reading assessment is usually completed in less than 20 minutes.
- The Star Math assessment typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete.
- Middle school students take a Civics End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment to demonstrate their understanding of civics concepts. This computer-based test covers various topics like government structure, rights, and responsibilities. The EOC accounts for 30% of the overall course grade.
- The 5th Grade Science EOY Assessment assesses science standards taught in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade.

If you have any questions related to any test administration, you may contact Dr. Daphne Harris through email daphne.harris@miescuelamontessori.com or

phone call.

For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at FLFAST.org.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Kelly de la Cruz

Mi Escuela Montessori



Moving Up Ceremony

This year, our Moving Up ceremonies were difficult to schedule due to some limitations from the fire marshal in our gymnasium building. They have asked for a sprinkler system to be installed in the gymnasium this summer, and they have asked us to limit the number of people in the building until it is installed, which meant that hosting families would exceed our capacity.

In order to ensure that we have adequate space for families to celebrate the bridging of the Kindergarteners, 3rd graders, and 6th graders, we have rented an event space for these events. Teachers will be telling families more details about their end of year events.

Our Moving Up ceremonies will take place on May 22nd in the beautiful outdoor area of Harmony Haven, 6320 US-98, Bartow, FL 33830. Because this is an outdoor venue, we have a Plan A (No inclement weather) and Plan B (Rainy Day).

All Children's House families are responsible to bring their children to the event and pick them up after the event from the teacher. Families may choose if they are going to bring students back to the school after the event and drop off in a car line, or check them out for the day. If it rains, we will amend the schedule and will split the group into two indoor presentations without treats and photos. We will detail this schedule if it appears that we will have rain. Otherwise, the schedule is:

8:00-8:45- Primary Moving Up Ceremony and Performance

8:45-9:15- Enjoy treats and photos together

9:15-9:30- Clean up and reset, parents begin collecting children to either check out or return to school. Kindergarten students may ride the bus back to school.

9:30-9:45- Primary Teachers leave and return to school. If they have children dropped off, they do a school day with those students.

Third Grade Moving Up

Children in lower elementary (grade 1-3) will have a normal school day and will be dropped off in the carline as usual. Only third-graders will participate in the Moving Up. Students in grade 1 and 2 will remain at the school and will have a movie in the classroom.

9:45 3rd graders and teachers board bus to transport to Harmony Haven (HH)

10:00 Ceremony with 3rd graders performance

10:45 Treats and photos

11:15 Parents leave (may check out student or student may be checked out)

11:30 Bus leaves with remaining 3rd grade students and teachers to return to school

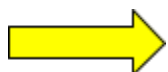
Information on the upper elementary showcase and middle school programs will be shared by their teachers.



Yearbook orders

This year, the school yearbook was designed by our middle school students. The proceeds of the sales will go directly towards the middle school intersession trips next year. Buy your yearbook on this link!

https://link.entourageyearbooks.com/YBStore/YearbookStoreMain.asp?yearbook_id=90252&product_id=160391



Polk Elementary Music Showcase: Tuesday April 29 7pm

The Polk County Public Schools Elementary Music Showcase concert will be April 29, 2025, in Branscomb Auditorium at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, FL. We are pleased that Mrs. Morrison was able to recommend eight of our Mi Escuela 4th and 5th grade students to represent our school in Girls Choir, Boys Choir, and Orff percussion ensemble—our quota of six, plus our two All-State choir students(!). Consider going out to support our musicians and musicians from around the county.



Summer Camp

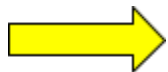
In June, Ms. Neimalie Rodriguez is interested in offering a Spanish Immersion Minecraft Camp. Currently, the dates and times are to be determined. Please fill out this form if your rising 3rd to 6th grader is interested!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc64nV72jBUAHn-kJwtbMZ2OEI0u0W1XsxcS_rl70zWlwdGHQ/viewform?usp=sharing



Facility Imaginings

Mi Escuela Montessori is set to close on a 6.3 acre parcel of land in Bartow, and will soon begin the process of school design of a 50,000SF two-story school building with spaces for dance, music, Maker's lab, teaching kitchens, and schoolwide gardening. Our new facility will also have LOTS of parking, so we can invite parents to the school more often. We anticipate that the new facility will be ready for the 2026-27 school year, if all goes according to plan. This summer, we will be having a Parent meeting to collect ideas for the new facility! Stay turned.



