



# Weekly Message

Volume 1 | Issue 15  
November 13, 2020

*True peace ... suggests the triumph of justice and love among men; it reveals the existence of a better world where harmony reigns.* —Dr. Maria Montessori - Peace and Education

## HONORING OUR VETERANS

On Wednesday, we took a day to honor and remember military veterans. **Veterans Day** is also called **Armistice Day**. U.S. Representative Edward Rees of Kansas proposed a bill that would change Armistice Day to Veterans Day and in **1954**, Congress passed the bill that **President Eisenhower** signed proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day. **We sincerely thank everyone who has served our country.**

## BEGINNING OF THE YEAR TESTING

Our Beginning of the Year (BOG) Testing for all 3rd Graders will be offered on-campus the week of December 7-10th. Please read the [enclosed letter](#) (link) and then [complete this questionnaire](#) (link) by **TODAY** to let us know if your student will attend.

## LIFETOUCH PICTURES RETAKE DAY

**Picture Proofs & Picture Packages are FINALLY all here!** You can come to Sterling and pick up your proofs or ordered picture package **starting** next **Monday (11/16) between 9:30am-3:00pm in the Main Office**. Please drive-up to the carpool lane and call the Main Office, 919-462-8889. Elaine will come out to help you. **Please be sure to bring your mask!** **If you don't need to do a retake, you are welcome to pick up your Picture Package any time during the week.**

**If you aren't able to come on Monday, you can email Laura Chintapalli, [laura.chintapalli@gmail.com](mailto:laura.chintapalli@gmail.com), for your student's proof access code to view the proof online.** Please send Laura an email ASAP with your student's first & last name. Access codes cannot be

emailed after 8 am on Monday (11/16) because the pictures will be at Sterling after this time for pick-up.

**Lifetouch Retakes & Picture Day is this Tuesday, 11/17 on our Sports Court. PLEASE SEE [THESE DRIVE THROUGH DIRECTIONS](#) (link).** If your student was absent for the previous Individual Picture Days or is in need of retakes, please plan to have this done on this day. These pictures will be used in the Yearbook!






Schedule an Appointment: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/cxhkghhs/>  
(Everyone must have an appointment, walk-ins not permitted)

If a portrait package was purchased & a retake is requested, this picture package must be given to the photographer on 11/17 for the retake. It is very helpful for the retake photographer to receive a note with the picture package explaining what changes are needed. Like with Fall Picture Days, families need to place their online order before Retake Day if their student is getting a picture taken for the first time. These orders need to be placed before the end of the day on 11/17 for orders to be shipped to the school. Orders placed after this time, will be shipped to your home for a fee.

Picture Day ID - EVTPMV9GG

Order School Pictures: [www.mylifetouch.com](http://www.mylifetouch.com)

**If you can't make Picture Retake Day - don't despair! Help us make sure your student is included in the yearbook! Please follow these instructions:**

<p><b>WE'RE TELLING THE STORY OF THE YEAR &amp; WE NEED YOUR HELP!</b></p> <p>Email 2 pics of your child:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Looking at the camera, smiling.</li><li>2 Having fun, showing personality.</li></ol>  <p>Scan the QR code below to upload your photos.</p>  <p>Pre-Order your yearbook at <a href="http://www.jostens.com">www.jostens.com</a> or call 1-877-767-5217</p> 	<p><b>TIPS ON TAKING A GREAT CELL PHONE PHOTO</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Clean the camera lens.</li><li>2 Use Natural Light and make sure faces are not in shadows.</li><li>3 Don't tilt the camera.</li><li>4 Avoid photo filters.</li></ol>  <p> <b>STERLING MONTESSORI</b> EST. 1997</p> <p>Pre-Order your yearbook at <a href="http://www.jostens.com">www.jostens.com</a> or call 1-877-767-5217</p>
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## THE GIVING TREE - 2020 VIRTUAL GIVING TREE (SAVE THE DATE)

**Gift Givers:** The season of giving is here again. Please consider participating in this year's Virtual Giving Tree Project by donating a gift from a family's wish list.

**Friday, November 20th to Monday, December 14th**

1. Sign up for a gift on the SMACs Giving Tree site.
2. Purchase and wrap the gift.
3. Attach the special giving tree tag.
4. Deliver the wrapped and properly tagged packages to the front desk.

