

## May 3<sup>rd</sup> – May 17<sup>th</sup> Newsletter

### Geist Montessori Academy

North Campus: 13942 E 96th Street, McCordsville, IN 46055  
South Campus: 6633 W. 900 North McCordsville, IN 46055  
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#### GEIST MONTESSORI ACADEMY Upcoming Events

### Admin Updates

Dear Parents and Families,

Thank you all so much for helping out students complete the first couple weeks of ILEARN testing. This can be a very tough time of the year for our students, so please continue to encourage them, help them get proper rest, and make sure they eat a good breakfast before they get to school. All these little things make a big difference.

Also, a special congratulation goes out to all of our students, parents, and staff that helped or participated in the Talent Show last week. We know that a lot of time and attention was needed, and it was well worth it. It was a huge success, and the acts were simply amazing!

It is so hard to believe that we are almost to the end of the school year! The last month is going to fly by, and we don't want anyone to miss anything. Please pay close attention to all of our newsletters, classroom communications, and our info page on the website. With so many fun events going on, it's going to be a great end of the year.

Sincerely,

GMA Administration

- **May 11<sup>th</sup>**
  - Spring Carnival
- **May 12<sup>th</sup>**
  - Mother's Day
- **May 16<sup>th</sup>**
  - Shadow Day
- **May 21<sup>st</sup>**
  - School Board Meeting
- **May 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - Last Day of School
- **May 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - Transition Ceremonies
- **May 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

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#### Next Pizza Lunch

May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>

#### Questions?

Contact Miss Katyann at [kdisalvo@gma.k12.in.us](mailto:kdisalvo@gma.k12.in.us)



## The Inside Scoop

- **Spring Carnival (May 11<sup>th</sup>)**
  - On Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, GMA will be hosting our annual spring carnival at the South Campus from 10:00am-1:00pm. There will be games, activities, treats, and lots of fun! Come out and enjoy this special event.
- **Mother's Day (May 12<sup>th</sup>)**
  - Thank you to all our GMA Moms! We appreciate all you do for these amazing children. We hope you enjoy your special day!
- **Shadow Day (May 16<sup>th</sup>)**
  - This special event is an opportunity for our Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to visit the new buildings they will join next year. On this day they will visit several classrooms and experience what they can look forward to next year. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will need to be dropped off at the North Campus from 8:15-8:30 and the Kindergarten students will need to be dropped off at the South Campus 8:30-8:45.
- **School Board Meeting (May 21<sup>st</sup>)**
  - The school board will hold their annual monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm in the North Camps common area.
- **Last Day of School (May 24<sup>th</sup>)**
  - Congratulations everyone, we made it through an amazing school year. Enjoy your long summer, and we will see you all back in August!
- **Transition Ceremonies (May 24<sup>th</sup>)**
  - On the last day of school our oldest Pre-K students, Kindergarten, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking part in their Transition Ceremony. This is similar to a graduation, where all the teachers lead a small ceremony, briefly speak about the students, and students receive their transition certificate. It is a wonder program that takes place at the end of the year of hard work. Parents and families are encouraged to attend, please contact your student's teacher for more information.
- **Middle School Graduation (May 24<sup>th</sup>)**
  - The Middle School will be sending off their 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with a special ceremony the night of May 24<sup>th</sup>, at Geist Community Church. Each graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grade student will be honored with special memories and acknowledgments. If you have a connection to any of our amazing 8<sup>th</sup> grader, please make plans to attend.

## Reminders

- **Visitor Sign In**
  - Please remember to always sign in at the front desk when visiting either campus. Once you are signed in, the staff working the front desk will give you a visitor badge and make sure you get to the proper location in the school. If you have any questions when visiting, please let our office staff know.
- **The Annual Fund**
  - The annual fund is always open, and you can donate anytime in person, over the phone, or on our website. We have some ambitious ideas to upgrade existing technology, to become a strong STEM presence in the community, and to strengthening our peace education through service learning projects that will allow us to give back in so many ways. Your generous donations will be used to support all these efforts as we aim to make the next chapter at Geist Montessori Academy even better than the last. We hope that you will join us with your financial support. Please visit our website <http://gmacademy.org/donate/>
  - Geist Montessori Academy is a 501(c)3 non-profit and your donation may qualify as a charitable deduction for federal tax purposes. Does your employer have a charitable gift matching program? Please

consider asking your employer to match your donation to Geist Montessori Academy by contacting your Human Resources department.

- **News Section of Our Website**
  - Don't forget to check out the News section of our website to stay updated on school happenings and events. Please visit <http://gmacademy.org/news/> for details.
- **Pistachio and Cashew Aware South Campus**
  - Please take notice that the South Campus is a pistachio and cashew aware campus. Due to some life threatening allergies in the building, we must keep these two types of nuts out of the South Campus at all times. Please make sure that all snacks, treats, and lunches do not contain any traces of pistachios and cashews.
- **One Call Messaging**
  - Geist Montessori Academy utilizes the communication system, OneCall. This tool allows us to communicate via email, phone and text message simultaneously. If you would like to receive text messages, please text the word "ALERT" to 22300. Standard messaging and data rates apply. Please contact the Front Office with questions or concerns at [317-335-1158](tel:317-335-1158).
- **Family/Student Handbook**
  - For your reference the Family/Student Handbook is available on the website at <http://gmacademy.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/2018-19-Family-Student-Handbook.pdf>
- **Carline Info**
  - We have noticed some unsafe practices in carline recently. Please make sure your children are safely buckled in their seat while entering and exiting carline. Also, please refrain from being on your phone while driving in carline. These little choices can be the difference between safe travels and serious injury or damage.
  - As a reminder, you will need to enter the building to sign out your student(s). If they are being signed out before the school day is complete, it will be counted as an early dismissal, and should only be done in the case of an emergency or special appointment. Please only do so as needed. **Please Note:** Due to safety concerns and limited parking spaces at North Campus, all early pick-ups will need to occur by 3:15PM. If you arrive after 3:15PM, you will need to utilize the carline.
- **Carpool Map**
  - If you would like help with picking up and dropping off your student, please sign up for our carpool map. This system will allow you to connect with other GMA families in your area to coordinate a carpool. If you have questions, or you would like to sign up, please contact the office.
- **Early Pick Up**
  - If you need to pick up your student(s) before dismissal, please make sure you park in the school parking lots and enter the building to sign them out. Do not park at Neal Tire, Fall Creek Veterinary or Geist Community Church. Your car will be towed.
  - If student(s) are signed out before the school day is complete, it will be counted as an early dismissal, and it should only be done in the case of an emergency or special appointment. Please only do so as needed.
- **Student Medication**
  - If your student(s) require any kind of medication, over the counter or prescription, it needs to be turned in to the office along with a student medication form. This form can be accessed online at <http://gmacademy.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/medication.pdf> or in the office at both the North and South campuses.
- **Material Fees**
  - We would like to thank all of our families that have paid their material fees. They are a vital part of each school year, as we use them to purchase everything the students need in the classroom. Without these fees, we would not be able to properly start our school year. If you have not yet taken care of your materials fees, please contact the school as soon as possible. We rely on these fees to provide students all the supplies they need for the school year. We still have several families who have not paid. We are able to take payment over the phone, on our website at <http://gmacademy.org/pay-materials-fees/> or in person via cash, check, or charge. Please remember, that you are getting a Montessori education that usually costs around \$13,000 per year for free. We rely on our material fees to help replace and obtain materials for the classrooms. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Karinda at [kholland@gma.k12.in.us](mailto:kholland@gma.k12.in.us).

