

MAY 2024

# AMCS NEWSLETTER

Alief Montessori Community School

## AMCS Spotlight

MS. EMELY

**Position:**

Orchestra Director

**Favorite Food:**

Chicken Parm is always my favorite, but in general I love any pasta.

**Favorite Book:**

I don't have a definite favorite, but I'm currently reading Wuthering Heights so that would be my favorite at the moment

**Favorite Song:**

Music is so important to me, it's almost impossible to have just one favorite song. I'll say my favorite orchestral piece is Dvorak's Violin Concerto in A minor, Op. 53.

**Favorite Activity as a Child:**

I loved to draw and I still do whenever I can. I think I had a lot of interesting ideas back then.

**Fun Fact:**

I used to sell a lot of baked goods in high school, and it encouraged me to continue baking and I even learned how to cook since I was worse at that than baking. The favorite thing I make is Banana Bread or Double Chocolate Brownies.



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## 6TH GRADE RETURNS TO UPPER ELEMENTARY

DELIA PRESILLAS (PRINCIPAL)

On March 22, the AMCS Board approved the restoration of 6th grade to upper elementary. Following this board approval, we held a town hall meeting with our current 4th and 5th grade families to discuss this matter. AMCS provided our 5th grade families the option to stay in upper elementary or to move on to middle school next school year. Out of 21 families, we received 14 responses where 86% agreed to restore the 6th grade to upper elementary in SY 2024-2025. In order to implement this plan successfully, there will be three to four upper elementary classes next year. Students currently in 4th and 5th grade may be re-assigned to other classrooms next school year.

Maria Montessori's vision of the classroom is a three year multi-game grouping. An authentic Montessori upper elementary includes 4th, 5th and 6th grades together. This is the same grouping as in the primary with the PK3-Kindergarten and the lower elementary with the 1st-3rd graders.

Let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your support.

El 22 de marzo, la Junta de AMCS aprobó la restauración del sexto grado a la primaria superior. Luego de la aprobación de esta junta, celebramos una reunión pública con nuestras familias actuales de 4º y 5º grado para discutir este asunto. AMCS brindó a nuestras familias de quinto grado la opción de permanecer en la primaria superior o pasar a la escuela intermedia el próximo año escolar. De 21 familias, recibimos 14 respuestas donde el 86% estuvo de acuerdo en restaurar el sexto grado a la primaria superior en el año escolar 2024-2025. Para implementar este plan con éxito, el próximo año habrá de tres a cuatro grados superiores de primaria. Los estudiantes que actualmente cursan 4.º y 5.º grado podrán ser reasignados a otras aulas el próximo año escolar.

La visión de María Montessori del aula es una agrupación de juegos múltiples de tres años. Una auténtica escuela primaria superior Montessori incluye 4º, 5º y 6º grados juntos. Este es el mismo agrupamiento que en primaria con los de PK3-Kindergarten y en primaria inferior con los alumnos de 1º a 3º.

Háganos saber si tiene alguna pregunta o inquietud. Gracias por tu apoyo.

**"Movement, or physical activity, is thus an essential factor in intellectual growth, which depends upon the impressions received from outside. Through movement we come in contact with external reality, and it is through these contacts that we eventually acquire even abstract ideas."**

MARIA  
MONTESSORI



# Run-A-Palooza 2024

You are invited to join Coach Smith, the AMCS Run Club, and our AMCS community for our third annual AMCS Run-A-Palooza! This year, we will be doing a 30-Minute “Pace Yourself” Run/Jog/Walk on May 4, 2024 at 8:00am at the track behind Crossroads School. Feel free to dress in your favorite Star Wars attire as May the 4th is Star Wars Day. All AMCS students, families, teachers, staff, and community members are invited to participate and get moving together! May the 4th be with you!

