

SVMA September Newsletter



We enjoyed a smooth back-to-school transition. Returning students quickly settled into the routine, and new students are adjusting to preschool life.

September's theme is **Family, Friends & Me**, which promotes the individual child and establishing a sense of community. Children will practice taking turns, sharing, and saying "please" and "thank you." Routine hand washing/sanitizing, using tissues for clean noses, and coughing into the bent arm will be reinforced.

A Note About Our Teachers

We are excited about our teaching team for the 2026–2027 school year. Mr. Lewis has requested a leave of absence this school year for health reasons and will not be teaching in the classroom. He will continue to support the SVMA program in other ways, and we look forward to having him remain an important part of our school community. Miss Anne Thrower-Patterson and I will be teaching the Sunflower Class, along with our lead assistant, Dalavy LaPorta. Miss Anne brings experience as a kindergarten teacher and is a wonderful, nurturing addition to our team.

Introducing the SVMA Teaching Team for 2026-2027!

Tulip Class: Valerija Hull, Lead Teacher; Binta Jameh and Melanie Gross, Assistant Teachers

Daisy Class: Heather Clessuras, Lead Teacher, with support from Christine Lonergan
Adrienne Neher, Vidhya Sudhir and Miss Darshini, Assistant Teachers

Sunflower Class: Anne Patterson and Christine Lonergan, Teachers; Dalavy LaPorta, Lead Assistant

Arrival and Dismissal

Thank you for your patience during carline. To expedite arrival, a teacher removes your child from the car. During dismissal, parents with one child should remain in the car. Staff members are happy to secure children into car seats. It is anticipated that dismissal time will improve with the introduction of name cards displayed in the car window and enrichment classes.

Upcoming Events and Reminders

Sports & Games and Outdoor Play

Students participate in daily sports & games and outdoor play. Please send your child in closed-toe shoes for safety and optimal participation.

Monday, September 14 – Early Bird Begins

Students participating in the Early Bird program may enter from 8:15 to 8:50 a.m. Parents ring the bell for entry. We offer Early Bird drop-in. The fee is \$20.00 per morning and must be paid upon arrival.

Monday, September 14 – Enrichment Begins

It is not too late to sign up. This is a great opportunity for little ones to build their socialization skills and talents. Lots of fun too! We offer Enrichment Drop-In if there is space. The fee is \$50.00, and we request 24-hour notice.

As a reminder, Enrichment students BYOL – Bring Your Own Lunch (with drink). Please label your lunch box and water bottle. Foods containing peanuts or tree nuts of any kind are not allowed, including peanut butter. Check ingredients on packaged items to ensure that they are nut-free and made in a nut-free environment without exposure to peanut or nut dust.

REVISED DISMISSAL FOR ENRICHMENT:

We kindly ask parents or caretakers to park and wait at the gate. We will bring your child to you from the playground.

Thursday, September 10

SVMA Soccer Begins at Westmoreland Park @ 3:30

Thursday, September 17

Spirit Day at SVMA! Wear your School Tee Shirt to school and to Westmoreland Park.

Popsicles in the Park – 4:00 – Westmoreland Park

Wednesday, September 23 – 7:00 p.m.

Sunflower Parent Meeting in the Sunflower Room

Early October Student Portraits

SMILE! Your child's picture day will be assigned closer to the date.

Friday, October 23

Parent & Teacher Cocktail Social – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Spring Valley Montessori Academy Play Area

If you cannot secure a babysitter, consider having one parent attend. It is a fun event and excellent community builder.

Supplies/Activity Fee

If you have not done so already, please submit your \$100.00 supplies/activity fee.

Parent Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, a sign-up form will be sent in totes this week.

SVMA Email List

Let us know if there is someone you would like to add/remove from our SVMA distribution list.

Student Directory

We are in the process of finalizing the directory. If you have not done so already, please submit your directory information.

As always, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to a wonderful year!

Christine Lonergan and the *SVMA* Team

