



ACORN MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL

CHILDREN FIRST, ALWAYS

July 1, 2026

Dear Acorn Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year! We are excited to kick off another fantastic year of learning, growth, and community at Acorn. Our first day of school will be Thursday, August 6, 2026, and we can't wait to welcome your student back to campus.

Acorn is a tuition-free, publicly funded charter school, where students thrive through engaging hands-on instruction, a rigorous curriculum, enriching field trips, a wide range of after-school clubs, and award-winning free-to-play sports programs. We are proud to offer a healthy, safe, and nurturing environment led by highly qualified educators and supported by small student-to-teacher ratios. Our mission is to foster academic, social, and emotional success for every student.

Back-to-School Open House: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 - 5:00–7:00 p.m.

We hope you'll join us for this important event! During the Open House, families will have the opportunity to:

- Meet the teachers
- Explore the classrooms
- Learn what to expect in the year ahead

This is a walk-through style event, so if you have students at both campuses, you'll have plenty of time to visit each classroom. Additionally, we will host a Title I drop-in meeting from 5:00–7:00 p.m. in the West Campus Intervention Classroom with Mrs. Jennie, where you can learn more about our reading intervention program.

What's Inside This Packet

Please carefully review the enclosed materials, which include everything you'll need to prepare for the new school year:

- Teacher Welcome Letter with Supply List
- School Calendar
- Dress Code Policy
- **Student Materials & Activity Info***
- **Acorn T-Shirt Order Form ***
- **5th–8th Grade Sports Participation Form***
- Health & Illness Policy

*These items must be completed and returned to the school:

- 5th–8th Grade Sports Form
- Student Activity/Materials Payment Info & Payment
- Acorn T-Shirt Order Form

If you would like a hard copy of any of the items in this packet, please contact us and we would be happy to mail it to you or arrange for pick up.

We're happy to share that all students receive free breakfast and lunch each school day!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to seeing you at Back-to-School Night on August 4th, 2026, and starting another great year at Acorn together!

(Instructional Staffs' qualifications and resumes are available for review in the school offices.)

Non-Discrimination Policy

Acorn Montessori Schools do not discriminate based on race, color, nation origin, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation, income level, proficiency in the English language, athletic ability, age or housing situation in its programs or activities or in its hiring and employment practices. Acorn Montessori Charter School is an equal opportunity provider and employer. All programs of the United States Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) are available to everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or handicap.

West Campus Pre-K - 2nd: 7555 E. Long Look Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 - Phone 928.775.0238; Fax 928.775.2638

Main Campus 3rd - 8th: 8556 E. Loos Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 - Phone 928.772.5778; Fax 928.775.8654

acornmontessori.com



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Dress Code & Electronics Policy

A quality education can only be provided in a safe and disciplined learning environment. At Acorn Montessori Charter School, we understand a student's need to express their individuality through their attire. However, students may not do so in a manner that is disruptive, distracting, or potentially dangerous in a classroom environment. Acorn provides opportunities for students to express themselves within the set of parameters listed below. Clothes and shoes should fit appropriately and not restrict movement or modesty.

Students and their parents/guardians have the responsibility to be aware of the school's specific dress code.

On campus, the faculty, staff, and administration have the responsibility to interpret and enforce this policy.

The school is not responsible for the storage, inventory, or safekeeping of any confiscated item; this includes hats and electronic devices.

ALL RULES APPLY TO ALL STUDENTS REGARDLESS OF GENDER

The Acorn Montessori Charter School Dress Code is as follows:

Hats/Hoodies:

- No hats, caps, or beanies may be worn in the classroom or hallways.
- Hoods must remain down at all times while inside school buildings.

Tops:

- Tops that reveal bra straps, bare midriffs, or bare backs are not allowed.
- Tops may not be see-through.
- No tube or halter tops.
- No strapless tops.
- Straps must be at least three fingers wide.
- Tops must have shoulder straps on both sides.

Pants:

- Pants must be worn at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- Pants may not have holes or rips.
- Leggings/spandex must be modest and may need to be covered by an overgarment such as a tunic or skirt.

Shorts:

- Must be fitted at the waist and conceal all undergarments.
- Shorts must extend at least to the end of the student's fingertips when arms are fully extended down the side.

Skirts, Dresses, Jumpers, Sportswear:

- Must be of reasonable and modest length.
- No strapless dresses.
- All undergarments must be concealed at all times.



