

Dear Parents,

As we embark on a new school year, I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to each and every one of you. This is a time filled with excitement, new beginnings, and the promise of wonderful experiences ahead.

Here at Bay Farm Montessori Academy, we believe a strong and connected school community empowers children to flourish. And, we believe that engagement is the key to connection. We encourage all families to become involved in our vibrant community. There are so many opportunities to contribute in both big and small ways, whether through volunteering, attending events, or simply joining in conversations. Your engagement makes a significant difference.

This year, we are embarking on a strategic planning process with the Board of Trustees, charting our course for Bay Farm's future. This important initiative will guide us in enhancing our educational offerings and fostering an even more supportive environment for our students and families. Stay tuned for opportunities to have your voice included in the process.

We're looking forward to launching the new school year with our students. They are the heart of Bay Farm, and their enthusiasm and curiosity inspire us every day. We are truly fortunate to have a fantastic team of teachers who expertly deliver an ambitious curriculum with the intent of sparking and nurturing that curiosity, while encouraging exploration and fostering a lifelong love of learning. Consequently, our students thrive while discovering the world around them with joy, purpose, and compassion.

Here's to a year filled with joyful learning, connection, and community spirit! I look forward to working alongside all of you as we make this school year one to remember.

Warmest regards,

Gráinne Murray
Head of School



BAY FARM ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

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Front Desk

Front Desk
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Communications

Our goal is to maintain open communication and ensure that our families know what is happening here on campus. Below is how you will hear from us throughout the year.

Bay Farm Connects

Bay Farm Connects is a mobile app and online network providing a connection to the classroom. This platform is completely private and invite-only and will be your go-to source for information. This will provide access to housekeeping updates, teacher updates, and pictures from your child's class. An email with additional information will be sent as we approach the start of school.

Bay Farm Bulletin: Weekly Newsletter

Every Friday night, an email will be sent with information pertaining to the entire school community. This will include upcoming dates to remember, event information, and other announcements. Be sure to check your inbox each Friday. This email will come from communication@bfarm.org.

Text Alerts

Your family will be enrolled in our Text Alert system. For reminders and in the case of snow days or emergencies, we will contact your provided cell phone numbers with these announcements.

Parent-Teacher Communication

If you would like to communicate directly with your child's teacher, the best way to reach them is via email. Since they are actively teaching throughout the day, please allow 24 hours for a response.

For urgent matters during the school day, it is best to call the Front Office at 781-934-7101 ext. 10 and speak with the person at the Front Desk, who will be able to reach the classroom.

back to school EVENTS



Tuesday, August 19 | Virtual New Family FAQ

Join us for a virtual meet-and-greet with the Bay Farm administrative team! We'll walk through frequently asked questions, give you a glimpse into life at Bay Farm, and help you feel prepared for the start of the school year. A great way to start building connections and get your questions answered from home.

Friday, August 29, 9-11 AM | Welcome Day

Join us to kick off the school year. Visit your child's classroom from 9-9:50 am to drop off supplies, check out the classroom, and meet the teachers. Then head over to the playground to mingle with the entire Bay Farm Community.

Tuesday, September 2

- Half-Day for New Children's House students & students transitioning to Children's House from Toddler House or another Children's House classroom - 12 PM dismissal.
- Half-Day for all ELI and ELII Students - 12 PM dismissal.

Wednesday, September 3

- First Full Day of School for Children's House and Elementary I and Elementary II. Regular school day hours.

Wednesday, September 3 - Friday, September 5 | Toddler Transition Days

See your Toddler What to Expect document for full details. The first full day of school for toddlers is Monday, September 8.

Thursday, September 4 and Friday, September 5: Join us for coffee & to kick off the school year between 8:45 and 9:45 after drop off in the Upper Campus Science Building.

Wednesday, September 10, 6-8 PM | Back to School Night

We will be hosting a Back to School Night where important information regarding life at Bay Farm will be shared. This is an adult-only event, and attendance is highly encouraged.

- Toddler & Elementary I: 6-7 PM
- Children's House & Elementary II: 7-8 PM



Community EVENTS



MPA First Friday Coffees

Come connect over coffee! Drop in after morning drop-off every First Friday in the Upper Campus Science Building, starting on October 3. It's a great way to meet fellow parents, chat with MPA reps, and stay connected to all things Bay Farm.



Friday, October 24

Our 6th annual BOO Fest will include crafts, music, treats, and more! We hope to see you in costume at this spooktacular event!



Tuesday, November 25

Your student is invited to host a Special Person at school for the morning. Whether that be a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, or friend, they are invited to see the classroom and meet teachers.



Special EVENTS

September 22 | International Day of Peace

Our school community honors this special Montessori tradition every year. Students will participate in a peaceful gathering on campus to mark the day. (Grades: CH-ELII) Weather permitting.

