



Weekly Message

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April 9, 2021

"Children become like the things they love"
—Dr. Maria Montessori

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I hope this message finds you and your family well. I want to thank all of our returning families for following COVID protocols and procedures in order for staff and students to benefit from safe, on-campus learning.

I also want to take this time to address the world events that our students may hear from their friends, adult conversations, or even the news, and how the complexity of events affect others within our community or surrounding communities.

At Sterling, all students are encouraged to think and act globally as they develop critical thinking skills that will empower them to become life-long learners who respect themselves, others and their environment. We do this by encouraging our students to share their opinions and explore their own values, while respecting the values and opinions of others. In this way, we believe we are creating a foundation for a contributing global citizen that lasts a lifetime.

Our reality is that all types of racism exists, but we, as educators, can help students navigate the activities of the world around them. During these challenging times, Sterling is committed to uniting our students with the idea that love is more powerful by listening to their hearts, their fears, and clarifying their misunderstandings by making sure our educators and families have the tools to discuss tough topics. Sterling students will continue to be innovative, working collaboratively, and creatively uniting diverse opinions and backgrounds. These learning experiences will include working on projects within their class and the greater community, studying heroes of all ethnicities to combat injustices and gain exposure in activities that involve responsible citizens and effective contributors. These projects will provide a way for students of all ages to process emotions and develop a sense of interconnection of the world.

Along with Sterling's commitment to uniting our students, we also suggest that parents find out what your child knows about current events, explore any misconceptions that they may have, and discuss ways that your family can be helpful to others. For more resources regarding ways to support your child and family, see the links provided below:

- [AAPI-Resources.pdf \(timeforkids.com\)](#)
- <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/news.html>
- <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/Media/Pages/Talking-To-Children-About-Tragedies-and-Other-News-Events.aspx>

Thank you,

Josie Spreher

GROUP 1 STUDENTS (6-8th) RETURN TO CAMPUS NEXT WEEK

As a reminder to those families, please review [THIS DOCUMENT](#) (link) that outlines the CARPOOL procedures for each level. **CARPOOL TAGS: Returning Families:** 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 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](#).

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.

2021 VIRTUAL ALUMNI DAY

Thank you to all the Sterling Alumni and staff that participated in our Virtual Alumni Day on Monday. As we gathered, we asked alumni to name their favorite memories and words that describe their experience at Sterling. We created a word cloud to commemorate their responses:



FOOD DRIVE - COMMUNITY DONATION INITIATIVE



We are partnering with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC in a campus-wide food drive from April 12th-30th.

Students in each classroom have prepared their collection boxes and are eagerly awaiting donations. 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!** 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!



CAMP STINGRAY SUMMER CAMPS

Summer is FAST approaching, with just a limited number of days to sign up! We have camps for Children's House AND Elementary Sterling students (through 4th grade). Visit our [website](#) for more information and registration.



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **STERLING'S FOOD DRIVE** - Monday, April 12th - Friday, April 30th
- **LHU COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING** - Monday, April 12th @ 8:00am
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- **RAMADAN** - begins the evening of April 12th - the evening of May 12th.

- **LHU DEI COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, April 14th @ 4:00pm (rescheduled from Monday, April 5th)
- **KINDERGARTEN RISING UP NIGHT** - Thursday, April 15th @ 5:00pm
- **LHU MONTHLY BOARD MEETING** - Wednesday, April 21st @ 6:00pm
- **EARTH DAY** - Thursday, April 22nd
- **LOWER ELEMENTARY RISING UP NIGHT** - Monday, April 26th @ 5:00pm

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

STERLING FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

MICHAEL NYE, ASSISTANT P.E. TEACHER



“I am the assistant physical education teacher and afterschool/camp coordinator at Sterling. I grew up in Cary and reside in Durham with my partner, who is also a Montessori teacher! The fall of 2021 will be my 15th year at Sterling! I started in Children’s House after-school and then transitioned to P.E. Prior to becoming the coordinator for afterschool and summer camps, I coached youth soccer for 8 years. I have had the pleasure of seeing so many students grow up through Sterling in the past 15 years, as I have grown myself. I look forward to my continued role as a teacher at Sterling!”

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