End of Testing Snow Cone

As we enter into the month of May, it is especially important that students are present for their testing days. We understand that sometimes children are sick and unable to attend school, however, unexcused absences during this time are discouraged. We have scheduled a Mr. Snow Cone Celebration on May 15th, after testing has ended. Any student who has completed all of their scheduled assessments will be invited to go to the Mr. Snow Cone Celebration on the afternoon of May 15th! Students will be allowed to purchase a snow cone in the following flavors for **\$3.00!**

- Blue Raspberry
- Banana
- Cherry
- Cotton Candy
- Lime-Lemon
- Strawberry
- Tiger's Blood
- Pink Bubblegum



Staff Appreciation Week: May 5-9th

Mi Escuela Montessori has 61 dedicated professionals at our school. We look forward to honoring our teachers and support staff during Staff Appreciation Week! They plan during the summer and stay late during the school year...they celebrate your children's wins and cry when they are sad. They go above and beyond! Want to know how you can help make them feel acknowledged for all their hard work??

Think about love languages! Every person has a different way that makes them feel appreciated. For some, it is words of affirmation- a handwritten note, beautiful artwork, video from your child saying why they are THE BEST. For others, gifts help them feel loved- homemade cookies, a flower, or some other treat. Others love acts of service- offer to help your teacher when they are cleaning and organizing at the end of the year or come and do some copies for them.

Please assist us in raising funds and making Staff Appreciation Week an incredible display of gratitude towards them!

Do you own a small business? Consider supporting the staff by sponsoring a gift, a staff meal, or a service! In the past, gifts have included car washes, chair massages, drink stations, treat baskets, fresh baked cookies, gift certificates, and so much more. For just \$300, you can sponsor breakfast for the staff. For \$500, you can sponsor a lunch...

We will need volunteers during the carline this week and next week to collect donations to make the teachers special baskets of appreciation. In addition, we will do the following special event days:

Day of the Week	Ideas of things you can do...
Monday, May 5	Bring your teacher a flower or plant (handmade or fresh)
Tuesday, May 6	Send in hand written notes from your students.
Wednesday, May 7	Send in a drawing of you and your teacher!
Thursday, May 8	Email your teacher or staff person an appreciation video.
Friday, May 9	Decorate your car for the Carline parade!!



Important Links

- After School Change of Plans: Please complete the DISMISSAL PLAN CHANGE FORM if your student will be leaving from school in a different way that he or she regularly does.
- Suggestions or Questions: Do you have suggestions for updates to the school website or questions you would like answered? You may add them here: <https://forms.gle/werr3Q3a7ktmvy3F6>
- Volunteer Opportunities: You can sign up for volunteering HERE
- What do I do if I have a concern?
Parents with concerns about their children's educational experience are invited to engage the school through a tiered chain of communication:
 1. Parents can email the teaching team directly regarding their concern. Some concerns are addressed through a teacher email response. Please note that it may take up to 2 business days to answer an email. Parents may also request a phone call.
 2. If a satisfactory resolution is not reached, the parent(s) may set an appointment with the student's teacher in order to clarify and ensure that all involved better understand the problem at hand.
 3. If a satisfactory resolution is not reached through collaboration with the teacher, the parent(s) can make an appointment with the Assistant Principal or his or her designee to address concerns.

4. If a satisfactory resolution is not reached through collaboration with the Assistant Principal the parent(s) can make an appointment with the Principal or his or her designee to address concerns.
5. If a satisfactory resolution is not reached through collaboration with the administrative team, the parent will communicate in writing to the Family Liaison (who will communicate with the Board). The Family Liaison will meet with the family, mediate the grievance, and document all steps taken to resolve the issue.

Who Ya Gonna Call?		
Attendance	Renee Arias	attendance@miescuelamontessori.com
Enrollment/Forms	Carla Fitzwater	carla.fitzwater@miescuelamontessori.com
Health Related Issues	Renee Arias	renee.arias@miescuelamontessori.com
Food Service/ Lunch Applications	Sheila Ruiz	sheila.ruiz@miescuelamontessori.com
Technology Challenges	Aimee Diaz	aimee.diaz@miescuelamontessori.com
Billing (Lunch payments, Tuition, Aftercare fees)	Lisandra Rosario	lisandra.rosario@miescuelamontessori.com
Child Care Program (Casita & Children's House)	Mercedes Haedo	mercedes.haedo@miescuelamontessori.com
Transportation	James Jorgensen	security@miescuelamontessori.com
Special Education	Frances Ortiz Tiffany Prado	fran.ortiz@miescuelamontessori.com

		tiffany.prado@miescuelamontessori.com
Speech/Language Therapy	Vivienne Nieto	slp@miescuelamontessori.com
Enrichment	Lois Horn-Diaz	lois.horn-diaz@miescuelamontessori.com

