



Washington Federation  
of Independent Schools



Nonprofit EIN 84-4234462  
8107 SW 201st Street Vashon, 98070  
<http://www.klahanieschool.org> 206-491-9465

Dear Klahanie School Families,

Welcome to a very exciting upcoming new school year creating together safely and kindly and full of fun. Our Peacemaker focus will continue the annual with study, and seasonally (Indigenous leaders of PNW and Eastern North America, Fred Rogers, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dolores Huereta, Dr. Wangari Maathai, Dr. Maria Montessori, First Lady Michelle Obama, Helen Keller) will include local safely screened and invited Special Community guests either in person or recorded, offering mentorship skills-set sharing and assist as anchors in maintaining our weaving of connection supports for youth. COVID-19 and the Equity unveilings and continuous learnings has offered much focused daily observation, learning opportunities and connected awareness of areas humans thrive through Social-Emotional growth supports and welcome continued partnership with programming educator Collin Veenstra from DOVE, exploring the harder conversation topics of Identity, Gender, Race and Equity for our Early Learners.

We are thrilled to spend time with your children and families and learn as we continue to grow in health together. What a gift always to witness the months of growth for us all, and deeply meaningful as we show each other patience, acceptance and celebration for our differences, achievements and similarities. We are doing the best we can, learning and never will have any of this down perfectly. We will enter this school year in humor and magic moments showing our kindness to one another. We can always shore up fun and connection and our school promotes returning families and new families to embrace bonkers together, find solace in knowing stories and experiences are shared here in respect, understanding and empathy. We are not alone. You all will find friendship and surprising kindness at some point in this school year. That is a guarantee for you all.

Our teaching community focus is to witness, listen and shore up support full of kind curiosity to best serve how our learners learn. Weaving these daily introductions to practical uses at home is an area we support and welcome parent requests for phone check ins or group parent ed meetings addressing specific topics supporting healthy child and guardian relationships thriving during the learning dips and climbs.

Our class opportunities and environments hold a commitment to daily Compassionate Listening and Communication introduction, and practice within Honored Indigenous-ancient methods of

council circle and peer exchanges. Each of the Teachers is masterful in years experience and intention, consistent education of Circle-Council practice and will run independent circles this school year where children will benefit with more connecting, fun and trust of space and teachers. Please always contact the Executive Director if impacts occur, concerns arise. We are a space for listening and solution creation. Please note that all school logistics of schedule and administration logistics are addressed to Director Emmy Graham. All accounting and budgetary clarifications can be emailed to the school and addressed to Klahanie Accounting Committee. Classroom and child centered conversations are directed to Lead AMS teacher Emmy. Thank you for clerical inner organization support.

### **Important Dates:**

Please come meet, connect with teachers and help your young child get reacquainted with the school environment. Please read below to know what to bring and **read over the Forms Page** <http://www.klahanieschool.org/> prior to the Meet and Greet. Feel free to email back scanned copies or drop off to the Check/Paperwork Lockbox mounted at the East entry.

**Parent Resources:** 2026-2027 Guardian Folder: Calendar, Sign-ups, Policies

### **Meet & Greet, First Day of School:**

2026-2027 September Klahanie School Meet Greet Sign-up

### **September-June Schedule and Tuition**

#### **Multiage Ages: 2.5yrs-6yrs Kindergarten Year**

Monday-Thursdays

8:30-12:30pm

Ratio: 11 students-2 teachers

**Monthly Tuition: \$895.00** due 25th-1st each new month

### **OPTIONAL Additional Programming:**

#### **September-June**

#### **PM Childcare: 2.5yrs-6yrs Kindergarten Year**

Monday-Thursdays

12:30-3:30pm Site Two

Ratio: 4 students-1 teacher

**Monthly tuition: \$395** due 25th-1st each new month

#### **Summer Weekly Learning Lab**

Monday-Thursdays

8:30-12:30pm

Ratio: 11 students-2 teachers

**Weekly Tuition: \$255.00**

**Weeks: June21-24, June26-July1, July12-July15, July19-July22, July26-July29**

### **Summer PM Childcare (must be signed up for Learning Lab)**

Monday-Thursdays 12:30-3:30pm Site Two

Ratio: 4 students-1 teacher

**Weekly Tuition: \$110.00**

**Weeks: June21-24, June26-July1, July12-July15, July19-July22, July26-July29**

**Please note, the Klahanie School calendar follows the Vashon Island School district calendar, with slight variances based on our in-service and conference days.**