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Shoes:

- No bedroom slippers.
- Shoes must be appropriate for the day's activities, including recess and PE.
- No flip-flops.
- No shoes with wheels, cleats, or studs.

Miscellaneous:

- Clothing or accessories must not display statements, pictures, or symbols that promote prejudice, vulgarity, violence, sex, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco.
- Torn or radically altered clothing is not permitted.
- Gang-related symbols or insignias on clothing, belongings, or personal items are strictly prohibited.
- No wallet chains.
- No rings, bracelets, or collars with spikes or locks.
- No long or studded belts.
- Piercings are limited to the ears only.
- No visible permanent or temporary tattoos or body drawings.
- Hair may only be dyed with one additional color and must remain modest and non-distracting. Bright or unnatural colors such as neon green, blue, purple, etc., are not permitted.
- Students may wear modest makeup, including lip gloss, eye shadow, eyeliner, and mascara.

The final determination of appropriate attire rests with the administration. Students who are not in compliance with the dress code may be asked to change or have clothing brought to school. Repeated violations will result in a phone call home and/or a parent/guardian meeting.

Electronics Policy

Acorn Montessori Charter School has a closed-campus electronics policy during school hours. Students may bring personal electronics for after-school use only, but devices are not permitted for use at any time during the school day. This includes cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, earbuds, or any other personal electronic device. All devices must be stored in the classroom's designated phone/electronics storage at the beginning of the day. Devices used without permission will be confiscated and held until a parent or guardian picks them up from the front office. Please see the full electronic policy for specific details. Acorn Montessori is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged electronic items.

Prohibited Items on School Grounds:

- Laser pointers
- Aerosol cans of any kind
- Water balloons or water guns
- Gum
- Obscene or profane materials
- Cigarettes, matches, or lighters
- Tobacco in any form (**subject to suspension/expulsion**)
- Vapes/Juuls (**subject to suspension/expulsion**)
- Weapons of any kind (**subject to suspension/expulsion**)
- Any item deemed inappropriate by administration

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Acorn Montessori Charter School - Kindergarten - 8th Grade

2026-2027 School Calendar

July 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

July	Staff - 2-5	Students - 0
27	Admin, SPED staff return (no students)	
28	New Teacher In-service (no students)	
29	Leads return (no students)	
30	All staff return (no students)	

August	Staff - 21	Students - 18
3-5	All Staff In-Service	
4	Back to School Night - 5:00-7:00	
6	1st Day of School	

September	Staff - 21	Students - 20
4	PD Day - No Students	
7	Labor Day - Schools Closed	
25	Fall Festival	

October	Staff - 17	Students - 17
9	End of 1st QTR, 12:00 release	
12-16	Fall Break - No School	
23	Middle School Dance: 5:00-7:00	
21-23	Parent/Teacher Conferences - 1:00 release	
30	United Countries Day	

November	Staff - 17	Students - 17
11	Veterans Day - Schools Closed	
25-27	Thanksgiving Holiday - Schools Closed	

December	Staff - 14	Students - 14
14	Winter Family Performance - K:12:30; 1st: 2:00	
15	Winter Family Performance - 2:12:30; 3: 2:00	
16	Winter Family Performance - 4 & 5: 12:30	
17	Winter Family Performance - North: 5:00	
18	End of 2nd QTR, 12:00 release	
21-31	Winter Break - No School	

January 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January	Staff - 19	Students - 18
1	Winter Break - No School	
4	School Resumes	
15	Staff in-service (no students)	
18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Schools Closed	
28	Chili Cook-off: 5:00	

February	Staff - 19	Students - 19
15	President's Day - Schools Closed	

March	Staff - 17	Students - 17
12	End of 3rd QTR, 12:00 release	
15-19	Spring Break - No School	
24-25	Parent/Teacher Conferences - 1:00 release	
26	Spring Recess - No School	

April	Staff - 22	Students - 21
16	Middle School Dance: 5:00-7:00	
26	Staff in-service (no students)	

May	Staff - 20	Students - 19
17	Kindergarten Graduation: 1:00	
18	E.O.Y. Celebration: 3rd-4th: 10:00; 1st-2nd:1:00	
19	E.O.Y. Celebration: 5th-7th: 1:00	
24	8th Grade Graduation: 5:30	
27	Students' Last Day - 12:00 release	
28	Staff Check Out	
31	Memorial Day - Schools Closed	

