



Weekly Message

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"Giving children the opportunity to stir up life and leave it free to discover" —Dr. Maria Montessori

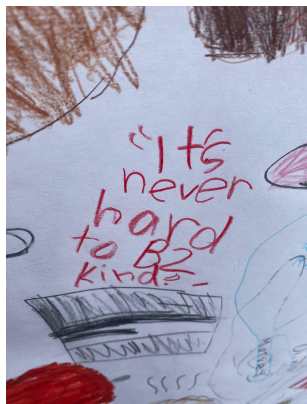
STERLING'S FOOD DRIVE INITIATIVE

"The flowers on the boxes remind me every day to bring food for other people."

- A Children's House student



Thank you to our entire community for your enthusiastic support of our Food Drive! We have already collected many needed items, and we welcome more - keep the donations coming! A reminder for our **Distance Learners** - when we load up our truck for our first Food Bank delivery on **Wednesday, April 21st**, you can come by for a **Food Bank Carpool Drop-off between 11am-12pm in the back parking lot (off Town Hall Drive)** to deliver donations. We also have a dropbox in the front office, and many remote classrooms have boxes available for collection, in case you want to campus during off-hours (please check with your class teachers).



CARPOOL REMINDER

For UE/MS families picking up near the Town Hall entrance, **please don't enter the parking lot until 3:20pm for Monday - Thursday dismissal**. This allows the Children's House (GREEN) carpool, which starts at 3:00pm, to flow and not block access, creating less congestion. Also make sure you have your **carpool tags hanging on your visor**. We will be clicking all numbers for the safety of students.

2021 GRADUATION



We are so proud of our 8th grade students who have weathered a tough year, sacrificing many of the “usual” activities and experiences in their last year at Sterling. Through it all, this class has exhibited grace and dignity in the face of adversity.

For graduation, we are still evaluating NCDHHS requirements for events, and since we don't have an indoor space that will accommodate all the students and families, we are looking for alternatives for outdoor spaces. We **do** know that any in-person graduation ceremony will be for students and parents/guardians only, with **limited capacity**, and must **follow mask and distancing protocols**. More information and details will come soon.

ACADEMY SEATS CONTINUE TO FILL FOR 2021/22

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 work-of-mouth!

PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a [Public Meeting](#) on April 20th at 7:00pm to discuss the road expansion that will take place between Sterling Montessori and Cedar Fork Elementary School.

COVID EDUCATION

MODIFICATIONS TO MASK REQUIREMENTS. As outdoor temperatures warm, we've been asked about any changes to our mask requirements. According to NCDHHS (which we follow), masks are not required when students are **outside for recess AND maintaining 6 feet of physical distancing at all times; a teacher holds class outdoors with ALL individuals consistently maintaining 6 feet of physical distancing at all times; students are participating in an outdoor P.E. class with all individuals consistently maintaining 6 feet of physical distancing at all times.**

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- **STERLING'S FOOD DRIVE** - Monday, April 12th - Friday, April 30th
- **LHU MONTHLY BOARD MEETING** - Wednesday, April 21st @ 6:30pm
- **EARTH DAY** - Thursday, April 22nd
- **LOWER ELEMENTARY RISING UP NIGHT** - Monday, April 26th @ 5:00pm
- **TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK** - May 3rd - May 7th
- **LHU DEI COMMITTEE MEETING** - Monday, May 3rd @ 4:00pm
- **CINCO DE MAYO** - Wednesday, May 5th
- **LHU POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, May 5th @ 4:00pm
- **LHU GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, May 5th @ 5:00pm
- **LHU STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING** - Friday, May 7th @ 9:00am
- **MOTHER'S DAY** - Sunday, May 9th

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

STERLING FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Amanda Keighley - Children's House Lead Teacher

"My name is Amanda Keighley, and I have been a Montessori teacher for seventeen years and the A4 teacher at Sterling for seven years. I was lucky enough to attend a Montessori school for six years as a child and have wonderful memories of how I felt in that beautiful and serene environment. I try to provide the same experience to the children in my classroom. One of the most rewarding parts of my job is watching children become readers."

Literacy is so powerful, and the child's world unlocks when they can read. Sharing and reading wonderful children's literature is a joy. I like to share classics, favorites from my childhood, One Morning in Maine by Robert McCloskey for one, and thoughtful recently published books like Lovely by Jess Hong. I encourage parents and children to seek out their local children's librarian, who has the keys to the castle as it were. I miss the four seasons of my native Massachusetts and enjoy spending time outside when it's cold. I will spend the North Carolina summer inside baking for my wonderful husband and entitled dogs."

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RAMADAN

This week began the holy month of Ramadan for Muslim families. Ramadan, which ends on May 12th is a period of spiritual reflection, and provides health benefits to followers who fast from dawn to dusk each day. Celebrants will also avoid negative acts like gossiping, lying or arguing during the month. During this period, charity is very important and many will hold food drives or fundraisers to help the less fortunate. When Ramadan ends in May, Muslims will celebrate with Eid al-Fitr, or the "Festival of Breaking of the Fast", a community celebration with feasts, gifts and games. We wish all our Sterling Muslim families "Ramadan Kareem" which means "have a generous Ramadan".



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