November 17–19 | Elementary STEAM Fair

A showcase of science, technology, engineering, art, and math projects from our talented elementary students. Families are welcome to explore student exhibits and celebrate innovation and creativity.

Mark Your Calendar!

- January | Book Swap
- February | School Dance
- March | Parents' Night Out
- April | Bay Farm Clean-Up & International Fair

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

Please make every effort to arrive at campus for arrival or dismissal within the time window for your child's program. Queuing in the driveway early can block traffic for others and cause elevated driveway stress. If you arrive early, please park in a space off the driveways and wait for your time window to queue.

Please make every effort to arrive on time so that your child has the optimum experience at school. Morning arrival in the classroom is an important social experience for your child. It offers them the opportunity to greet the teacher and their friends and to learn about plans for the day ahead. Children who arrive late often feel disoriented because their teachers and peers are already actively engaged in lessons.

DROP-OFF TIMES

Toddler House and Children's House:

Monday – Friday: 8:30–8:45 AM

Elementary I and Elementary II:

Monday – Friday: 8:15 – 8:30 AM

PICK-UP TIMES

Toddler House and Children's House:

Monday – Friday: 12 PM and 3 PM

Elementary I and Elementary II:

Monday – Friday: 3:10 – 3:25 PM



LATE ARRIVALS: If you are late, you will need to park and bring your child to the office to sign in. After signing in, the Front Desk will escort your child to his/her classroom. Children may not sign themselves in. A note will be sent home if your child is tardy more than 5 times.

CAMPUS MAP



Main Entrance

Elementary I
Drop Off/Pick Up

Elementary II
Drop Off/Pick Up

Sandpiper/Heron
Drop Off/Pick Up

Kingfisher/Osprey/Egret
Drop Off/Pick Up

Snowy Owl

Piping Plover/Tern

Toddler House
Entrance



**Note: All Children's House noon dismissals take place at the
Kingfisher/Osprey Children's House doors**

Lunch is Coming to Bay Farm!

We're excited to share that Bay Farm is partnering with Bungalow Kitchen to bring a delicious and dependable lunch program to our campus this fall.

This turnkey program makes lunch easier for everyone - from busy parents to hungry students and hardworking teachers. With flexible daily options, meals made from fresh, high-quality ingredients, and full service from ordering to delivery, Bungalow takes the stress out of school lunch.



Highlights include:

- Individually packaged and labeled meals
- A wide variety of kid-friendly (and picky-eater-approved!) choices
- Gluten-free, dairy-free, and allergy-aware options
- Ordering via mobile, desktop, or browser
- Weekly reminder emails + the ability to order up to 3 months in advance

Families will be able to choose from rotating hot lunches like Belgian Waffles with Chicken Sausage, Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fry, and Pasta with Mini Meatballs, along with everyday favorites such as Chicken Tenders, English Muffin Pizzas, and "Snack Attack" boxes with hummus, veggies, fruit, and cheese.



Pizza Wednesdays!

Bay Farm Montessori Academy offers Pizza Lunch every Wednesday for those who sign up. Your child will be served Mamma Mia's cheese pizza and a serving of fruit and/or veggies at lunchtime.

To Sign Up:

Bungalow Kitchen will be available on Mondays and Tuesdays, and Pizza will be available on Wednesdays. Sign-up opens later in August. We'll send a reminder with instructions on how to get started - just in time for back-to-school!



Enrichment Programs Launching Soon!

We're excited to offer another season of engaging enrichment programs designed to spark curiosity, build confidence, and support your child's passions beyond the classroom. This fall, students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, including gymnastics, yoga, tennis, 4-H, performing arts, visual arts, obstacle training, and more.

Enrichment programs will be available for students from Preschool through Elementary II, with offerings tailored by age and interest. Registration opens soon - keep an eye on your email and Bay Farm Connects for full program details and sign-up links via Homeroom.



Meet our Specialists



Kristen Boonisar

Reading Round-Up
she/her



Grace Coberly

Music & Performing Arts
they/them



Sammy Thomas

Spanish
she/her



Evelyn Golden

Agriculture
she/her



Julie Hawkins

Artland
she/her



Justin Hull

Physical Education
he/they

The degree to which our specialist programs are fully integrated into the curriculum is a unique feature of Bay Farm. Students experience art, music, PE, spanish, reading round-up, and agriculture — at a developmentally appropriate level — with specialists who offer students avenues of creative expression and technical skills that go beyond what is possible in the traditional classroom.

Meet our Specialists

Kristen Boonisar - Reading Round-Up: With over 40 years in education, half of which at Bay Farm, Kristen heads our Reading Round-Up program. Kristen visits students at every level, sharing her favorite books and stories. For our Toddler House and Children's House students, Kristen helps students engage in and foster an appreciation for reading, and for our ELI and up groups, her lessons are intended to expose students to the reading genres of children's literature.