#### **No School:**

- **Holidays**
- **Professional In-service Development Days**

#### **Regular Schedule: Sept -June**

**w/ Optional Additional family support programs: PM childcare & Summer 2027 June-July Weekly Learning Lab & PM Childcare.**

Please note that the cost of tuition for September-June is divided into 10 month payments, families are welcome to pay in full at the beginning of the year. **Tuition is due the 25th of the previous month through the 1st of the month to pay teachers by the 5th of each month.** Re-enrollment is due February 1.

**A Day in Klahanie School Montessori Antibias Year Round Classroom:**

#### **Klahanie School Daily Schedule and Routine**

**8:25 a.m.** We open the gate to greet the students as they arrive. One Montessori teacher stands at the door to greet the student and parent, shake hands of students and help the student find their locker so that they can take off and put away their shoes and coat. The other Montessori teacher sits at circle with classical music playing and greets the students one by one with a smile and a handshake and encourages them to find a place in circle and be seated comfortably upright.

**8:30-8:45 a.m.** Once the majority of Montessori students have arrived, we begin with a Good Morning song, a few finger plays, review the calendar and news time, and the Sharing Bag person is chosen for the day. The Sharing Bag person feeds the class pet(s). If any group presentations, unit Equity topics are required that day, they are presented at this circle time, such as when there are new Practical Life or art activities on the shelves. Sharing Bag.

**8:50 a.m.** Pause for meditation/ brain gym-movement/ singing or yoga poses/ 4 Square breathing followed by practice of visualization. Students are asked to close their eyes and think

about what work they would like to begin with today and when they have thought of something to raise their hand. Lead teacher walks around the circle and gently tap each child on the hand (one by one). It is a really calm way to begin the day and helps each student begin the day focused and ready to find an activity to work on. Tuesdays and Wednesdays Austin shares the first two children to read - support in the library classroom.

While the children work independently, the lead teacher provides individual and group lessons while the Montessori teaching assistant and intern(s) reinforces the important classroom etiquette rules, help escorting to and from the bathroom (site 2), and routines of the class and helps diffuse any issues as they arise throughout the morning. Reading specialist teacher Austin rotates students throughout the day in 20 min sessions per child. Lead teacher administers 1-1 lessons to each student in the 3 hour span, in varying areas as well (rotating days for more specialized, more specific areas of curriculum such as mathematics - geometry and language. longer lessons daily for Kindergarteners as re-introduction to materials in 2 student small groups (usually 3 administered in a three hour session).

**11 a.m.** Teacher plays the music box cleanup music while everyone cleans up in a calm, equity focused manner. Once the students tidy their work, sit down for a circle. We then have a quick circle, reflect in the morning, sing, read an ending book, play some sort of a transition game and they are sent one by one to line up and exit the classroom to get shoes and coats on independently. Those who have not eaten lunch yet are excused first to also wash their hands for lunch pauses to those who have not eaten yet before playing in the garden.

Eating snacks and lunch is when grace, courtesy and good manners are practiced.

**11:30 p.m.** Noon our morning Intern helps napping students leaving at Noon to sit and wait for parents. Students staying until 1:30pm and 3:30pm

**12:20 p.m.** Students are asked to start cleaning up the garden classroom and library/art spaces. The bathroom is cleaned/laundry down and all students move into the garden circle or art tent (depending on weather), sing some songs and teachers walk students to their parents.

**12:20 p.m.** Students staying for afterschool 3:30pm pickup are checked out and re-signed in/ escorted by Lead to site 2 for the remainder of the day: garden and library classroom/ art spaces to library classroom for two hours of calm, rest, art and free choice.

**3:20 p.m.** PM cleanup. Gathering of items and walking down to the garden for pickup at 3:30pm from the entry gate/ garden art tent.