**\*\*The link for the giving site will be posted Friday, November 20, 2020\*\***

**Recipients: Is your family in need this holiday season?**

The SMACS PFA committee would like to extend the opportunity for your household to receive Virtual Giving Tree benefits this holiday season. This is an *optional* program that is provided for Sterling students based on need. *Your privacy* is of the utmost importance to us. If you decide to participate, your personal information will only be shared with school administrators and the Giving Tree committee. If this interests you, **please submit your wish list** by completing the attached online form by **5:00 PM ET Thursday, November 19, 2020** at <https://forms.gle/c6ixiX5kuZrsmvds7>

All gifts will be **distributed between December 15th and December 18th** by a **PFA Committee member**. More information about distribution will be communicated once we receive your wish list submission.

Happy Holidays!

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## CULTURAL ARTS AFRICAN DRUMMING



Our music department will host a **live virtual performance of African Drumming and Dancing on Thursday, November 19th**. **Kindergarten and LE** students are invited to attend the **1:00pm performance**, and **UE/MS** students are invited to attend the **2:00pm performance**. Each concert should be approximately 45 minutes.

**The Griot's Gourd** is a musical performance with storytelling instruments made from gourds. Through both traditional and original melodies, dancing and singing, Shabutaso's modern-day griots make connections between Africa and the African Diaspora, including between West Africa and North Carolina.

**K/LE - Join Zoom Meeting Thursday, November 19th 1:00-2:00pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9808045777?pwd=NzcyQ3FkNkFTNkpOaWhZZ2NkUTBPdz09>

Meeting ID: 980 804 5777 Passcode: 652569

**UE/MS - Join Zoom Meeting Thursday, November 19th 2:00-3:00pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9808045777?pwd=NzcyQ3FkNkFTNkpOaWhZZ2NkUTBPdz09>

Meeting ID: 980 804 5777 Passcode: 652569

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## FREE & REDUCED LUNCH




Sterling is accepting meal [applications](#) (link) for the 2020-2021 school year, which will begin in January 2021. This is the final opportunity to apply. Please submit your application to [dkimball@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:dkimball@sterlingmontessori.org). Click [here](#) for more information.

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## COVID EDUCATION

**Do You Know the Symptoms of COVID-19?** @NCDHHS

**SYMPTOMS CAN INCLUDE:**

 Congestion or runny nose Headache Sore throat New loss of taste or smell	 Cough Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	 Fever or chills Muscle pain Fatigue Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea
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**Please remember that when you are dropping off or picking up your child (currently in PreSchool Aftercare and going forward in reopening), Sterling requires parents to be wearing a mask.**

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## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **MakeUp Picture Day** - Thursday, November 17th
- **LHU Open Board Meeting** - Wednesday, November 18th @ 6:30pm
- **Cultural Arts: African Drummers** - Thursday, November 19th
- **World Children's Day** - Friday, November 20th
- **Thanksgiving Holiday/NO SCHOOL** - November 23rd - 27th
- **Beginning of Year (BOG) Testing** - December 7th-10th

Keep track of all on the [Event Calendar](#)

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## STERLING'S FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



### **Katelyn Homesley - MS Teacher**

Katelyn is a Math and Science teacher in our Middle School. She was drawn to Sterling and our Montessori values and practices as well as our desire to foster creativity, curiosity, and critical thinking in our learners. Katelyn enjoys empowering students to achieve cognitive, social, and emotional success through student-centered learning. She is thankful that she has the opportunity to cultivate a love for learning in the Middle School community.

Katelyn had the opportunity to be a part of the Middle School's first intersession. This Intersession focused on community and interconnection to explore the question "*How does what we know about our community shape the way we view ourselves?*" Students have been working diligently the last ten days to create an audio/video walking tour to assign to a fellow student in order to reveal the hidden treasures of their local community. She is delighted to watch students immerse themselves into something new and is excited to see their creativity exemplified in their completed intersession project.

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This Saturday begins **Diwali**, the **Indian Festival of Light**, celebrating "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance". Traditional diyas (light lamps) used during Diwali are earthen lamps, although plastic and metallic diyas have also become available recently. These diyas are filled with ghee or oil, and a cotton wick is used to bear the flame. And the diyas are **left burning all night**. *We wish our community a beautiful day of light and family!*

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