



Weekly Message

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March 19, 2021

"We shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are part of the universe and are connected with each other to form one whole unity."

—Dr. Maria Montessori

REGISTRATION FOR DISTANCE LEARNERS TO RETURN TO ON-CAMPUS LEARNING

Earlier today, we announced, via a community email, the option for our Distance Learning track students to return to on-campus learning. **Please read this VERY IMPORTANT EMAIL** and Reopening Plan document, which describes the potential changes. Embedded in this Reopening Plan v6 document is a link to [DISTANCE LEARNING TO IN-PERSON REGISTRATION](#). **All DISTANCE LEARNING families for K-8th grades must register or decline for each of their students by Monday, March 22, 2021 at 12:00pm (noon).** If we do not receive a response, students will remain in the distance learning track.

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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 **FRIDAY, MARCH 26th** to let us know if your student will attend.

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WOMEN IN HISTORY

By Presidential proclamation, March is Women's History Month commemorating and encouraging the study, observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history.

CHILDREN'S HOUSE incorporates stories to help bring Women's History month to life by teaching the 3-6 year old child about some amazing women from history and today. We do not limit these stories



to JUST the month of March, the Montessori curriculum incorporates the celebration of ALL throughout the year. It is important for young children to know that anyone can be a scientist, a teacher, doctor, engineer or Mathematician. It is also important for us to celebrate the accomplishments of all the trail blazers in all cultures and that they can see themselves in those we celebrate.

ELEMENTARY - Similar to our approach to Black History, Women's studies are highlighted this month, but also integrated into all areas of the curriculum throughout the year. Includes stories, card material, timelines, student presentations etc.

MIDDLE SCHOOL has focused on empowering students to choose how they're engaging with the recognition of Women's History Month and to share their learning with each other. So far this month, students have decided to present to their Advisory groups on figures from Women's History and the double standards still present for women today. Some students have embarked on a math class project on Women in STEM.

SPECIALS: In the music room we have featured the Irish Women's Music Ensemble: Celtic Woman. We are also looking back in time to the 1800's to learn about Clara Schumann and Fanny Mendlessohn. In Spanish, we discussed the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo and her amazing artistic and cultural legacy as one the Spanish speaking world's greatest female artists. Mr. David and Mr. Michael created and shared a Women's History Month Presentation with the students. And with Ms. Danielle, books were chosen from female authors for this month's lessons and we have talked about the research that some of those authors have done about our brains and how to deal with emotions.

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WHY I GIVE

This week we celebrated our LUCK as a community and a reminder that there's still time to [donate to our inaugural Annual Fund Treasure Chest!](#) From a Development perspective, we feel so grateful for our students, families and faculty and all that they give to Sterling. We love to hear the personal stories of why our school means so much to so many:



why i give...



Our children both began as 4th graders at Sterling, so we were new to the school as well as Montessori methods. Their UE teachers fostered a dynamic environment for the kids and put in extra effort to involve parents. The business fairs and potlucks featured students' handmade products and dishes, while gatherings gave families a chance to enjoy class skits, collaborative research presentations, and art projects. From the ropes course and team challenges at the unforgettable Betsy Jeff Penn fall trips, to Gaga ball matches at recess, tending class gardens, and competing in chess and Risk matches on Fridays, our kids had rich elementary school lives. Academically, their instructors challenged their brains and creatively, teachers tirelessly organized showcases each season, where our daughter sang in chorus and later performed as a Sterling Star, while our son plays clarinet in band.

The journey continues in MS for our 7th grade son and 8th grade daughter, with Socratic seminars and literature circles in humanities, Big History and dramatis personae units in science, Wolfram programming and spreadsheet skills in math. The 'Traveling in Place' intersession last fall and recent MLK Day of Service project really allowed our kids to exercise their imaginations, as well as engage with and support their communities.

Our daughter leaves for high school this fall, but we are grateful to remain part of the Sterling community with our son still here. Thanking the Sterling teachers, administrators, and staff would never be enough for the collective role they have played in the growth of our kids, and that is why we donate to this diverse, vibrant, and enriching school.

