#  C:\Users\SLM2\Documents\SilverlineNewLogo2014.jpg Silverline Montessori School News April 2018

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**Important Events**

**April 16th-20th -SAT testing for 1st-5th grade**

**April 17th and 18th–Pre-K Conferences**

**April 19th & 20th–Kindergarten Conferences**

**April 27th - Elementary Conferences**

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**SAT Testing for 1st-5th Grade April 16th –April 20th**

S.A.T. testing will be going on all next week (April 16th–April 20th ) for grades 1st-5th.  Please make sure your child eats breakfast, gets plenty of rest, and is at school on time (8:00).  These simple steps can make a world of difference!  Thank you for your cooperation.

## If your child arrives after testing has begun they will not be allowed in class until the next section of testing begins.

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###  Conferences

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held this month. Pre-primary classes will have their conferences on April 17th and 18th for Pre-K , April 19th and 20th for kindergartens and April 27th for Elementary students. There will be signup sheets on the outside of each class so that you will be able to choose a day and time.

  **Earth Day**

Earth Day is the 22nd of April. Each classroom has been assigned items that we need for Earth Day. If you would like to help, please sign up outside of your child’s classroom. We are asking for plants to be brought on Friday, April 20th.

The Montessori Corner

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# **Liberty and Discipline in the Montessori Classroom**

So many people think that in Montessori education, children can just run wild. But the basis, the foundation of it all, is the balance of liberty with discipline.

## Helping the child manage freedom

Still, there is always room for disobedience. We may call it “non-peaceful behavior” because that sounds a little nicer, but the truth is that many children have difficulty handling the freedom that comes with the world of Montessori.

This is where observation becomes so important. Each child may differ in their ability to make correct choices. Some may need rules or controls that another child doesn’t. Others may repeatedly test guidelines that their peers leave alone.

There are many different ways to balance liberty and discipline. Establishing clear guidelines (perhaps in the form of ground rules) is a great first step. Children become frustrated when they don’t know what the expectations are for their behavior.

## Logical and consistent consequences

A second “must” to balance liberty and discipline is to keep the consequences of misbehavior consistent. Surprising if you let the child choose the consequences – before the misbehavior takes place, it can be extremely effective. They will often choose something even more severe than the teacher or parent would have chosen. The key is to enforce the consequence consistently, and to try to have the consequence be a logical result of the child's behavior.

## A long term process

It helps enormously to keep in mind that the process of balancing liberty with discipline is a long one. It’s not something that is perfected in a day, a week, or a month. Seeing the long-term goal puts into focus the day-to-day choices; just as we as adults are continually growing and changing, still even more are children a work in progress.

Another important concept to keep in mind is balance. A child can be just as hurt by over-permissiveness as by excessive strictness.

The end goal – that of a child who is a mature, independent adult – will be characterized by innate discipline. Most people will follow rules when being observed or graded. These external controls are often false, and disappear once you are left on your own. The true test of character is what a child does when left alone. When a child can make good choices when no one is looking, you can know that the combination of liberty and discipline is in perfect alignment.

  **Culture & Science**

1. Keeping Safe
2. Bird/Duck
3. Australia
4. Parts of a Flower
5. Transportation
6. Earth Day
7. Matter and Energy
8. Theme: Spring, Flowers, Arbor Day, Earth Day and Easter

 **An Australian Dish**

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| **Shepherds Pie**Ingredients: 1 kg mince beef (even better minced cold roast) 1 onion finely chopped salt & pepper (other seasonings to taste) 1 cup gravy or stock 1 and a half cups mixed vegetables (optional - frozen or leftovers) 2 cups mashed potatoes (4-6 medium raw potatoes) 2 tsp melted butter Procedure: 1. Fry onion and mince. Cook mince if not already cooked. 2. Combine with gravy and seasonings. 3. Place in a round casserole or deep pie dish. 4. Layer mixed vegetables over the meat. 5. Cover with a generous layer of mashed potato. 6. Smooth top and then decorate with a fork, pour over melted butter. 7. Bake in oven until warm through and top lightly browned.Enjoy!! |

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