## Race Schedule:

7:15 am Race Set Up & Volunteer Arrival

7:30 am All signed Release Waivers must be turned in at Race Information table

8:00 am Stretching & Warm Up

8:15 am 30 Minute Pace Yourself Run/Jog/Walk

9:00 am Closing and Clean Up

**ALL participants are required to sign a release waiver. Release waivers will be provided on the morning of the race at the table at the entrance of the track. The names of all the participants need to be written on the waiver and the waiver must be signed by a parent or guardian.**

**Please be sure to stay hydrated and expect warm weather. Be sure to bring water for your entire family, sunscreen, and a hat, as we head into summer Houston is heating up.**

**Be sure to wear appropriate shoes for running and moving. No sandals, flip flops, Crocs, or open toed shoes.**

**Don't forget to bring a chair or blanket so you and your family can have a spot to rest!**

**Warning: there are no restroom facilities at the track. Please be sure to use the restroom before arriving. There is an Exxon gas station located 1 mile away on Alief Clodine Rd.**

**Parking is available at 12360 Bear Ram Rd. Houston, TX 77072.**

**Volunteers: we are asking for volunteers to help with the snack table, set up canopies, pass out rubber bands for racers to count their laps, and help maintain the water tables along the track. Please see Jennifer Donovan at the registration table on race morning if you are interested in helping. This event can't happen without your support. Thank you for volunteering!**

**Please stay to assist with clean up. Alief ISD allowed us to use their track. We want to make sure we leave it as clean or better than we found it.**

**For questions please email [jdonovan@amcsmontessori.org](mailto:jdonovan@amcsmontessori.org). We are looking forward to you and your family joining us for some pure smiles and easy miles!**



# Things To Do Around Houston This Summer

## Teacher Contributed

**Space Center Houston**

<https://spacecenter.org/>

**Houston Museum of Natural Science**

<https://www.hmns.org/>

**Children's Museum Houston**

<https://www.cmhouston.org/>

**The Menil Collection**

<https://www.menil.org/>

**Brazos Bend State Park**

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/brazos-bend>

**Discovery Green**

<https://www.discoverygreen.com/>

**Houston Arboretum and Nature Center**

<https://houstonarboretum.org/>

**Levy Park**

<https://www.levyparkhouston.org/>

**Home Depot Kids Workshops**

**(1st Saturday of Every Month 9:00am- 12:00pm)**

<https://www.homedepot.com/c/kids>

**Houston Audubon (multiple locations)**

<https://houstonaudubon.org/>

**Dewberry Farms**

<https://dewberryfarm.com/>

**George Ranch Historical Park**

<https://www.georgeranch.org/>

# AMCS Summer Reading Challenge



THIS SUMMER THE AMCS SUMMER READING CHALLENGE RETURNS!

WE HOPE TO ENCOURAGE ALL OUR STUDENTS TO EXPLORE AS MANY BOOKS AS POSSIBLE, AS READING IS ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO KEEP OUR STUDENTS' MINDS ABSORBING KNOWLEDGE AND PREVENT SUMMER LEARNING LOSS.

INDIVIDUAL PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED IN EACH GRADE FOR:  
MOST BOOKS READ

- \*3RD GRADERS AND UP ARE EXPECTED TO READ CHAPTER BOOKS.
- \*STUDENTS WHO ARE READING ABOVE GRADE LEVEL WILL BE GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS.

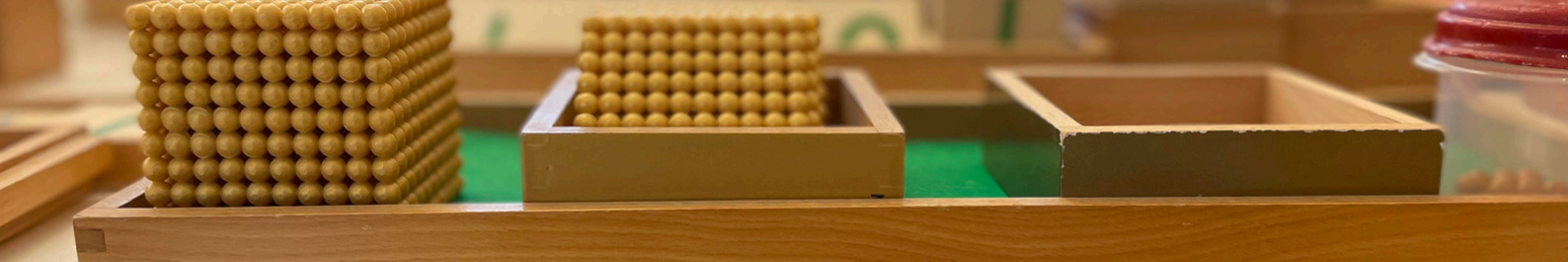
PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT/S TO PARTICIPATE. STUDENTS MAY KEEP A WRITTEN READING LOG, SHOW PRINTOUTS FROM AR (ACCELERATED READER), OR SHARE ONLINE PROOF OF BOOKS READ.



