



# Weekly Message

Volume 1 | Issue 32  
March 26, 2021

*"What the hand does, the mind remembers"*  
—Dr. Maria Montessori

## PREPARATION FOR RETURN TO SCHOOL



We will welcome a number of students back to campus on Tuesday, April 6th, after Spring Break. We ask that over the break, families review our latest [Reopening Plans](#), which does detail our updated COVID protocols. All new placement information has gone out. If you have not received information and you have requested a change from distance to on-campus learning, please email your director.

**CARPOOL - NEW CARPOOL PROCEDURE** - In order to accommodate more students returning to campus, we have had to adjust our Carpool Procedures, particularly for **UE and MS families currently following the YELLOW carpool route**. Please review [THIS DOCUMENT](#) (link) that outlines the procedures for each level.

**CARPOOL TAGS: Returning Families** Please remember to clearly display your carpool tag when in the pick-up lane. **Bring your carpool tag with you daily!** Anyone who does not have a tag will need to park, answer a series of health questions and have their temperature taken. They will then need to visit the Main Office with their driver's license in order to confirm their identity and are permitted to pick up the student.

Families should continue to use their carpool tags from last year. **If you are new to Sterling** and have not yet received your carpool tags, please email [schase@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:schase@sterlingmontessori.org) as soon as possible with the name and classroom of the oldest child who will be on campus. If you would like to rent additional tags, you may do so through [Sterling's Website via My School Bucks](#).

**DEVICE RETURN** - all returning students who borrowed Chromebook devices, and will start on-campus full-time **must return them to school on Tuesday, April 6th**. They can be sent in with the student and turned in to the student's teacher. Please be sure to include the power supply. Thank you!

**MEDICATION DROP-OFF** - If returning students have medication, parents/guardians can bring all medications and [forms](#) on **Monday, April 5th between 9am-3:30pm**. If after that date, you will need to park and bring to the main office.

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## 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR UPDATE

Sterling has been notified by the Office of Charter Schools (OCS) that all charters will follow the law as it existed pre-COVID for calendar requirements. Therefore, we will follow our [calendar](#) accordingly. There is also no current authorization in statute for charters to conduct remote learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Of course, the General Assembly may enact a new law to apply to the 2021-22 school year that addresses whether remote learning can be offered. All charters can proceed at this time with setting up the school year according to requirements applied prior to COVID. This means we are not authorized to include remote instruction for the 2021-22 school year at this time.

We are excited about Fall 2021 and are actively planning now for a full return to on-campus learning complying with all health and safety guidelines and will not be offering a Distance Learning track. We will work with students who have a medical plan. Any questions related to medical accommodations can be directed to [Carrie Smith](#) or [Rownak Ifat](#).

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## INTENT TO RETURN FORM

In gathering information on Charter enrollment for the 2021-22 school year we request that current Charter families complete this [survey](#) by **Wednesday, March 31 2021**. If you are planning on withdrawing your student for the Fall, you must complete a [withdrawal](#) form and return it to [dkimball@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:dkimball@sterlingmontessori.org).

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## END OF GRADE/END OF COURSE TESTING

End of Grade/Course Testing for all **3-8th graders will be offered on campus May 25-23**. For our Blended Learners on campus, testing will be during the school day. For all our Remote Learners in 3rd-8th grades, please read the [enclosed letter](#) (link) and then [complete this questionnaire](#) (link) by **TODAY FRIDAY, MARCH 26th** to let us know if your student will attend.

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## FOOD DRIVE - COMMUNITY DONATION INITIATIVE

In April, Sterling will partner with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC and participate in a **campus-wide food drive from April 12-30th**. Students in each classroom will begin to prepare their collection boxes and create posters and flyers. We welcome donations of all types, including monetary donations! **Remember - a portion of our Annual Fund (3%) goes directly to our charity of choice each year - this year being the Food Bank!** In April, we will have opportunities for our Remote/Distance Learning families to drop off food donations -or- you can contribute monetarily. ALL donations are greatly appreciated! [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on this upcoming community event!



