



August 21, 2020

Dearest Parents,

Welcome back to a brand new school year, we most certainly had one loop de loop of a summer; but the dust is settled and it is with great joy that I welcome you and your children back to school. I am looking forward to an amazing year as well as to working and learning together with you. Distance learning has its challenges for sure, but together we can clear every hurdle and help our kids to reach their full potential.

I have been a part of the Oneonta family for over 25 years and have found that there was not one year where I didn't have to grow as a teacher. I have embraced growth and all its challenges because it has helped me to effectively meet the needs of my individual students as I prepare them for the future. It is with this attitude that I am approaching the 2020-2021 school year. My challenge this year is not only to keep the bar high and to provide a rich learning environment but to provide a rich Montessori learning experience for my students. My virtual classroom is complete with Montessori work for use with Montessori materials. The classroom is interactive, engaging and provides children not only the opportunity to independently choose but most importantly the children will have the same one on one instruction that is integral to the Montessori philosophy.

As an educator I feel so privileged to be working with you this year; together we have all it takes to provide a wealth of exciting learning experiences to encourage and cultivate:

- *A Life Long Love of Learning*
- *Responsible Citizenship*
- *Critical Thinking*
- *Positive Character Traits*

Respect for your child is imperative as is cultivating independence, a positive self concept and self discipline. It is of utmost importance that they learn in a well prepared, nurturing and stimulating environment. Ensuring that their workspace is inviting, equipped, organized and joyful is the first step to success. I plan to challenge the physical, social, emotional and cognitive ability of each individual child. I understand that the key to unlocking the magnificent potential within each child is found in our ability to creatively and intelligently guide your child through exploration, acquisition of knowledge and mastery; I truly believe that together we will make a phenomenal team!

Open communication with parents is invaluable; it is the vehicle through which we can celebrate accomplishments as well as tackle and correct potential problems. The best way to reach me is via our school DOJO app or my email at Audrey@oneontamontessori.com.

This year more than any other I will rely greatly on your input as to your child's growth. A Montessori teacher's main objective is to keenly observe her students in order to provide for their individual needs and help them to progress through the curriculum. Virtual learning is not very hospitable in this area; I hope to meet daily or at the very least weekly to assess your child's progress and to set reasonable goals.

I am looking forward to celebrating a very successful year as your little ones continue to mature in an environment of cohesiveness enriched with mutual trust, love and consistency.

Sincerely,
Ms Audrey