

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MONTEREY — CATHERINE GLICK
OCTOBER, 2011

In late?

Arriving at school on time is essential for children. Please ensure an arrival time at ISM that allows your child enough time to walk to their class before 8:00am.

Out early?

We know there may be times that you need to take your child out of school for an appointment or an early departure. In order to maximize their educational time, we will only call your child out of class upon your arrival in the office.

Home sick?

Please email absent@ismonterey.org with notification of an absence. Without notification, absences will have to be recorded as

SEMs

To be quite honest, I wasn't convinced that SEMs were a good use of student learning time; that is, until I actually saw it in action. As I walked around the school visiting SEM classes on that first afternoon I was amazed to see students in mixed-age groups engaged in horticulture, ballroom dancing, painting like the greats and designing an ROV submersible to go in the Monterey Bay, just to name a few. We even have a student teaching an origami SEM this trimester with the aid of a teacher. Amazing! I would encourage you to be part of this excitement by leading a SEM next trimester. The possibilities are endless.

PARENT CONFERENCES

Parent conferences offer an opportunity for all parents to speak with your child's teacher to celebrate strengths and discuss areas of required growth. Fall conferences with Middle Years teachers will be held beginning Wednesday, October 19th through Wednesday, October 26th. Please contact your child's grade 6-8 teacher to schedule your conference time, if you haven't already done so.

The K-5 teachers will also offer parent conferences this fall but these will be held between November 30th and December 7th, after the 1st trimester reports cards are issued. Teachers will be contacting you in a couple of weeks to set up those appointments.

POWERSCHOOL

PowerSchool is a comprehensive student information system that gives you the ability to access vital information about your student quickly and accurately. You can see the results of tests and assignments as soon as they are recorded enabling you the ability to intervene quickly and communicate with your child and the teachers, if necessary. Through the use of PowerSchool, there should never be any surprises on the report card. If you have lost your user name or password, please contact your child's teacher or Karen Kushel.