**Please Drop Off @ Main Entrance Table in a Name Labeled Plastic Bags**

1. **Name Labeled Slippers**
2. **Name Labeled Emergency Packet** (please refer to Vashon school district website for list/ online sites which need to include the following: space blankets, non-perishable foods, photo of family & emergency pickup person, comfort stuffy, child dust mask, glow stick)

**Supplies Kept At School & Re-Supplied Daily/ Weekly:** Please Bring @ the Meet and Greet

- **Name Labeled plastic bag with:**
  - **Name labeled Rain Gear (separates: raincoat and rain pants)**
  - extra shirt, shorts/sweatpants, underwear, socks, warm hoodie or sweater-sweatshirt
  - name-labeled water bottle
  - snack and lunch in name-labeled lunch bag
  - name-labeled sun hat, work gloves (optional and helpful)

**Supplies to Bring DAILY to School:**

- **Name labeled water bottle and healthy lunch/snack (please keep nuts at home)**
- **Please supply your child with pre-applied sunscreen and sun hat**
- **Easy clothing and shoes for independence, comfort and movement** Comfortable and safe to hike in gravel, Velcro, boots and crocks are the most helpful.
- **PLEASE LEAVE TIE SHOES and 100% required adult help footwear AT HOME.**  
Recommended at home: practice of removing boots-shoes on and off and shoe horns for all shoe practice to mirror what we use at school. Comfortable boots (muck, bogs) recommended.
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**Neighborhood Driving/Parking Reminder 8107 SW 201st Street, Vashon 98070**

- **Neighborhood Parking is Only Available During School Hours.** Neighborhood Parking is Closed in non-school hours. Thank you for this neighborhood help.
- **Drop-off and pick-up might feel long, and require patience and focus.** The testing process will be a swift temperature check. Your job is to do the Attestation Test daily for your child prior to arriving at school. Any "Yes" answers to any of the symptoms listed from the attestation, child is required to stay home 24 hours, or otherwise advised by PCP.
  - *Traffic on our one-lane road requires patience and please park in our driveways in front of our home and off county road, 81st Street. We respect our neighbors and ask you **please drive slowly (10 mph) and REFRAIN from pulling into neighbor driveways**, following the drawing below:*

**ALL DROP OFF AND PICKUP is from THE MAIN EAST GATE.** PICKUP People WILL wait in cars for children to be walked to them.

If not a regular pickup person, all alerts of permission must be made via email [klahanieschool@gmail.com](mailto:klahanieschool@gmail.com) by 7:30 am each morning with:

1. the name of the person and
2. their mobile number

PLEASE ALERT TEACHER OF YOUR CHILD'S NAME YOU ARE PICKING UP via email or signed permission slip that morning at drop off. THANK YOU FOR THIS VALUABLE HELP!

**Thank you for driving 10 mph down our neighborhood roads**, yielding to oncoming traffic on our one lane road and parking only where marked, avoiding neighborhood driveways for turnarounds and offering yourself enough time to drive slowly for pedestrians.


**Pickup:** Thank You for Being On-Time, driving slow.

**To ensure safety liabilities around the property, we ask children and families to refrain from gathering or playing outside of the garden space, and use those trails solely for walking safely to and from vehicles immediately before school and dismissal.** Thank you for this important safety reminder.

Being so close to KVI, making a meeting place prior to pickup is helpful to all.

### **Family Volunteership/ School Community Supports:**

**Thank you so much for your volunteership for ongoing necessary annual fundraising, please click on the link to sign up, this is an ask of all families.**

 **2026-2027 Parent Volunteering Signup-Required Fundraising Help** the form you can choose how you seek to support:

1. \*Bake Sales: helping organize with all the bake sales at table shift and a baked item, community sharing about the school.
2. Grant Research and Referral
3. Sustainable Donors
4. Classroom subbing (listing what days in the week are the best for you if called)
5. Monthly Library Book liaison
6. Vashon Thriftway receipts
7. Organizing one (or two) Field Trip on the island, please contact Emmy to explore.

