

# The Children's Place

Montessori Newsletter

August, 2023

## Staff Happenings



### Congratulations to Ms. Katteria!

**Ms. Katteria** has been an integral part of The Children's Place for over 20 years. When she joined the school back in 2000, she did not begin with any Montessori training. Yet her keen perception paired with her willingness to take on individual courses and workshops in specific aspects of the Montessori classroom have given her even more insight in skillfully assisting Montessori children grow and develop. During the past year she has taken on the task of formal Montessori Certificate training. She has nearly finished her formal classes and will begin her in-classroom internship this fall. Ms. Gina, who is a trained AMS teacher of over 15 years, will serve as her mentor teacher. While Katteria has been involved with Montessori all these years, we are very proud of her putting in the hard work to step forward and take on the role of Montessori 3-6 Guide beginning this fall.

### Our Fondest Appreciation for Ms. Ksenia



**Ms. Ksenia** is very excited to continue her education and will be pursuing her master's degree in education this fall. We are excited for her as well and

are disappointed that her full-time studies mean she will not be able to continue with us here at The Children's Place. We have enjoyed her spark and enthusiasm and are so grateful she's been able to share it with us this past year. We wish her the best and have kept the door open for substitute or a possible part time return should her schedule and the school's align better in the future. Her last day with us will be August 18.

## Welcome to New Staff Members

**Ms. Philomena** has been substituting for us a bit this summer and the entire staff agreed she would be our first choice when we found we needed to add a new staff member in the 3-6 room. She made a switch from the field of finance to education several years back and we are so glad to have found her. She is very observant and insightful and has a clear talent for the classroom. We were happy to hear she had not yet been snapped up when we sent her a message asking if she could become a permanent part of the community. She will be joining Ms. Angela in the closing shift and Ms. Lawana will move to slightly earlier hours.

**Ms. Weiland** has been teaching mornings at our elementary summer school program and will be teaching with us full-time beginning in September

alongside Ms. J at the elementary 1st-6th grade campus. Ms. Weiland is a trained teacher who has worked with all ages from preschool through high school in both public and private schools. This is her first Montessori experience, yet her approach to education and positive social interactions fits so smoothly with the philosophy. She especially loves to garden with children and the summer class has begun to share in this already!

## Toddler Room News

We will be reopening our toddler program this fall and will have final information about our new teacher there in just a few days. (We really didn't want to have to wait to finalize papers before sharing the rest of the school news) As it will be a completely new group we will be starting with just a few children and a single Montessori teacher. Once that group is settled in we will look at the possibility of adding students and an additional teacher.

## Both Campuses Closed August 28 – September 1

Of all the weeks in the school year, this is the one most critical for maintaining our program as an authentic, quality Montessori environment. This is our week for training in Montessori philosophy and

practices, problem solving, organizing, creating new works and experiences as well as things like safety drill assignments and our annual CPR/First Aid course. The 3-6 Campus (and Toddler Room) will reopen on the Tuesday after Labor Day which is September 5. The Elementary (1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade) will reopen the next day on Wednesday, September 6. This is often the most exhausting week of the year for our staff. It's the time to lay the critical groundwork for an outstanding year to come.

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic – Tentative



**Date is Sunday, October 15**

The Children's Place Montessori School opened its doors in October of 1998. This October marks our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will be reserving a spot at Charles Wilson Park for this fall's picnic in the coming weeks. We hope all of our existing families, and even a few alumni (a number of whom are now college graduates!) will be able to join us to enjoy the day together.