

2025-2026

Parent Information Series





Dear Families,

We are looking forward to presenting this year's Parent Information Series.

It is our goal to provide support for your parenting and give you a solid grounding in the child development that is at the heart of Montessori philosophy.

Our sessions will be interactive, and when possible hands-on, introducing families to the approach at the Toddler, Primary, Elementary, and Adolescent levels. We aim to deepen families' understanding of the Montessori pedagogy by having multiple opportunities to experience it firsthand. The Silent Journey & Discovery event, in September, is an ideal opportunity to immerse yourself in the approach and learn from the experts, our teachers.

We are committed to our partnership with you as you hone your parenting skills. It is our hope and belief that if you invest time in the Series, you will become increasingly conscious in your parenting, grow your understanding of your child's unfolding development, and gain insight to parent in today's world, amongst all its complexities. Our presentation, in October, on AI and Montessori, Demystifying AI: What Parent Need to Know, is a highlight this fall.

Do try to attend as many sessions as possible; each one will give you a new window into your child's experience with us as well as connecting home and school.

Sincerely,

Mary

MSGH Parent Information Series

This booklet serves as your guide to our parent information events throughout the year. Our Parent Information Series offers you an important opportunity to enrich your parenting, and to deepen your understanding of your child's development and Montessori education. We are excited to share these topics with you.

Food: For our morning parent information sessions, a light breakfast and coffee will be provided. For our evening parent information sessions, dinner will be provided. We invite you to join us for dinner at 5:30 p.m. Come have a bite and enjoy socializing with other adults in our community.

Childcare: During select information series events, childcare and dinner will be provided for Elementary-aged MSGH children beginning at 5:30 p.m. Please make sure to reserve your child's spot in the childcare when you RSVP for the event. We regret that we are not able to provide childcare for Toddler and Primary children. We have found that the childcare format utilized for these events and at this time of day is not in the best interest of our youngest children.

RSVP: Families are asked to RSVP in advance and attend as many events as possible. You can RSVP by scanning the QR codes found in this booklet, calling the Main Office at 860-236-4565 or by emailing information@msgh.org. In addition, in the weeks leading up to the event, you will be able to RSVP through MSGH's weekly bulletin. Please feel free to sign-up guests, including grandparents, and caregivers or friends who may be interested in MSGH for their own children.



Parent Information Series

Friday, September 26, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 27 8:00-1:00 p.m.(approx.)
Silent Journey

Thursday, October 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Demystifying AI: What Parents Need to Know

Wednesday, November 5, 9:00-10:30 a.m.
The Crowning Year: The Third Year and Fourth Year in
Primary

Wednesday, November 12, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
The Child in the Second Plane

Thursday, November 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
The Adolescent Student

Thursday December 4, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Toddler: Language

Thursday, January 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Primary: The Parenting Toolkit

Thursday, March 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Toddler: Practical Life

Wednesday, March 25, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Elementary: Math

Tuesday, March 31, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Raising Resilient Kids

Silent Journey

Friday, September 26
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 27
8:00 to 1:00 p.m.(approx.)

Join us for this two-day immersive experience to explore our Montessori classrooms and deepen your understanding of your child's educational journey. Together, we will discover how the Montessori approach supports your child's development at every stage.



The Silent Journey – Friday, September 26

On Friday evening, you will step into our classrooms just as the child does. You'll have time to explore the spaces in silence, noticing the beauty of the environment and the materials, and experiencing firsthand how a child is drawn into learning through curiosity and wonder.

We will guide you through the various classroom levels highlighting the thoughtful progression and increasing complexity of the materials.

The Discovery – Saturday, September 27

When we return on Saturday, the silence lifts. You'll have the opportunity to work with the materials, ask questions, and hear from our teachers. Each part of the experience builds upon the other: Friday allows you to slow down, observe, and connect with the environment in a new way. Saturday brings clarity, context, and meaning to what you saw and felt.

RSVP by Monday, September 22.



Demystifying AI: What Parents Need to Know

Thursday, October 16, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Presented by Nadja Soper

Artificial Intelligence (AI) will transform the world our children are growing up in—but what does that really mean, and how can we prepare them for it? In this engaging two-hour talk, we'll break down what AI is (in simple, relatable terms), explore the essential skills children will need to thrive in an AI-powered world, and highlight how the Montessori philosophy already supports many of these future-ready capabilities. Perfect for parents curious about technology and wanting to understand its impact on their children.

This presentation is presented by Nadja Soper, current parent and Board Member. It is open to all families of all levels. We hope you will join us for this informative and relevant presentation. RSVP by Tuesday, October 14.



Primary: The Crowning Year

Wednesday, November 5, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

The final year in the Primary Montessori classroom is called the "crowning year." On November 5, the Primary teachers will discuss the benefits of the child's final year in Primary and the importance of completing the Primary cycle for the child's Montessori experience. Learn how the "crowning year" is valuable in consolidating the child's experience in the Primary environment and how it supports the development



of each child's intellect, self-confidence, ability to give back to the community and leadership skills.

This is open to all families in the Toddler and Primary programs who are interested in learning more about the final year in Primary. RSVP by Monday, November 3.