**Please also consider helping us by volunteering, here are areas we deep appreciate & Value your time:**

- Substitute when a teacher is ill (background checks required)
- Monthly playdough

- **Chair Fundraising committee**, begin organizing and gather resources and support from the existing committee. Help create our deeply important annual fundraising for scholarships for families.
- Monthly Cut outs for special projects
- Parent Specialist visit at Circle with examples to branch from for community developments in our young learners: visit for a brief intro to your birth home origins, family identity, your passions, cultures, languages, work-expression focuses.

### **Class Preparedness & Separation Anxiety Supports**

Most likely your child will have a couple of adjustment moments coming back into a school space--maybe some tears or fears, and these can look and feel unsettling to parents in the midst AND with gentle consistency and dependable routine, there is always massive light at the end of the tunnel. Separation anxiety is also a clear showing of connection parenting you establish and a hard compliment. These students are usually our most bonded children or experiencing varying sensitivities to entering group space, and very happy schoolmates when feeling safe and through that adapting-adjustment period.

The biggest key for helping move to that smoother drop off is reading books about school and topics of trying new things and inner bravery- coping to resiliency steps. There are massive selections now to order for children specific books as well as parenting books dealing with transition to outside of the home care, schooling for young children.

Helpful support for your child is knowing a return is always happening, so having a calendar with the days showing school and routine, who drops off and who picks up is very helpful. The practice at home of preparing children wearing masks, putting on their own shoes/coats, using the bathroom and dropping off to school are all things to practice at home. This is not to make into a daily lecture or huge topic but can be integrated smoothly in a day, throughout the day to normalize.

Holding a special pebble found on the way to school in the pocket to roll and feel in the day can be soothing helpful movements for a child adjusting to new experiences.

**Separation Anxiety and Drop off:** To help ease children to school and nervousness of parents during transitions to school from home, teachers will meet families at their cars to walk/cuddle and soothe children into school. Pickup will run the same way and teachers will walk children to the awaiting cars. This helps our neighborhood as well in smoothing out limited parking-our one lane road constraints.

### **Helpful Tips and Kind Requests to Practice At Home:**

- **Read children books about starting school and bravery/ resiliency in new adventures** as well as books about parents and children coming back together after longer days away from each other.

- **Find one or two parent guide books on separation anxiety** (HUGE topic for kids these days!) and ways to practice now at home. For our boys sometimes the transfer of me to their papa or a grandparent would spark that separation discomfort and tantrum so we would practice when Alex would get home, I would “drop off” our sons to go for a walk or run errands so they could practice that exchange. School they still would cry but not full tantrums and transition to school activity quickly.

- **Begin conversation about emotions and explore different tools to discuss emotions** (emotion charts, cards through Etsy are great) while also exploring transitions in life and what we all can do to support that stickier time in a day. “What do you feel when we go to...” and using open ended questions with ideas of seeing each transition and big emotion moment as a step by step approach to calm and guides that can help like 4-Square Breathing and stretches. Ways to explore what makes us feel in certain places and where are the places we feel most comfortable and safe can be extremely useful topics in bath time-prepping for the next day movements side by side. And ways to integrate the power of resiliency—finding what makes most sense to us finding acceptance and comforts in a discomfort moment in life, like transitions, and making ways towards step one I will, Step two I will until there is finality of completion and pride in moving in resiliency through the steps to finding a way forth. These are daily moments to learn with and we teachers are here to team-up in the consistencies and fatigue when children seek that support.

- **Highlighting the things your child loves at home are also at school** : animals, counting, puzzles, blocks, etc. Sharing that only kind people are invited into the Klahanie School experience and teachers are here to help, and make life feel supported and cared for when life moments in groups can feel confusing.

- **Create with your calendar and schedule** maybe a reward system? Every time you come to school and take deep breaths (4-Square Breathing/ hug your torso/ tap) instead of tantrums, is it a reward when picked up? Stickers to a bigger reward saved for? I will give the heads up that the reward system really only works if consistent so if any nervousness about follow-through, I would suggest a different route that feels more compatible with how you parent. There are many other physical methods children can harness when feeling scared, nervous, angry vs a tantrum and that might be fun to talk over as a family— healthy methods we use when feeling those big emotions.

- **Wash hands in transitions.** At school we do a lot of work in the first couple weeks with self care and environment care: washing hands, arm covering mouth (even in mask) and putting on clothing independently/ coats and cleaning up areas before transitioning to new activities and washing hands in between.