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## GARDEN WEEK PICTURES

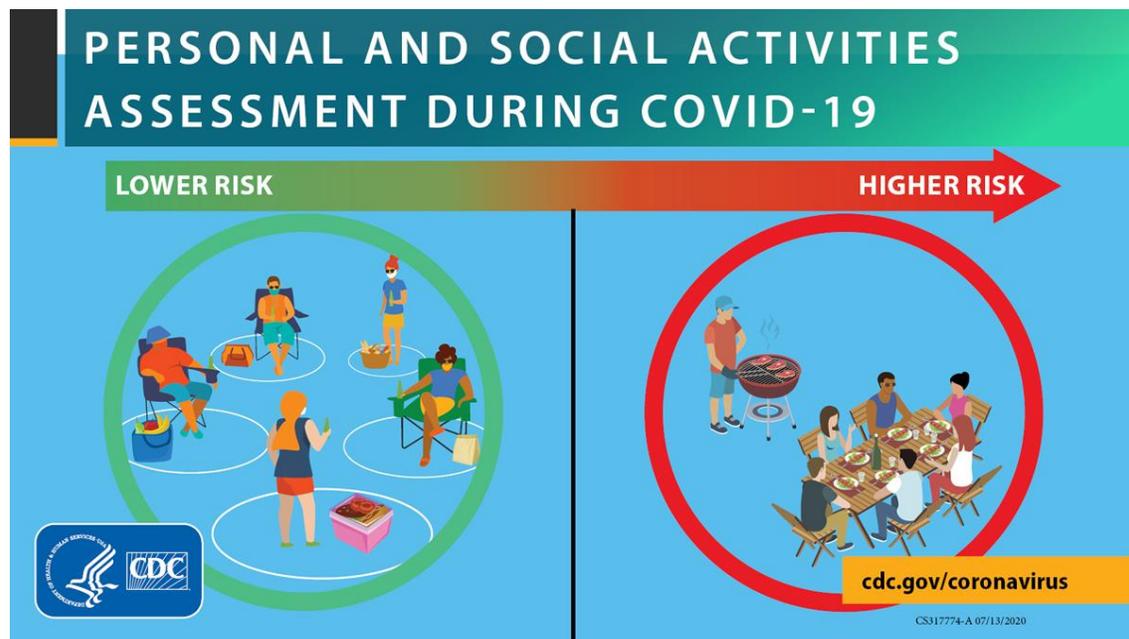




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## COVID EDUCATION

As we approach Spring Break, and the Passover and Easter holidays, we know there is a strong desire in all of us to be with family and friends. We ask that each Sterling family practice discretion and safety measures during this break to reduce any risk of COVID spread. Thank you!



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## ACADEMY SEATS ARE FILLING QUICKLY FOR THE 2021/22 SCHOOL YEAR

Sterling is accepting applications for our ACADEMY for PK3 and PK4 students. We suggest reviewing our [Admissions Procedures](#) on our website and get your application in today! Please let families and friends know, as there’s nothing like personal word-of-mouth!

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## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **SPRING BREAK/NO SCHOOL** - Monday, March 29th - Friday, April 2nd
- **TEACHER WORK DAY/NO SCHOOL** - Monday, April 5th
- **ALUMNI DAY VIRTUAL REUNION** - Monday, April 5th. We can’t wait to “see” everyone!
- **LHU DEI COMMITTEE MEETING** - Monday, April 5th @ 4:00pm
- **LHU POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, April 7th @ 4:00pm
- **LHU GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, April 7th @ 5:00pm
- **UE RISING UP NIGHT** - Thursday, April 8th @ 6:00pm
- **LHU TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING** - Friday, April 9th @ 8:00am
- **STERLING’S FOOD DRIVE** - Monday, April 12th - Friday, April 30th
- **LHU COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING** - Monday, April 12th @ 8:00am

- **LHU DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, April 14th @ 2:00pm
- **KINDERGARTEN RISING UP NIGHT** - Thursday, April 15th @ 5:00pm

See all meeting details on the [Event Calendar](#)

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**We wish all our families a relaxing and beautiful Spring Break.** This year, we celebrate two important holidays during our time out of school. Passover begins on Saturday, March 27th. Passover is one of the most important religious festivals in the Jewish calendar. Jews celebrate the Feast of Passover (Pesach in Hebrew) to commemorate the liberation of the Children of Israel who were led out of Egypt by Moses. Easter Sunday is April 4th. Easter is a Christian holiday celebrating the resurrection. Easter also marks the end of Lent, a period of repentance and fasting. **In all that our community celebrates, we extend friendship and safety to everyone!**

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