

Dear New and Returning Apple Class Students and Families,

For those new to Pine, my name is Katie Curtin, and I will be your child's teacher. A little bit about me; I am a CMP parent of two boys. My oldest boy graduated from CMP and will be a freshman at Ponderosa this year. My youngest is transitioning to upper campus and will be starting 4th grade. I grew up in a Montessori family and even attended a Montessori preschool. In my 20s, I knew that I wanted to teach Montessori, so I went through my Montessori training. During this time, I was lucky enough to work at an amazing local Montessori preschool and fell in love with the Montessori Method. I took some time off to have my boys and get my BA in Liberal arts, emphasizing multiple subjects. This past year I accomplished my Master's Degree in Education. I have worked at CMP since the fall of 2019 and became the lead teacher for the Pine class in 2021. Maria Montessori once said, "An ordinary teacher cannot be transformed into a Montessori teacher but must be created anew, having rid herself of pedagogical prejudices." I love this quote because I am not an ordinary teacher and strive to be the best Montessori teacher I can be every day.

I will be assisted by the amazing Sarah Wickliffe. Sarah joined Pine Class last year, and we are so lucky to have her. Here is a little about Sarah; She is a CMP mom of two wonderful girls. She loves to bake, cook, and party plan when she is not in the classroom.

This will be a wonderful year full of learning, fun, and growth. We are so excited to start the 2023-24 school year with your children! Please take note of the important upcoming dates and information.

School Days: We look forward to school starting on Wednesday, August 9th. Our class starts promptly at 8:30 am. Our Kindergarteners are dismissed at 2:00 pm, and our 1st Graders are dismissed at 3:00 pm, except on Early Release days, where we release at 1:00 pm for everyone. It typically takes our students 5 minutes after their dismissal

time to gather their things and be at the side gate for pick-up, so please plan accordingly.

K/1 Back to School Night Friday, August 4th, from 6:00-7:00 pm.

Be sure to join us for our Back to School Night to get important information about our school year. We will share about the Montessori philosophy, our daily schedule, and all the nuts and bolts that you need to know for a successful start to the school year. Hopefully, this will answer a lot of your burning questions.

Tuesday, August 8th - Open House!

Come meet your teachers, see your classroom, and drop off your school supplies. Kindergarten families and students, please join us between 1:00 and 2:00 pm. First-grade families and students, please join us between 2:00 and 3:00 pm.

Initial Parent Meetings

We will be having parent meetings on Early Release Days, August 9th -11th, from 1:00-4:00 pm. Students will be dismissed at 1:00 pm for Club M or pick-up at Carline. Look for a sign-up opportunity on ParentSquare soon. This will be a perfect time to sit together and discuss any questions or concerns you may have for the coming year.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Ms. Katie