Grace Coberly - Performing Arts: Grace is a composer, singer, and Orff-certified educator with a passion for human connection. They see a musician, dancer, and actor in every child, helping students discover joy in whatever creative practice fits them best. They earned their master's in music education at George Mason University and their BA in music and linguistics from Haverford College. When not making music, they enjoy doing yoga, flying kites, and playing with their cat.

Sammy Thomas - Spanish: Zamaira Thomas (Sammy) is a native Spanish speaker with nearly 10 years of experience working with young children. She holds a degree in Communications and is a Montessori-trained teacher, certified by the National Montessori Institute (NMI). She is passionate about fostering a love of language through engaging, student-centered activities. She strives to create a dynamic, supportive environment where children can thrive and build a strong foundation in the Spanish language and culture. Outside the classroom, Sammy enjoys wearing colorful outfits and taking long walks – two simple joys that keep me inspired and grounded.

Evelyn Golden - Agriculture: Evey has over 12 years of experience in agricultural education. She is the star of The Farmer's Daughter show on WHCA TV9, sharing and educating her viewers about gardening and backyard homesteading. Evelyn is a Kansas native, where she grew up on her family's working ancestral farm. She moved to New England to work as a nanny while she was studying Early Childhood Development at Quincy College. Prior to Bay Farm, Evelyn was the Program Assistant Educator for Plymouth County Extension 4-H, where she brought innovative programs in STEM, agricultural sciences, and more to schools and libraries across Plymouth County, sharing her love of plants and animals with children PreK-8.

Julie Hawkins - Art: Julie has been guiding our talented students in "Art Land" for over 20 years. She received her degree from Lesley College in Therapeutic & Creative Arts and has studied in a variety of locations, including the Museum School in Boston and the College of Mass Art. Julie is also educated in holistic studies and psychology, which adds to her awareness and ability to bring out the best in people, helping them learn to express themselves creatively. Her teaching style is nurturing, inspirational, and personal.

Justin Hull - PE/Enrichment Coordinator: Rain or shine, snow or sleet, indoors or out, Justin is ready to get moving! As an energetic educator with a passion for exercise, Justin guides Bay Farm students from Kindergarten to sixth grade to have fun and play safely. Through PE and a myriad of enrichment programs, Justin enables an environment of cooperation, creativity, and appreciation.

Philanthropy (noun)

1. goodwill to fellow members of the human race especially : active effort to promote human welfare
2. a. an act or gift done or made for humanitarian purposes, b. an organization distributing or supported by funds set aside for humanitarian purposes

BAY FARM DEPENDS ON YOUR SUPPORT & PHILANTHROPY

How does this relate to Montessori philosophy?

“Practical Life activities,” or purposeful tasks that mimic everyday actions, serve as vehicles for developing empathy. Through tasks like pouring water, polishing, or caring for plants, children learn the value of responsibility and develop an understanding of the needs of living things. These seemingly simple activities lay the foundation for a child’s understanding of their role in contributing to the well-being of their environment.



Montessori’s Long Term Impact on Philanthropy

The lessons learned at Bay Farm Montessori Academy extend far beyond the early years of childhood. Research suggests that individuals who have experienced Montessori education exhibit positive social behaviors, including a heightened sense of fairness, empathy, and community engagement. By nurturing these virtues from an early age, Montessori education lays the groundwork for a lifelong commitment to philanthropy and social responsibility.

WAYS YOU CAN BE INVOLVED:

- Attend Events
- Volunteer
- Donate
- Become a recurring donor. There is no easier way to make an impact - set up a monthly donation online once and support the school for the entire year.
- Join the Montessori Parents Association (MPA)
- Become a Board Committee Member and Join the Board of Trustees
- Become a Bay Farm Sponsor or Business Partner

Let us know of other meaningful ways you can support our school.

Please contact us to learn more about gifts of stock, our facilities and capital projects, planned giving, endowment, or in-kind services.

Contact Jennifer Nemec at development@bfarm.org or 781-934-7101 x10.

Who to Contact When...

Need help or have a question? Use this quick guide to find the right contact:

Billing or Tuition Questions

Contact the Business Office at [businessoffice@bfarm.org].

Student Absences or Dismissals

Email your child's teacher and copy the Front Desk at [frontdesk@bfarm.org]

Bay Farm Connects or Bay Farm Bulletin

Contact Alyssa at [alyssag@bfarm.org].

Volunteering, Getting Involved, or Event Space Rental

Contact Jennifer at [development@bfarm.org].

Enrollment or Admissions Questions

Contact Jennifer at [admissions@bfarm.org].

Enrichment Program Questions

Contact Justin at [enrichment@bfarm.org].

Extended Care (Before/After School Care)

Contact Julie at [julie5@bfarm.org].

Curriculum or Classroom Management

Contact Kelley at [kelleyc@bfarm.org].

School Leadership or Governance

Contact Gráinne Murray (Head of School) and Josef Wagner (Board Chair) at [Grainne.Murray@bfarm.org and Josef.Wagner@bfarm.org].