Total Days of Student Instruction = 180

State Testing Dates: April TBD

Benchmark Testing Dates: 8/17-8/28; 11/30-12/18; 5/10-5/25

Snow Day Makeups (if necessary): April 26th (1st); May 21st (2nd)

Fraturdays: Early Release - K-3: 1:15; 4-8: 1:30

Revised:2/16/2026



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Student Material/Activity Fee Payment Information

At Acorn Montessori, we are proud to offer a well-rounded education that goes beyond the classroom. We know that physical education, movement, and hands-on learning experience as well as educational field trips have a powerful impact on student growth and brain development.

To support these essential enrichment programs, a required \$40.00 activity fee per student will be collected for the 2026–2027 school year. Families with three or more children enrolled will receive a 10% family discount.

As allowed by the State of Arizona, public schools like Acorn may assess a fee for extracurricular activities. This fee is critical to funding programs that are otherwise under-supported due to state budget constraints. Without these funds, we would not be able to offer the same level of enrichment for our students.

The activity fee covers, or offsets the cost of, student participation in:

- Music and the arts clubs and programs
- Educational field trips
- Clubs and school sports
- “Science on Wheels” (through the Arizona Science Center)
- Other enrichment programs that enhance the Acorn curriculum

Thank you for your support in helping us provide a rich and engaging educational experience for all Acorn students.

Please tear off bottom portion and return with payment

ACORN MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL - STUDENT MATERIAL/ACTIVITY FEE – PAYMENT FORM
PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Student’s Name _____
Parent / Guardian Name _____ Date _____
Teacher Name _____ Grade Level _____

Please make check payable to the “Acorn Montessori School” in the amount of \$40(minimum) and include the student’s name and grade on the check for each student you are enrolling.

*These fees are due by August 31st, 2026. A late fee will apply after this date. If you need more time or to set up payments, please contact Mrs. G. at 928-772-5778.



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HEALTH AND ILLNESS POLICY

Acorn staff maintain the highest standards of cleanliness and sanitation. Teachers clean and sanitize toys, eating surfaces, and toileting and diapering areas regularly and according to licensing standards. Teachers and children follow proper and frequent hand washing procedures. Please arrange for a back-up person to care for your child when your child is sick. Staff will conduct a daily health check upon arrival and will not admit a child if symptoms of illness are present.

We ask that families not give fever reducing or pain medication to their child in the morning before bringing them. Generally, the medicine wears off and the child becomes uncomfortable during the day. This also may put other children and staff at risk for getting sick.

Please do not bring your child if he or she has any of the following symptoms. When symptoms appear while your child is in our program, parents must pick up their child within one hour of notification. ***Parents/Guardians are required to be available to answer phone calls, or return phone calls in a timely manner for the safety and health of the children.** Should your child exhibit any of the following symptoms, we may temporarily separate your child from other children to avoid the spread of a contagious illness. **24 hours means students may not return for a complete, full day following being sent home.**

Fever: Children exhibiting fevers (100.4) will be sent home and may return once fever free for 24 hours.

Vomiting/Diarrhea: Your child may return 24 hours after all vomiting and diarrhea has subsided.

Rash: We will exclude your child with any unexplained rash, especially if there are open sores. A child may return when symptom free or there is a physician's statement that the condition is not contagious.

Eye discharge (or pink eye): Your child may return 24 hours after first antibacterial treatment has begun.

Head lice, scabies or other infestations: Your child may return 24 hours after treatment has begun. A physician's statement may be required to return in severe cases. In case of head lice, your child must not have live lice before returning.

Strep throat: Your child may return 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has begun.

Flu: At least 24 hours have passed since their last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications

COVID 19: Isolate **5 days**, return on day 6 if symptoms are resolving and no fever.

Chicken pox: Your child may return after being fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication and all sores have dried up and healed over.

Impetigo: Your child may return 24 hours after treatment has begun.

Hand, foot and mouth: Your child may return after being fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication and *all sores have dried up and healed over.*



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We exercise the right to exclude a child despite a physician's statement, if that statement contradicts school policies for all health-related issues. Acorn will post any communicable diseases and each classroom affected on the door to the classroom and kept in a binder in the front office. Parents will be called for any and all head related injuries.