



Summer 2021

Dear Elementary 2 Students & Parents,

We hope you are having a wonderful summer with your families. The long, restful break helps us all re-energize for the upcoming school year. This recent school year brought with it many new challenges and we are excited for a return to a more normal experience for our students and families.

This email is to welcome you to E2 and help you prepare for the year with information on the student supply list, summer homework and general information. The Summer Assignments sheet and Supply List are also attached. We will discuss these topics and more as a group prior to the start of the school year at a Parent Orientation on August 11th at 6pm. We look forward to seeing all of you on this evening and also on the first day of school, Monday, August 16th.

Supply List:

One of the big changes from Elementary 1 to Elementary 2 is the student becomes responsible for his/her own personal supplies. We ask that the student please bring the items on the first day of school. If you have any difficulty finding any of them, please feel free to email or call me. All of these items can be found at office supply stores or on Amazon. The Supply List is attached at the end of this letter.

Please make sure your child has all of his or her supplies for the first week of school. We are happy to send pictures of any items for which you may have questions. Please do not purchase large zippered notebooks; they're awkward for the children to use. Each student should have a backpack for carrying reading books, homework, and other items back and forth from school.

Lunches and Snack:

Lunches should be packed in a lunchbox with an ice pack. Please also include a daily snack for your student and a water bottle that can get refilled at school. Information on the status of the hot lunch program will be available after school starts.

Literary Circles:

E2 students will be participating in in-class Literary Circles throughout the school year. We will let you know the fourth and fifth grade book choices prior to the beginning of each circle session. You will be billed a \$16 fee for the books.

Homework:

As Montessorians we work to keep homework at a minimum, although it does have a minor role in the Elementary 2 Class. Its purpose is to help your child become more responsible for independent work and to begin to develop good study habits. We recommend homework be done independently with a minimum of help from parents for students to receive the greatest benefit. However, parents should quiz for vocabulary tests and do a final edit for all writing assignments. Below is a preview of your child's upcoming homework assignments.

- Math: Adjusted individually for each child. Each child should regularly practice math multiplication facts at home until they are mastered.
- Vocabulary: We study each vocabulary unit for two weeks. Vocabulary homework, done every week, includes choosing an online activity for the first week and writing sentences and parts of speech for each of the 12 vocabulary words for the second week. The children are also expected to study the words for the Friday tests. One week is a spelling test of the words and the second week is the vocabulary test. Vocabulary workbooks are done in class.

Below are a few study tips for vocabulary:

- Set up a specific time to study for your tests.
- Begin your review early; don't wait until the night before the test to study.
- Go over the material on which you will be tested. Make a list of words you find confusing, and put more effort into learning them.
- Test yourself. Recite the material out loud whenever possible.
- Explain the words to someone else.
- Go to book's website (vocabularyworkshop.com) and complete vocabulary games and the practice tests.
- Go over the material at least once on the day before the test.

Reading:

Students are encouraged to read for 30-60 minutes each day at home. The books they are reading at home can be for an in-class literary circle assignment, book report homework assignment, or an at home (AH) book.

Book Reports:

There will be a number of different book reports for the students to complete at home throughout the year. The book report instructions will appear on our website under the E2 classroom page as well as in google classroom. The assignments will be announced in the E2 News.

AH Books (At Home Reading Books):

At home reading books will be chosen at school and read during silent reading and at home. Each week students will take time to reflect on their AH book reading. Please make sure all reading books stay in the backpack.

Spanish:

Spanish class is a separate class in the fourth and fifth grade curriculum. The Spanish program this school year is 30 - 45 minutes three days a week with instructor Paulina Kahn.

Incomplete Weekly Work:

Students manage their work over the course of the week with the work expected to be completed by Friday. Please note, the expectations for each child vary. Unfinished work can be completed as a weekend homework assignment. You will have a password and be able to log into your child's google classroom account to check finished work each week.

Tutorial:

Tutorials are typically held weekly on Tuesdays, from 3:10pm - 4:10pm. Students may be invited by the teacher to attend a tutorial or a student wishing for more support may elect to attend a tutorial. Tutorials are provided free of charge and are thematic. For example, we may focus on math one week and on geography another week.

E2 Parent Orientation Evening:

August 11, 2021 - 6pm to 7pm
E2 Classroom

There will be a Parent Orientation Meeting on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, from 6pm to 7pm. This is a time to go over the policies and procedures of the classroom environment as well as answer any questions you may have. Subjects such as weekly work plans, reading assignments, finished work expectations, homework, snow cones, field trips, and more will be covered. **Childcare will be provided.**

Please feel free to email us during the summer should you have any questions or comments. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Orientation Meeting and the Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 15.

Kind regards,

Jayne Cobb
jcobb@centermontessori.org



E2 Supply List for the 2021/2022 School Year

- Pencils-No mechanical pencils, please. Regular yellow wooden pencils are the best. Have several on hand for school.
- Erasers-standard school pink erasers
- 3 black inking pens (Ultra Fine Sanford) Sharpies
- 1 pk. of 4 thin dry erase markers - any color
- 2 marbled composition books- wide rule (These books have a sewn binding and a marbled cardboard cover.)
- 1 marbled composition book 4 squares to inch - graph ruled
- Berol Prismacolor Scholar soft colored pencils- 2 sets of 12. BEST TO PURCHASE THESE ONLINE THROUGH AMAZON. Please do NOT get the hard Verithin version (These pencils are expensive, however, they are important for the production of quality products.)
- Pencil box (The boxes without dividers work best because a variety of loose items will fit in them better. We prefer boxes that do not lock)
- Manual pencil sharpener (2)
- Glue sticks (6)
- Crochet hook
- Yarn
- Watercolor box with brush (8 colors)
- 1/2 " white binder with view pocket
- Scissors - small, student scissors
- Ear buds/mic with case or head phones/mic.
- Backpack (no rollers please- must be able to hang on the back of the chair)