Elementary: The Child in the Second Plane

Wednesday, November 12, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

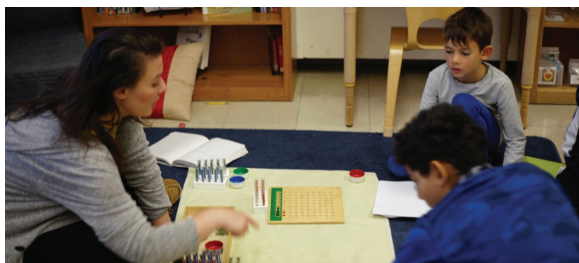


Dr. Maria Montessori referred to the period from 6 to 12 years old as the Second Plane of Development. As the child moves from the first plane (birth to 6) into the second plane, the environment and curriculum must shift to support the next phase of the child's development.

We invite you to join our Elementary teachers

to learn about the second plane child and how MSGH's exceptional Elementary Program supports the development of the 6 to 12 year old. In this discussion, you will learn how the program ignites children's natural curiosity for learning; develops capability, independence and resilience; presents a culturally-rich academic curriculum; and prepares students to be community-minded citizens of the world.

This is open to all families, especially Toddler and Primary who are interested in learning more about our Elementary Program. RSVP by Monday, November 10.



Adolescent: The Adolescent Student

Thursday, November 13, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Parents, one and all, are invited to attend this presentation on MSGH's Adolescent Program. This presentation is the ideal complement to our scheduled Fall Open House which will take place at our New Hartford Campus on Sunday, October 26 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. If you can't attend the Open House, this evening's presentation will provide an informative and comprehensive look at our Adolescent Program.

We invite you to join our Adolescent teachers to learn how MSGH's authentic, land-based program provides a broad range of experiences to meet a young person's need for intellectual stimulation, creative expression, independence, responsibility, social development and personal growth.

RSVP by Monday, November 10.



Toddler: Language

Thursday, December 4, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Children are programmed to take in and master the language of their culture. Spend an evening with the MSGH Toddler teachers as they explore the extraordinary means by which children develop language skills and how we might best foster their growth in the home and school setting. The importance of real experiences, using rich vocabulary, and the most appropriate books for "story time" will be discussed. We will focus on the tools adults can use for more effective communication with young children.

RSVP by Monday,
December 1.



Primary: The Parenting Toolkit

Thursday, January 8, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Primary teachers will facilitate an overview discussion on the characteristics and development of the Primary-aged child and they will share tips on how to best support the child's growing independence. In addition, the teachers will provide a concise overview of "the best of" Montessori parenting principles and sound parenting strategies specific to the Primary-aged child. The presentation will give you a Montessori lens on parenting challenges you may face, giving you new tools and confidence in supporting your child.

RSVP by Tuesday, January 6.



Toddler: Practical Life

Thursday, March 19, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Practical Life is at the heart of the Toddler environment. Everyday routines and practices such as preparing food, dressing oneself, and cleaning are included as Practical Life exercises. These new and exciting tasks offer several benefits to the child: acquiring a practical skill, cultivating focused attention and fostering intelligence through the partnership of mind and body working together.



We invite you to join the Toddler teachers as we explore what your children are capable of in the classroom and how you can support at home.

RSVP by Monday, March 16.



Elementary: Math

Wednesday, March 25, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Maria Montessori had a deep appreciation for mathematics. Her gift for mathematics is readily apparent in the sequence and scope of the Elementary math materials.

We invite you to join the Elementary teachers as they take a deep dive into the Montessori Math curriculum. Learn how the children move from concrete materials to abstraction (paper and pencil) during their Elementary years. Discover how Montessori Math materials deepen the child's understanding of mathematical concepts from operations to fractions to decimals and more! See how the principle of indirect preparation is woven throughout the sequence of lessons, always providing opportunity for sensorial experience building towards abstract understanding. In this way the children are set up for success, whether it is acquiring the basics in the operations, fractions and decimals or extending their study to algebra.

RSVP by Monday, March 23.



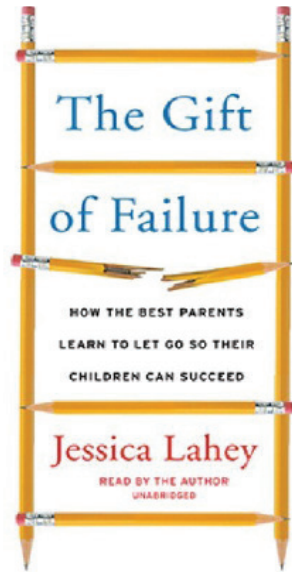
Raising Resilient Kids

Thursday, March 31, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Presented by Jessica Lahey, New York Times Best Selling Author

We are excited to offer a virtual presentation with Jessica Lahey, acclaimed educator, writer, and author of the New York Times bestselling book *The Gift of Failure: How the Best Parents Learn to Let Go So Their Children Can Succeed*. Drawing on two decades of teaching experience in both public and private schools, Jessica offers a compelling message: true growth happens when children are allowed to face challenges, learn from mistakes, and develop resilience and independence. *The Gift of Failure* lays out practical, research-backed strategies that help parents to step back, allowing their children to foster the development of motivation, grit and self-confidence.

Details regarding the Zoom information will be sent out to the community as the date gets closer.



Mission

The Montessori School of Greater Hartford fosters a strong foundation for confident, compassionate participation in the world by nurturing each child's unique gifts, passion for learning, and independence.

As a community, we enrich families, live our diversity, and embody the Association Montessori Internationale standards of excellence.



Our Parent Information Series offers you an important opportunity to enrich your parenting and deepen your understanding of your child's education and development.

Come. Learn. Engage.
We hope you will join us!

