



# First Grade Parent Orientation

Ms. Sujata and Ms. Kathie



2025-2026



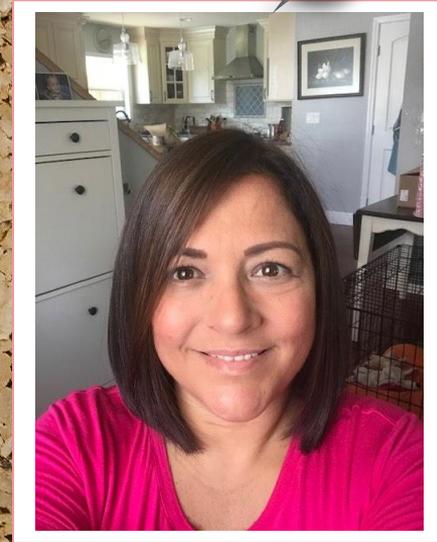


# Topics

- Getting to Know Your Teachers
- School Schedule
- Language Curriculum
- Math Curriculum
- Parent - School Communications
- Elementary Discipline Policy

I'm originally from San Juan, Puerto Rico. I graduated from the University of Puerto Rico with a BA in Foreign Languages. I continued my studies in Education at Caribbean University as well as the EPI program for teaching certification at Hillsborough Community College. I finished Orton Gillingham training in reading instruction for students with Dyslexia as well as my Montessori Certification. I have been with Montessori Academies since 2010 as the First Grade Language Teacher

**-Ms. Kathie Rubio-Swanson**



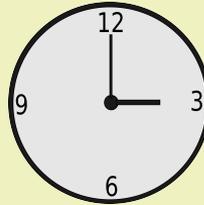
I was born in India. I have been working at Montessori schools in NJ since 2008. I moved to Florida August 2025 and started at Montessori Prep on December 2025. I have a Masters Degree in History and Montessori Certifications for Early Childhood.

**-Ms. Sujata Gaan**



# School Schedule

In Classroom



# Language, Social Studies and Art Curriculum

- Montessori Hands On Materials
- Group Lessons
- Literature
- Book Reports
- Workbooks and Phonics B book
- SRAs (12 colors, 12 booklets per color)
- Morning Routine (2 weeks per pack)
- Spelling (6 lessons per pack)
- Accelerated Reading Program (AR)
- Spanish
- Studies Studies Montessori Curriculum





# Book Reports

- There will be 3 book reports this year (1 first semester, 2 second semester) The students will create an art project based on the last story read.

- The first report will be done at school. The last one is an art project done at home.
- Information will be provided via the planner.

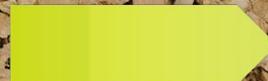
***The Dot*** by Peter H. Reynolds

Art Project for May 2025

***Nate the Great*** by Marjorie Wein Sharmat  
Book needed by September 3, 2024

***Henry and Mudge and the Happy Cat*** by Cynthia Rylant (Feb 2025)

***The Best Seat in Second Grade*** by Katharine Kenah (April 2025)





# International Fair and Science Fair

- The **International Fair** is a student's introduction to research and public speaking. They will research information of a assigned country and present their findings.

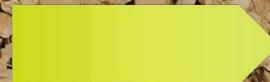
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- The **Science Fair** is an introduction to the scientific method. The students will perform simple experiments and present their findings.

Both activities will be sent home using the yellow folder

These activities require parental support, however they should be simple enough for the child to perform the work

Due dates and guidelines for the IF and SF will be provided



# Math, Science and Spanish Curriculum

- Montessori Hands On
- Group Lessons
- XtraMath- math fact practice (10 minutes a day)
- Saxon (10 lessons per pack) A side done at school, B side done for HW
- Sunshine Math- math reasoning exercises (1 page per week)
- Morning Routine (2 weeks per pack)
- First Grade Science HSP Science
- The Elements of Art

➔ xtra math



# Friday Activities

- PE: PE shirts sold at school
- Pizza Fridays (form available at the school website)
- Icee - \$1.00

➔ xtra  
math



# Photo Board



Science  
Fun



# Online Resource s

➔ AR

➔ Spelling City

➔ Xtra  
Math

In case of classroom  
closures



# Report Cards



TerraNova  
Testing by  
CTB/McGraw-  
Hill

## What is the TerraNova?

**The TerraNova Test** is an achievement test commonly given to students in grades K-12 that measures achievement in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, vocabulary, spelling, and other areas. The TerraNova Test is published by CTB/McGraw-Hill and has set the bar for the highest standards in research, item reliability and validity, and technical quality.

# Breakdown for the TerraNova Tests

- **Reading** – Oral Comprehension, Basic Understanding, Analyze Text, Evaluate and Extend Meaning, Reading and Writing Strategies and Introduction to Print
- **Language** – Sentence Structure, Writing Strategies, Editing Skills
- **Mathematics** – Number and Number Relations, Computation and Numerical Estimation, Operation Concepts, Measurement, Geometry and Spatial Sense, Data Analysis, Statistics, and Probability, Patterns, Functions, Algebra, Problem Solving and Reasoning, and Communication
- **Science** – Science Inquiry, Physical Science, Life Science, Earth and Space Science, Science and Technology, Personal and Social Perspectives in Science and History and Nature of Science
- **Social Studies** – Geographic Perspectives, Historical and Cultural Perspectives, Civics & Government Perspectives and Economic Perspectives

# DRC Beacon Interim Assessment

DRC BEACON is an interim assessment for grades 3–8 that helps teachers identify student learning needs, measure progress, and achieve growth throughout the school year. DRC BEACON provides immediate insights into student performance, allowing teachers to make informed decisions and target instruction.

