



# Oneonta Montessori School

## January 2026

### Happy New year!



#### HOLIDAY

**No School Monday, 19<sup>th</sup>**

In honor of

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

*I Have A Dream*



#### WELCOME NEW STUDENTS!

We would like to extend a great big welcome to all our new students and their parents to the Oneonta family. We are so glad to be of service; if there is anything we can do to assist you, please let us know. We have an exciting year ahead of us, full of fun activities and special projects. We look forward to working in close partnership with you. To all our parents who have been wonderful ambassadors and have recommended our school to other families, Thank you for your trust in us!

#### GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

##### **Elementary Students**

Our students have been working very hard to fulfill our high expectations; knowing what it is to be helpful, kind, compassionate and a good friend to all. At the end of the month, we are going to honor all those students (for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester) who have displayed such high character with a special lunch and awards. Congratulations await those students!

#### SPARK OF LOVE TOY DONATIONS

We are so grateful to all those who made toy contributions to underprivileged kids. Your generous response to this charity was touching and overwhelming. We are so thankful for your partnership in making Christmas a little brighter for children who would have gone without a gift this Christmas. The children were full of the spirit of giving as they carried toys to the Fire Station next door. What a wonderful way to end the year! Thank You!

#### SPELLING BEE

**Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup>**

All students in 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade will participate in the final on Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Ribbons will be handed out to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners and a special medallion as well to the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner. Good luck students; brush up on your spelling words and do well in the Spelling Bee!

#### PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

**Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**

Please take advantage of this time to meet with your child's teacher. The conference will give you an opportunity to assess your child's progress and assist you in effectively working together with the teachers to bring out your child's full potential. This is a great time to get all your questions answered. Conference schedules will be posted shortly; please sign-up. A progress report will be given out to the elementary school students. The grade received will be an accumulative score reflecting progress from September 2025 - January 2026. It is a special time for teachers and parents to meet.

#### POLICY WHEN CHILDREN ARE SICK

We kindly ask that when your children are sick, they do not attend school. It takes one sick child to infect all the children and the teachers as well. If your child has a *rash*, please do NOT send them to school without a doctor's clearance note. Please DOJO your child's teacher and inform her when your child is not attending school. We appreciate everyone's cooperation, allowing all our students to be healthy.

#### PARKING LOT RULES

May we remind everyone that the lower parking lot is not meant for student drop off and pick up. Vehicles are not allowed in this lot. Parents of preschool students: please park on the street and walk your children into & out of school daily.

The upper parking lot is for drop off and pick up for elementary students only. May we ask that everyone use utmost caution and patience when driving in the parking lot.

Thank you for your cooperation.

#### Extra-Curricular Activities – after school

If you would like your child to participate, please sign up directly with the coaches. Monday - Tennis, Tuesday - Basketball, Wednesday - Dance, Thursday - Soccer, Friday – Hapkido.

### Ms Emily's Ladybugs #1

Happy New Year! We are excited to welcome a fresh year full of learning, growth, and fun in the Ladybug classroom. Our Ladybugs are diving into a season of hands-on learning as they practice important practical life skills such as buttoning, snapping, cutting, and sorting. We will also turn into curious explorers as we discover our 5 senses! The Ladybugs will learn how their bodies help them see, hear, smell, taste, and touch the world around them. In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we will read thoughtful stories that encourage kindness and remind students that even small actions can create positive change. The Ladybugs are ready to spread their wings!

### Ms Melinda's Dragonflies #2

**"HAPPY NEW YEAR!"** Welcome back to a new school semester Dragonflies! It will be time for a class discussion about what we did over the winter break. For history we will read about Martin Luther King and how he made a difference by letting us know that we are all equal. For science we have an exciting activity; what floats and sinks, as we observe different types of objects in water. Geography will be interesting as learn that there are seven continents & get into more detail about North America. Our precious Dragonflies are ready to fly, get ready!

### Ms Christina's Honey Bees #3

Welcome Back! 2025 is a wrap, time to celebrate and get 2026 started. I hope everyone had a restful and joyful holiday with your family and loved ones. Time is flying by so fast it is time for the Honey Bees to learn the parts of the clock. In the month of January, we will continue to encourage our Honey Bees to share and help their friends by focusing on a very important figure, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We will learn how Dr. Martin King brought so much change to many people by expressing kindness with words of wisdom. And how do we learn? By using our 5 senses with hands on activity reinforcing the 5 senses. We can't wait to get the learning started in 2026

### Ms Karen's Butterflies #4

Welcome back to school! Happy New Year! Hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and are ready to get back into learning. This month we will be working on the geometric cabinet in the sensorial area. In practical life, we will focus on mastering the snapping frame, using droppers and chopsticks amongst other fine motor skills. Working on the sound chart and introducing soundboards 7-9 will be on our agenda for language, as well as exploring all the beautiful things that the New Year will bring us! note; ready or not, here we come 2026!

### Ms. Ernamarie - Class # 5

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope you all had an amazing winter break and are ready to start many learning activities. Room 5 students are excited to have everyone back this new year! New goals, new dreams for 2026! We're full of smiles and stories to tell about our holiday experiences for creative writing. Looking ahead for more exciting lessons in all subjects especially science and culminating activities in botany and zoology. We can't wait for Black Beauty and Charlotte's Web for Literature!!!

### Ms. Theresa - Class # 6

Happy 2026! Welcome back to a new year of learning and adventure! We kick off this new semester by continuing where we left off. We will start by learning about good characteristic traits and what it means to be a productive member of our school and our community as we celebrate Dr Martin Luther King's birthday. The learning doesn't stop there, as we explore the environment around us, our friends will learn how to follow simple directions and identify symbols on maps as we create our own map of our neighborhoods, the parts of a root and a fish, and buckle up for a trip as we learn all about the continent of Africa, its wild life and diverse climates and landscapes.

### Ms MaryAnn – Class # 7

We wish you a very peaceful, blessed and Happy New Year! Rm 7 kids welcome the New Year 2026, with great excitement as they begin tackling more challenging tasks. Language continues with the assigned book for our literature lesson, more paragraph writing and grammar exercises. Math and geometry lessons will be on decimals, fractions, integers and review of finding the area of different figures. The Comparative Analysis of the Vital functions of Invertebrates and the study of the Excretory, Endocrine, and Reproductive systems will be the focus of study in zoology as we conclude our lessons for the first semester. Make sure to sign up for our Parent Teacher Conferences so I can discuss your child's progress the first semester.

### Ms Jessica - Class # 9

Happy New Year, OMS Family! Here's looking forward to a new semester of learning! This month is an important month as we celebrate and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We will be studying about his life's work towards bringing compassion, fairness, and equality. While we are inspired by Dr. King's legacy of good citizenship, this month we learn about why it is important to cultivate good citizenship. A positive society leads to continuously improving not only for the well-being of ourselves but also for the well-being of the environment we live in. We will create a fun bucket list of kind and good deeds to complete together! Our first graders are excited as they gear up for their first ever Spelling Bee! We are looking forward to the many new things we will learn this month. Let's have a great start to the new year!