



WESTPARK MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF IRVINE O'MARCH 2016



SPRING FORWARD, FALL BACKWARDS

Remember to set your clocks **FORWARD** one hour on Saturday night, March 12. Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 13!



REMINDER: SCHOOL CLOSED- CESAR CHAVEZ DAY

Montessori Schools of Irvine will be **CLOSED** on **Friday, March 25** in honor of Cesar Chavez Day.

CONTINUING REGISTRATION – All Students

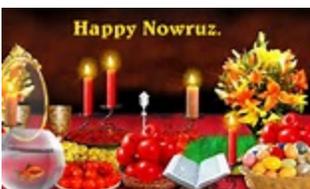
Registration for **ALL continuing students** for the 2016-2017 school year is now closed. Registration ended on Friday, February 19. Any child whom we have not received a registration from will be removed from the July class lists and registration will be open to those on our waiting list. We thank our families for sharing your family's early childhood years with the Montessori Schools of Irvine.

Please note: Confirmation forms are being distributed over the next two weeks. If you have any questions, please see your school director **ASAP**.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Happy St. Patrick's Day! We will celebrate on Thursday, March 17 with a simple Irish party and Chef Cyndi will be serving Potato Corn Chowder for lunch (see menu). A special party snack sign up will be posted on Wednesday, March 9. Join the fun and **wear something GREEN** on this day.



HAPPY FIRST DAY OF SPRING and PERSIAN AND IRANIAN NEW YEAR (Nowruz)

March 20 is the first day of spring and Nowruz. Nowruz [or norooz, pronounced NO-ROOZ] means "New-day". We wish our Persian and Iranian families a very happy New Year!



ANNUAL SPRING EGG HUNT

Our Annual Children's Spring Egg Hunt has been scheduled for Thursday, March 24. What fun! All "egg hunters" must be here no later than 9:00 AM, as we will hunt early!

HAPPY EASTER

Sunday, March 27 is Easter Sunday. We wish all of our families who celebrate a happy Easter!

JACKETS AND SWEATERS

The weather is changeable these days so please be sure that you send your child to school in a sweater or jacket! We will do our best to try to get them to keep it on as they run and play. It is important to write their names on all clothing that comes to school. Many items look alike and it helps the teacher identify what garment belongs to what child. Also, please remember to take home your child's jacket or sweater each afternoon!

BOOK CLUBS

March book club order forms are now available at the front desk. Book club orders are due on Friday, March 11th. Please make ONE check payable to Scholastic.

SPRING PICTURES

Spring pictures by Images 4 Kids are scheduled for April 5th. Be sure to check the April newsletter for more information. Our spring photos DO NOT require prepayment. You will receive a proof sheet approximately 2 weeks after the photos are taken and can order at that time.

Note: Kindergarten cap and gown photographs will be taken in the month of May.

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

April 11-15 is "Week of the Young Child"! Again this year we have many fun and exciting activities planned for all of our children. Watch the April News for more information.

Kindergarten-Primary



KINDERGARTEN SCIENCE FAIR

This year the Kindergarten-Primary children are hosting a Science Fair to showcase their science experiments which reflect on their learning throughout the year. The science fair will be in the kindergarten classroom on March 24th at 2:30. The children are very excited and have been busy preparing for this special event. Please mark your calendar and plan time to take a look!



CAP AND GOWNS

Graduation forms for Cap and Gown Sets, diplomas, etc. will be distributed in Friday Folders on Friday, March 4. All forms are due back no later than, Friday, March 18.

Save the Date: Kindergarten Graduation & Preschool Musical– Wednesday, June 15!

TANAKA FARMS – STRAWBERRY FIELDS

On Friday, April 15 in the afternoon our Kindergarten class will be traveling to Tanaka Farms to experience a real working farm. Their tour will include a guided wagon ride around the farm, learning about vegetables and fruits, seeing BIG farm equipment and ending in the strawberry fields picking delicious strawberries! Registration forms will be distributed in Friday Folders on March 24 and are due back no later than Thursday, March 31 .

NEWS FOR ONE'S AND TWO'S

MARCH TODDLER TEACHING THEMES

This month our Toddlers will be learning about their families and pets.

ILLNESS POLICY

The State Regulations require that every child arriving at school should be healthy and feeling good. Children showing any signs of illness are asked to remain home until signs and symptoms are gone. If your child develops any signs of illness during the school day, you will be contacted immediately. Children being sent home with signs of illness must remain home FOR THE FOLLOWING DAY OF SCHOOL AND until all signs of illness are gone. For more detailed information please see our school Brochure. (Some illnesses will require a longer "stay-home" time.) While we try to send home a written illness reminder, we sometimes "miss" you, however, the policy remains.



DATES TO REMEMBER

March 11	Book Club orders due
March 13	Daylight Savings Time begins- Spring forward
March 17	St. Patrick's Day Celebrations
March 18	Graduation Cap and Gown orders due
March 24	Spring Egg Hunt
March 24	Kindergarten-Primary Science Fair
Friday, March 25	**SCHOOL CLOSED** Cesar Chavez Day
March 27	Happy Easter
April 5	Spring Photos by Images 4 Kids
April 11-15	Week of the Young Child
April 15	Kindergarten-Primary Field Trip- Strawberry Farms



March Birthdays

March 4

Mr. Richard



MARCH STAFF ANNIVERSARIES:

March 1

Miss Denean 35 years!!!!

THANK YOU, DENEAN! Your loyalty, dedication, and contributions to the children, their families and the school program are appreciated with all our hearts.



Chef's Table by Chef Cyndi

St. Patrick's Day Potato Corn Chowder

1 lb. red potatoes, diced	Butter
1 lb. frozen sweet corn	Salt & Pepper to taste
1 cup yellow onion, diced	Optional: Add bacon or ham
1 cup celery, diced	
2 qts. heavy whipping cream (Optional: add milk to thin)	

1. Sauté onion and celery in butter.
2. Add diced potatoes.
3. In large saucepan, heat cream.
4. Add onions, celery, potatoes and corn.
5. Add milk to thin as needed. Add optional bacon or ham if desired.
6. Simmer until potatoes are tender.

NORTHERN IRELAND WHEATEN BREAD

1 c bread flour
2 ¾ c whole wheat flour
1 ¼ tsp salt
1 ¼ tsp baking soda
2 tsp sugar
¼ c butter
2 c buttermilk
¼ c vegetable oil
1 T buttermilk
1 tsp sugar



1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Prepare a shallow baking pan with cooking spray.
2. Sift together the bread flour, whole wheat flour, salt, baking soda, and 2 teaspoons sugar in a bowl. Cut the margarine into the flour mixture until pieces are nearly indistinguishable. Make a well in the center of the mixture and pour in the oil and buttermilk. Stir with a spatula until dry mixture is completely moistened. Move the dough to a lightly-floured surface. Lightly knead the dough for no more than 1 minute. Place the dough into the prepared pan; pat down and around to form a round loaf. Cut a cross into the top of the loaf with your finger. Brush the top with 1 tablespoon buttermilk; sprinkle 1 teaspoon sugar over the top of the loaf.