



MONTESSORI SCHOOLS OF IRVINE
O'MARCH 2017



SPRING FORWARD, FALL BACKWARDS

Remember to set your clocks FORWARD one hour on Saturday night, March 11. Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12!



REMINDER: SCHOOL CLOSED- CESAR CHAVEZ DAY

Montessori Schools of Irvine will be CLOSED on **Friday, March 31** in honor of Cesar Chavez Day.



PLEASE WELCOME!!!

The National conference for the American Montessori Society is being held in San Diego this year. They have chosen us to be on the National tour of schools for this conference so you may see them the morning of Thursday, March 9 at both University Montessori and Northwood Montessori. They are visiting our largest schools in order to accommodate the tours of approximately 60 professionals. This conference also provide much information that may be of interest to parents. It is held at the Town and Country Conference Resort and Hotel in San Diego from March 10-13. If you would like more information about the conference itself, it can be found at amshq.org under events.

CONTINUING REGISTRATION – All Students

Registration for **ALL continuing students** for the 2017-2018 school year is now closed. Registration ended on Friday, February 24. 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**.



Happy St. Patrick's Day! We will celebrate on Friday, March 17 with a simple Irish party. Chef Cyndi will be serving Potato Corn Chowder for lunch (see menu). A special party snack sign up will be posted on Wednesday, March 8. Join the fun and **wear something GREEN** on this day.

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!



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". See the March menu for a special lunch on this day. We wish our Persian and Iranian families a very happy New Year!

BOOK CLUBS

March book club order forms are now available at the front desk. Book club orders are due on Wednesday, March 8. Please make ONE check payable to Westpark Montessori.

SPRING PICTURES

Spring pictures by Images 4 Kids are scheduled for April 4th. 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 24-28 is "Week of the Young Child"! Again this year we have many fun and exciting activities planned for all of our children as well as some special guests! Watch the April News for more information.

Kindergarten-Primary



KINDERGARTEN-PRIMARY 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 30 from 2:30 to 3:30. 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 3. All forms are due back no later than, Friday, March 17.

Save the Date: Kindergarten Graduation & Preschool Musical– Wednesday, June 21!

SELF PORTRAIT T-SHIRTS

In honor of our Kindergarten graduates this year Santa Claus Publishing Company will be creating a Self Portrait T-shirt that can be ordered and purchased for \$12.00. The children will be working on their self-portraits this month and they will be compiled onto a Navy blue t-shirt. Order forms will be distributed shortly and the deadline for ordering will be Thursday, March 30. Please make checks payable to: Westpark Montessori. The shirts should be ready by June and will be distributed before graduation.



TANAKA FARMS – STRAWBERRY FIELDS

On Friday, April 21 in the afternoon our Kindergarten-Primary Grade classes 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 30.

NEWS FOR INFANTS, ONE'S AND TWO'S

MARCH TODDLER TEACHING THEMES

This month our Toddlers will be learning about "library fun"! We will be doing a lot of reading. Please keep an eye out for an additional information in the toddler folders.



DATES TO REMEMBER

March 8	Book Club orders due
March 12	Daylight Savings Time begins- Spring forward
March 17	St. Patrick's Day Celebrations
March 17	Kindergarten Graduation Cap and Gown orders due
March 20	First day of Spring and Nowruz
March 30	Kindergarten-Primary Science Fair
Friday, March 31	**SCHOOL CLOSED** Cesar Chavez Day
April 4	Spring Photos by Images 4 Kids
April 13	Spring Egg Hunt

April 16
April 21
April 24-28

Happy Easter
Kindergarten-Primary Field Trip- Strawberry Farms
Week of the Young Child



March 4

March Birthdays

Mr. Richard



March 1

MARCH STAFF ANNIVERSARIES:

Miss Denean 36 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.