- **Find some Emotions-Social books about independence at home and start implementing those little activities and cleanup steps at home.** This is to familiarize with the routine and also offer stability in the act of concentration, order and independence. That trust building and



confidences create ease, calm and then creative-engaged and fun learning! That will also feel familiar to your child who relaxes in school.

With these starts, you might see some shifts that will surprise you. Please keep communications open and all these referral suggestions can be found on our website (book referrals) and some Montessori magic resources to look into. Below is a fabulous write up on a AMS (American Montessori Society) training blog for the first days of school preparations:

<https://montessoritraining.blogspot.com/2010/09/new-montessori-student-separation-anxiety.html>

<https://montessoritraining.blogspot.com/2010/09/new-montessori-student-separation-anxiety.html?m=1>

Many times in anxiety separation (my experience lens over these years) children deep in transition seek to be comforted with presence and invitation to be close. Many times once a child is calmed and not screaming (that is the most common response in separation anxiety) then we talk and connect through. We play, engage in an interest and also continue sharing that we too understand feeling pain and that it hurts, and it will not last. We are there to help transition to feeling trust and then fun! Letting us know his passions (special animals your child loves: last year we had a child who adored Arctic Fox so we all bonded through that) is super helpful.

#### Supplies to Bring Daily Please:

- Comfortable and safe to hike/run/waterproof footwear.
- Name Labeled water bottle and healthy snack/lunch
- Please supply your child with pre-applied sunscreen and sun hat
- Easy clothing and shoes for independence, comfort and movement

Thank you for trusting us with the attention, care and love of learning foundations we offer your child and family at Klahanie School. Really looking forward to seeing you all soon and please give me a call this weekend if inquiries arise, happy to help!

#### **Jovial Family Portal Guide: HOW TO USE**

The Family Portal is a self-service tool that allows you to:

- View your tuition and billing
- View form requirements
- View up-to-date class rosters

#### **Accessing Your Portal**

You should have received an email from Jovial that included a personalized link to access your family's portal. If you didn't receive that email, check your spam folder. If your link has expired (they are only good for 30 days) you can generate a new one yourself. Here's how:

- Go to [jovial.org/klahanieschool/family](http://jovial.org/klahanieschool/family) in your web browser.

- Enter your email address in the email field.
- Click the **Get Access Link** button.
- Check your email for the link from Jovial.Org (don't forget to check for spam)
- Use the link in the email to access Jovial.

### **Viewing and Paying Your Bill**

At the top right of the home page, you will see your Billing Pane. It shows your next due amount and the due date. You can use the buttons in that pane to make a payment or view your billing details. You can submit payments to the preschool in person with the Treasurer or Registrar. You can also mail checks to our PO Box.

**The most convenient way to pay is to use the Make Payment link Cashapp/Venmo Klahanie-School or checks dropped off in our metal Dropbox mounted to the North entrance.**

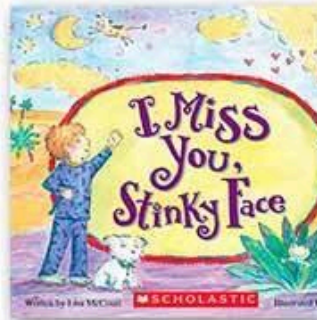
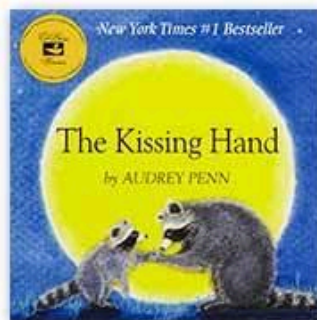
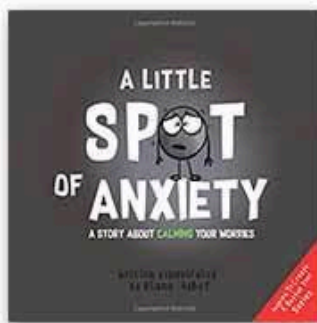
### **Viewing Form Requirements**