The first grade class will be participating of their pilot program. This opportunity will provide us with more data to help guide instruction for your students.

● What should my child do daily if coming to school?



Arrive to class by 8:15 am



Bring your labeled water bottle, backpack and lunchbox with silverware



Have all materials ready in the cubbie or on the mat



Follow the classroom behavior guidelines



Do Saxon, spelling, Xtra Math for homework

Follow the workboard

Practice words daily

Eat Breakfast



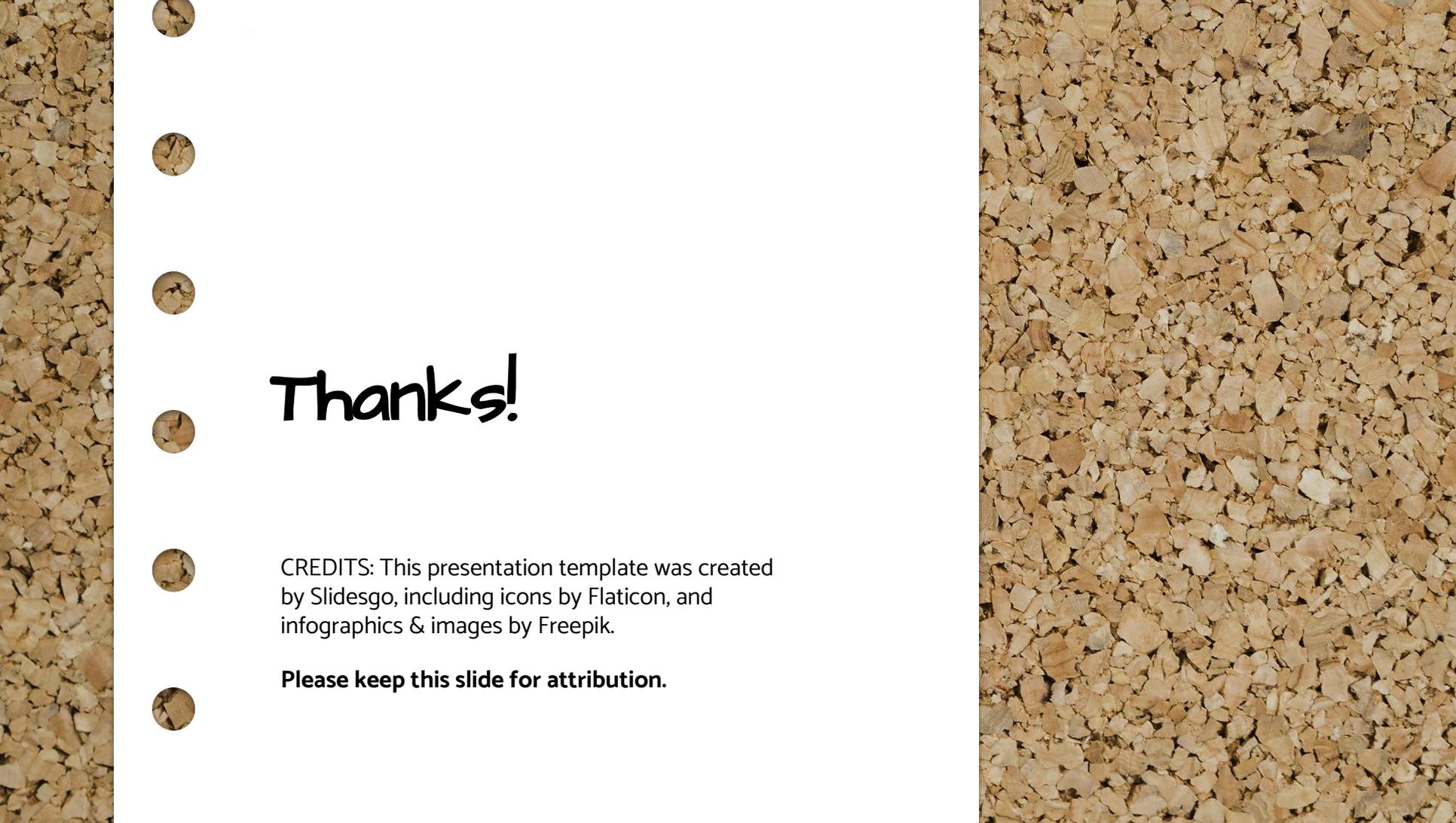


# Parents School Communications

*Have questions? Let's use email  
or message us in the planner*

- Administration:  
[admin@montessoriacademies.com](mailto:admin@montessoriacademies.com)
- Academic questions:  
[sujatag@montessoriacademies.com](mailto:sujatag@montessoriacademies.com),  
[kathier@montessoriacademies.com](mailto:kathier@montessoriacademies.com)
- Visit: [montessoriacademies.com](http://montessoriacademies.com) , parent login





# Thanks!

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