



San José  
Unified  
School District

July 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians of Hammer Montessori 2018-19 Kindergarten Students:

Welcome to Hammer Montessori! We are excited to welcome your child to our school, and look forward to building a relationship with you and your family. We are dedicated to helping children reach their potential and beyond. Information you will want to know is detailed below.

### **MINIMUM DAYS DURING FIRST TWO WEEKS OF SCHOOL**

To create a positive transition into kindergarten, all SJUSD kindergarten students will have Minimum Days during the first two weeks of school. ***School hours are 9:05 am to 1:00 pm on August 15-24.***

### **KINDER ASSESSMENTS**

On Tuesday, August 14, the day before school begins, students are invited to come to Hammer Montessori for kinder assessments. On Wednesday and Thursday, the first two days of school, teachers will complete group assessments. These preliminary assessments will help us balance the kinder classes for the coming year. Kinder class lists will be posted on Thursday, August 16, at 3:00 pm.

Please use the following link to select a timeslot on August 14 for your child's assessment:

***<https://tinyurl.com/HammerKinderAssessment>***

If you are unable to bring your child to school on Tuesday, August 14, for this assessment, his/her teacher will assess sometime during the first few days of school.

### **SCHEDULE FOR FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL**

The first day of school is Wednesday, August 15. Parents and kindergarten students will meet in the cafeteria at 9:05 am.

- Students will first go with the principal to learn about playground rules, and later will work with the kindergarten teachers on various academic activities.
- Parents will stay in the cafeteria for an orientation focused on our kindergarten program, presented by the kinder teachers. Parents may leave after the orientation, and will return at 1:00 pm to pick up their student.

On Thursday, August 16, parents should bring their student to the courtyard by 9:00 am. The kindergarten teachers will take the students for another day of orientation and academic activities. Students will be dismissed again at 1:00 pm.

Kindergarten class lists will be posted on the windows of the school office at 3:00 pm on Thursday, August 16.

On Friday, August 17, parents are invited to join their student in their classroom at 9:05 am. There will be a short orientation with your child's teacher. Students will again be dismissed at 1:00 pm. *Please remember that the 1:00 pm dismissal continues through August 24.*

### **REGULAR KINDERGARTEN HOURS**

Beginning Monday, August 27, regular kindergarten school hours will be observed. The schedule is as follows:

9:05 am – 3:00 pm      Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9:05 am – 1:34 pm\*    Tuesdays (\*Early-Out Tuesday)

### **JOIN OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY**

Our school uses *BigTent.com* to communicate with families about school news, events, and opportunities to get involved. Here is how to join:

- Go to [www.bigtent.com/groups/hmsbigtent](http://www.bigtent.com/groups/hmsbigtent)
- New to *BigTent*? Click the link to “Sign up” at the bottom of the Member Login box. Join *BigTent*, and then join the Hammer Montessori School group.
- Already a *BigTent* member? Sign in under Member Login and then join the Hammer Montessori School group.
- Need help with *BigTent*? Contact Brian Shimada at [maestrobks@gmail.com](mailto:maestrobks@gmail.com)

### **AMBASSADOR PROGRAM FOR NEW FAMILIES**

This program matches new Hammer Montessori families with current families, with the goal of helping you connect to the school community and answer questions that may arise during your first year. You can sign up for the Ambassador Program on our *BigTent* site, or contact: Suzie Snow at [suz\\_ayq82@hotmail.com](mailto:suz_ayq82@hotmail.com).

Our goal is to create a caring and supportive kindergarten community of learners, and we are looking forward to working with you and your child.

Kind regards,

*Carmen Loy*

Carmen Loy  
Principal