## PRIMARY READING CORNER

Head on over to your local library and check out a book with your student on one of the following topics, that will be highlighted in your student's classroom this month:

**CINCO DE MAYO, MOTHER'S DAY, GEOLOGY, REPTILES,  
AUSTRALIA, SUMMER, SUMMER ACTIVITIES, SUMMER OLYMPICS**



# **IMPORTANT!!!**

**ANY UNPAID BALANCES FOR SUPPLIES, EXTENDED DAY, AFTERCARE, OR OTHER DUES MUST BE PAID BY MAY 22ND.**

## **AMCS Parent Resource Library**

THE AMCS PARENT RESOURCE LIBRARY IS NOW OPEN IN THE LOBBY OF THE PRIMARY BUILDING. STOP BY TO CHECK OUT BOOKS ON PARENTING OR RESOURCES ON LEARNING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE.

PLEASE USE THE CLIPBOARD TO CHECK-OUT AND RETURN THE BOOKS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BORROW.

BOOKS MAY BE CHECKED OUT FOR ONE MONTH AT A TIME.

AMCS STRIVES TO SUPPORT OUR PARENTS WITH THE RESOURCES THEY NEED TO BE SUCCESSFUL. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF THERE IS A TOPIC YOU LIKE TO SEE IN OUR PARENT RESOURCE LIBRARY.

## *Car Seats*

Texas law requires that all children younger than eight years old and less than 4 feet 9 inches tall, be secured in a child safety seat whenever they ride in a vehicle.

Please let the front office know if you are in need of a car seat or booster seat, so that AMCS may assist you in acquiring one. Let's make sure our students are riding safely and securely.

# Coming up:

## AMCS Parent Volunteer Shout Outs!

WE'D LIKE TO SEND OUT OUR APPRECIATION TO OUR AMCS PARENT VOLUNTEERS WHO SHOW UP TO GIVE THEIR TIME, MAKE DONATIONS, AND SHOW UP IN DIFFERENT WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY. WE SEE YOU AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION!

**SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO ALL OUR AMCS PARENTS WHO DONATED TO OUR ECLIPSE GLASSES FUND.**

**PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING AT THE RUN-A-PALOOZA AND TO ASSIST WITH CLEAN UP AND FURNITURE MOVING AS WE CLOSE OUR CLASSROOMS FOR THE SUMMER.**

### AMCS ONLINE:

AMCS Website  
<https://www.amcsmontessori.org/>

AMCS Official Facebook Page  
<https://www.facebook.com/Alief-Montessori-Community-School-102144042265960>

Alief Montessori Community Parents Group  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AMCSParents/>

## AMCS SAFETY TIPS FROM OFFICER CORTES

***Thank you to all our AMCS families for striving to follow the rules to make our school a safer place. It has been a pleasure working with the AMCS students, staff, and parents. I would like wish everyone a wonderful and safe summer vacation.***

Orchestra  
TUESDAYS &  
WEDNESDAYS  
3:30PM-4:30PM

Volleyball  
FRIDAYS

Cinco De Mayo  
MAY 3RD

RunAPalooza  
MAY 4TH

Joy Saxton Visit  
MAY 6TH

Orchestra Conert  
MAY 15

Teacher's  
Appreciation Week  
MAY 6-10

Kindergarten  
Graduation  
MAY 17

G.U.M. Day  
MAY 21

Last Day of School  
MAY 22

Middle School  
Graduation  
MAY 22

First Day of School  
2024-2025  
AUGUST 14TH