WELCOME TO SUMMER CLASS!

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Montessori Casa dei Bambini Programme at IMS, and to the Summer Class! We are very pleased to welcome your child to our class and are certain that our Montessori programme will be a positive and enriching experience for your child. We would like you to view us as partners in your child's education, and to this end we will communicate regularly about your child's progress in our programme. Before the year begins, we thought it would be helpful to send you reminders of the critical information you need to start off the year.

We would like to begin the year by inviting you to our **New Parent Orientation** on **Wednesday 17 August** from **9:00-10:30am**. This parent orientation is an opportunity for you to learn more about Montessori philosophy, and how to support your child's growth and learning. We will discuss plans for the first week of school, class logistics for the year, and the importance of practical life activities, both in the class and at home. Please note, this orientation meeting is for ***adults only*** and we request that it is limited to parents in order to maximise social distancing during the meeting.

Following the Orientation, we will also be arranging **One-On-One Meetings** with you and your child to start to get to know you more personally. These meetings will take place next week on the afternoons of **Thursday 18 and Friday 19 Aug**, for children born in 2019, and Wednesday 17 August, for children born in 2018 or earlier. We will send you a **sign-up sheet in a IMS Parent Portal Notice message shortly** so that you can choose a time that is suitable for you. These meetings are limited to IMS children and parents only and will not last more than 15min. ***Health declarations and negative RAT tests are required for all individuals entering the campus and both children and adults must wear masks at all times.***

Also, in preparation for joining IMS, please find a number of **IMPORTANT** documents for your attention, please click onto the link to download and view each document.

Orientation Booklet 2022-2023
Parent Handbook 2022-2023
ML Casa dei Bambini Checklist
IMS Bus Guide

Casa dei Bambini Curriculum Overview

* Please refer to Engage Parent Portal for the latest version of these documents.

NOTES FOR STARTING SCHOOL

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Given the continuing restrictions in place for gatherings, we have reviewed our calendar to ensure that school events can continue as close to normal as possible, while satisfying social distancing. This will be the theme throughout the year, and so please keep an eye out for updates to the calendar from time to time. For the latest version, please visit **School Calendar 2022-23**.

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

As part of our Covid-19 protocols, the following are the most important steps to take before school starts. Please read these carefully, and also review our **Health and Safety Protocols** for a complete set of our Covid measures. We thank you for helping keep our community healthy and safe.

1. Please complete the **Student Health Declaration and Vaccination Form** ***for each child*** **by 5pm on Friday, 12 August 2022**. If you answer "YES" to any of the questions on the declaration, please refrain from sending your child to school, and contact us by phone to provide more details. In this form we are also asking everyone to once again **provide details of your child's vaccination status, and upload the latest vaccination record** where applicable so please have it at hand. You must have completed this form prior to your child's first day.

2. Please have your child complete a **Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) every morning** before coming to school, and if the result is positive, keep your child at home and contact us. If your child has any symptoms of Covid or is feeling unwell or lethargic, please also refrain from coming to school.

3. Please print out this **Updated Daily Temperature and RAT Form**. In the form, y**ou must do the following daily**:

   - Fill in your child's temperature before you leave home
   - Check that you are re-affirming the Health Declarations made in #1 above
   - Sign to confirm that your child has a negative result from the RAT for that day.

   PLEASE NOTE THAT IF THE RAT CELL IS BLANK AND/OR THE FORM IS NOT SIGNED, YOUR CHILD CANNOT ENTER THE CAMPUS, AND WILL HAVE TO WAIT OUTSIDE TO BE PICKED UP, OR FOR A PARENT TO COME AND SIGN THE FORM. WE WILL ARRANGE FOR AN ADULT TO SUPERVISE THEM IN THIS INSTANCE.

For the safety of all bus children, please note that if your child is sent on the bus without completing the RAT declaration form, bus service may be suspended for your child.

4. Please have your child come to school in a properly fitting mask, and prepare an extra one for their school bag. If your child refuses to wear a mask properly at school they will be unable to attend school.

5. The campus will open at 7:55am. Please line up where indicated along the school wall and avoid crowding the entrance. Please also note that due to Covid measures, all children should enter the campus on their own so that additional adults are not required to come on campus. We will have additional staff at the door to help children walk to class, as needed. In light of this, please prepare your child to say good at the entrance.

6. For any adults coming to campus for special events such as orientation or volunteer activities, the Vaccination Pass Requirement continues to be in force, which means that adults will need to fulfil the Vaccination Pass Requirements using the Leave Home Safe App unless otherwise exempt, to enter the campus. (Pending any further changes from the government). Visitors will also need to declare that they have tested negative on RAT on the day of the visit.

CAMPUS LOGISTICS

Please carefully review and print out the attached **ML Campus Logistics** for important contact details, campus opening schedule, safety reminders, and parking and drop-off protocols.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Your child's health and safety are of critical importance to us! Please carefully review the attached:

- **Healthy Eating:** IMS students learn the importance of living a healthy lifestyle, including nutrition. We ask that parents support this by encouraging your child to choose, make and bring healthy food choices to school for snacks, lunch or special events. Please download here the **IMS Healthy Eating Guide**.
- **Safety:** Please carefully review the safety notes in the Campus Logistics. Please show your IMS Security Card to enter the campus, and collect your child at dismissal. If you do not have the security card you will need to sign the visitor register and show a Hong Kong ID.
- **Weather Warnings:** School Closure: When Hong Kong Schools close due to inclement weather, IMS will close, too. Please review the attached **Weather Warnings: School Closure Guide**.

BUS SERVICE

Castle Brothers has already confirmed bus service for your child by mail. If you have registered for bus service and have not received your child's bus card by now, please contact Robert Mu at Castle Brothers: +852 2555 2088.

UNIFORMS

Please ensure that your child has the full uniform including backpack and hat. When children are outdoors they must be wearing a hat during school hours. Please see the attached **IMS Uniform Guide** for further details. If you have made a new uniform order from Aston Wilson before July 31, the uniform will be placed in your child's cubby and teachers will ensure that they take them home once school begins. Should you need to change the size, you can do so by contacting Campus Admin staff or by visiting Aston Wilson in Kowloon. The PTA will host a **second hand uniform sale** at Mid-Levels Campus on Wednesday 17 August from 9:00am - 11:00am at the Ground Floor Lobby.

COMMUNICATION

Please remember to update us with any change of address or other information, including allergies or medical information. You can login to your **Engage Parent Portal** account to check your contact information (including emergency contact) and medical details in the Engage system. Please email your Campus Admin if any revisions are necessary. A guide on how to login to your Portal account and where to check your Contact information is provided **here**. Please also review our Parent Handbook and Bus Guide under the "Documents" section in your Engage Portal.

Important information and notices will be available on the IMS Engage Parent Portal & Parent App. You will also receive some school-wide emails and emails from your class teachers. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Warmest regards,

Ms Andrea Howell & Chen Lao Shi (Niki Chen)