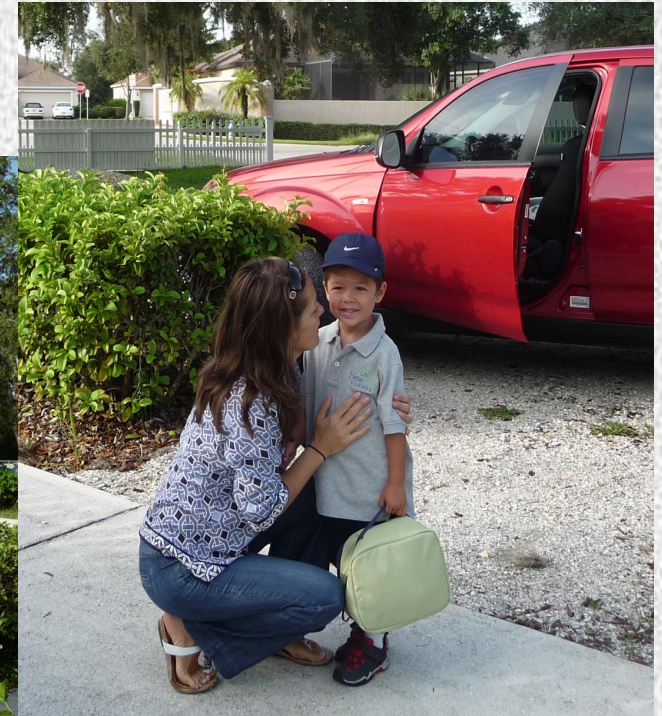




Parents and
Friends of
Montessori



School's Starting: First Days of School



Young Children: 18 months-5 years old

- Before the first day
 - Visit the school
 - Meet with the teacher
 - See the classroom
 - Play on the playground
 - Read stories about making new friends
 - Leave your child with a baby sitter or family
 - Begin a morning routine and a bedtime routine
 - Have things ready the night before



Young Children



- The First Day
 - Allow plenty of time in the morning – slow down
 - Let your child carry some of their supplies
 - Make your good-byes brief
 - Say good-bye at the doorway – give her something of yours
 - Assure your child that he will have a good day and you will return soon

Elementary Age



Elementary

- If your child is having difficulty, check with the teacher. They often have good ideas about how to make the transition smooth
- Bringing snack for the group, having a special job, being the greeter – all can help with separation
- Having play dates right away to help with making new friends
- Good-bye rituals often work
- Validating your child's feelings and empathizing help your child feel heard and understood



In the end, no matter what age
your child is...

Establishing routines,
planning, listening, being
positive and encouraging,
being brief with good-byes -
all help your child to feel
confident in themselves and
trusting in you and her
teachers.