*If you have any questions as to which, if any, forms you need to submit for registration, you can view that in the Family Portal. From the Home page, you can see the requirements and a list of your outstanding forms. This list is maintained by the Registrar. Requirements in yellow are outstanding while the green items have been satisfied. If you see any in red, they are overdue.*

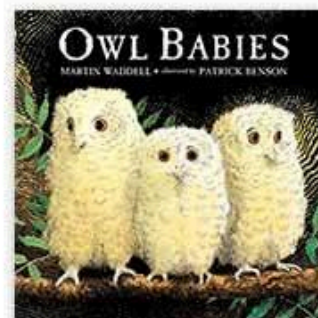
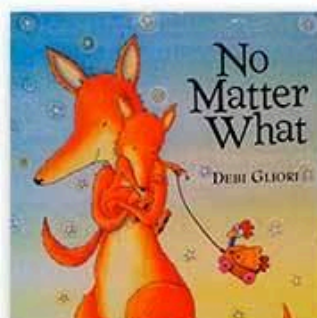
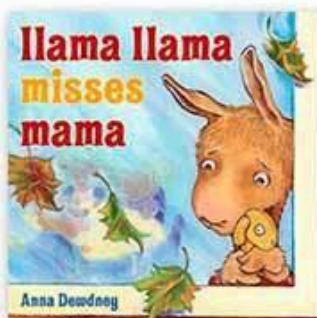
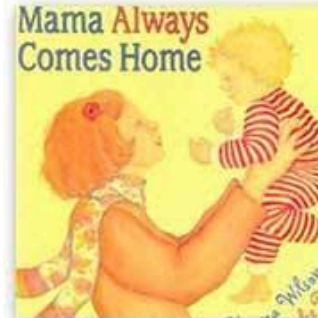
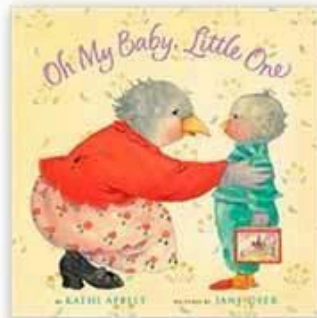
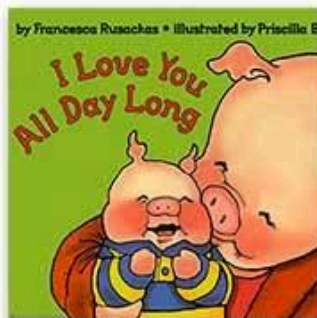
### **Viewing Class Rosters**

*You can access the rosters for any class your child is enrolled in starting on the first day of classes. As children are enrolled or as they drop classes, the rosters are updated in Jovial. To access the rosters for your child's class, scroll to the bottom of the home page and look for the Student Pane. It will contain your child's name and information. It also shows your current settings for use of photos permissions.*

*To view any roster for your child's class, simply click the **View/Print Roster** button. The roster contains contact information for the children in class and any dietary restrictions for each child. If you would like any of this information amended for your child, please send an email to the Registrar at [klahanieschool@gmail.com](mailto:klahanieschool@gmail.com).*



# CHILDREN'S BOOKS ABOUT SEPARATION ANXIETY





*Comfort, Independence and Self-esteem:  
What You Can Do at Home to Help Your  
Child be Successful at School*

1. Help your child develop the habit of choosing appropriate clothes for school and laying them out the night before. Talk about what the weather is likely to be, what he or she will do at school (painting, running outside, etc.), and why certain clothes will work or not work well for these activities.
2. Teach your child how to dress him or herself - and let him or her do it! If your child is a beginner you will need to allow extra time, and of course, offer help if it is needed.
3. Show your child how to blow his or her nose - and then let him or her do it! Like dressing, the only way to learn this skill is by actually doing it.
4. Teach your child how to be independent in the bathroom:

Make sure he or she wears clothes that will make bathroom independence easy rather than difficult - clothes that can easily be pulled up or down in a hurry!

Remind him or her to close the door "for privacy." Talk about how school is different from home in this regard.

Show your child how to wipe him or herself, and any drips that might have gotten on the toilet seat.

Show how to flush toilet, and to wash hands with warm water and soap after flushing.