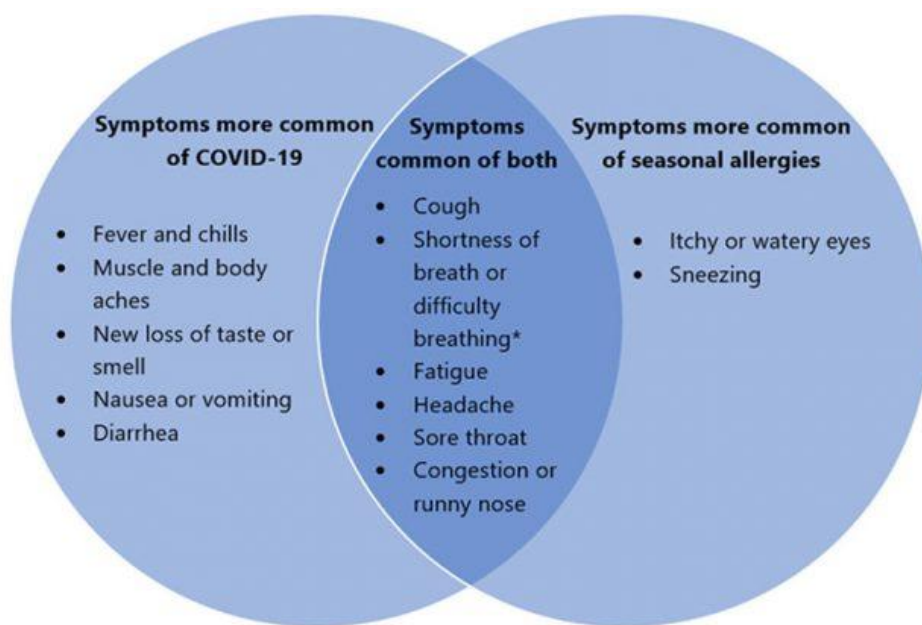
Dilip & Kavita Bhatia

Sterling Treasure Chest Platinum Donors 2020-21

Sign up for Painless Fundraising with AmazonSmile, Harris Teeter or iGive! Info and details on the bottom [of this page](#) on our Sterling site.

COVID EDUCATION

Allergy season is fast approaching, and symptoms can be confused with COVID. The CDC created this graphic to help differentiate symptoms:



BUY YOUR YEARBOOK!

We have 15 Yearbooks remaining for sale! **When we sell out, we will not be able to order more!**

Don't miss out - order yours today at www.jostens.com

STERLING'S GARDEN WEEK

TOMORROW is the first day of Spring! To welcome the changing of the seasons, Sterling's Garden Week will focus mostly on cleanup and be led by students and classes. Teachers will reach out for donations for their individual classrooms.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Morrisville Egg Hunt March 24-31 - Incorporating COVID-19 safety precautions, this year's egg hunt will allow residents to sign up for one of our family hunts at Cedar Fork District Park or register to pick up a supply of eggs and crafts to take home. The **Family Egg Hunt** at Cedar Fork District Park will allow families to sign-up for a time slot on Saturday, March 27, for a park field located at 300 Aviation Parkway in Morrisville. The group (six people or less) will be provided 20 eggs and crafts to create their own egg designs and have their own family egg hunt

in an assigned field. Parking will be located at Cedar Fork District Park. Please plan to arrive early and expect delays due to heavy traffic. NOTE: This event does not have a rain date. In the event of inclement weather call our Inclement Weather Hotline at 919-463-6215. The **Egg Pick-Up** will allow families to sign-up for an at-home package of 20 eggs and crafts (for a family of six or less) and pick up the package curbside at Cedar Fork Community Center, located at 1050 Town Hall Drive in Morrisville between March 24-31. This event is appropriate for children age 10 and younger. Registration is now open and will close on Tuesday, March 23. Registration is required for the Family Egg Hunt on March 27 and the Egg Pick-Up option as space and supplies are limited. Click [here](#) to register!

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IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **STERLING'S GARDEN WEEK** - Monday, March 22nd - Friday, March 26th.
- **UE HEALTH CHAT FOR PARENTS** - Tuesday, March 23rd @ 4:00pm ZOOM link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81058112651?pwd=Nnp0Z1NPSGVUUh5S2VEeHNVRGNxUT09>
- **MIDDLE SCHOOL RISING UP NIGHT** - Thursday, March 25th @ 5:00pm ZOOM Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81736059323?pwd=d2czRldjSm95N3ZhOWptZTdwNDZlZDZ0>
- **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. Invitations went out last week. 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
- **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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STERLING FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Cassie Rajaram, Special Education



“Hello, I’m Cassie and I am currently one of the resource teachers located in C12. I am proud to say that I have been part of the Exceptional Children’s Team for almost six years! I feel very fortunate that I get to work with unique learners that inspire me every day. I’m also so thankful for the many friendships that I have made through the Sterling community and the opportunities that I have had to collaborate with so many great teachers! I have a son who is a rising Kindergartener and I look forward to my continued roles as a teacher and a parent here at Sterling!”

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