

Meeting with the Teacher...

Conferences are scheduled for October 17 and 18. You should use this fall ritual as an opportunity to learn more about what skills your child has revealed as well as what could use your support at home. Conferences help both teachers and parents to gain insight into a student's ability and progress.

I feel my child is doing well in...

Come prepared with a few strengths of your child to discuss. By discussing strengths first, it sets the tone for the conversation to be positive, constructive and geared toward solving problems. Perhaps your child has demonstrated qualities in the classroom that you have not seen at home.

I feel my child needs work on...

Suppress the instinct to defend your child. This is an opportunity to ask what specific steps both you and your child can take at home to make improvements. Younger children may be encouraged to participate in practical life skills oriented toward family responsibility. Older children may make a commitment to have their homework done each day by a specific time or reading a certain number of minutes per day.

At school, my child enjoys...

It is valuable for your child's teacher to hear about what has been expressed to you at home. It gives us an idea of your child's interests.

I would like to see my child pursue...

This can open up a goal-oriented discussion. Be realistic and specific but also be flexible and open to Montessori's "sensitive periods".

Here is what I expect of you and the school...

This is an opportunity to share the wishes that you have for your child's social, emotional and cognitive development.

Topics I would like to discuss...

Have these written down in advance. Sometimes time constraints may prevent you from discussing all the issues you feel are important. You can always follow-up with a meeting at another date or consider using email to supplement in-person meetings.