



**WESTPARK MONTESSORI SCHOOLS OF IRVINE  
MAY 2017**



**NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

May 1 - May 5 is National Teacher Appreciation Week with May 2<sup>nd</sup> being National Teacher's Day! This is a great time to give your child's teachers an extra smile and a simple "thank you" to let them know that you appreciate all that they do!

Many parents ask the question "What can I do that would be special for my child's teacher?" The teachers enjoy an extra smile, acknowledgement for a job well done, or a personal thank you note will be most welcome. Recognizing their hard work in educating your children as well as their loving care of your children would be most appreciated by any teacher.



**WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD**

The Week of the Young Child was great fun for one and all! The children enjoyed the many extra and exciting activities that were provided during the week including Franklin Haynes Marionettes, MR. FUNN the magician, Happy Hooves Petting Zoo, Toyland Express, Bubblemania and other activities. **A GIANT HEARTFELT THANK YOU** to Richard and Cheryl for providing such a fun-filled week for the children!!



**CINCO DE MAYO AND JAPANESE CHILDREN'S DAY**

May 5 is "Cinco de Mayo" AND Japanese Children's Day. Any parent wishing to share information about these special days with their child's class, please make arrangements with your child's teacher in advance.



**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

Scholastic book fair is in the atrium from 3:00-5:45 from May 1-5. We accept cash (small bills appreciated), checks made out to Westpark Montessori and credit cards. There is also a teacher wish list if you would like to donate a book to your child's classroom. For each book that is bought, Westpark Montessori gets "Scholastic Dollars" to use towards new Scholastic books. Thank you for helping build our classroom libraries with your purchases.

## **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES**

### **DAY CARE ONLY – (Montessori Classes not in session)**

During Parent-Teacher conferences, our head teachers are busy speaking with all of you about your children's progress. We realize that many parents work and would be thus impacted if we closed school on these days, however, as our head teachers are otherwise engaged, only child care will be provided. **Regular classes will not be in session!** Children will be spending most of their day outside and all children will have an extended rest time. This is a great "stay home" or "sleep in" day for children whose parents do not need day care.

*Parent-Teacher conferences for preschool and kindergarten are scheduled:*

### **All Day Conference day - Wednesday, May 17**

Conferences will be scheduled for 20 minute sessions from 9-5:20 PM

### **Alternate morning Conference times - Friday, May 19**

Conferences will be scheduled for 20 minute sessions from 7-10:40 a.m.

(Kindergarten and Primary conferences will be scheduled from 7-8:40 am ONLY)

**Reminder:** MONTESSORI CLASSES WILL NOT BE IN SESSION on **Wednesday, May 17 or Friday, May 19**. **Outside day care activities** have been scheduled for children needing care.

**Registration sign-up sheets will be posted in the FRONT OFFICE on Wednesday, May 3.**

We realize that parents sign up for conference times around their work schedules and need to return to their jobs at specific times. We will try to stay on schedule that day and request that all parents help us by arriving **5 minutes prior** to their scheduled conference as well as respecting the next person's conference time. Parents who do not arrive on time will have a shortened conference session or may miss their conference. On conference day, we ask that you check in at the front desk *before* going to your child's classroom, so as not to disturb a conference in progress. A copy of your child's progress report will be in their Friday folders on Friday, May 12. By taking the time to review the progress report before your conference you can maximize your conference time with your child's teacher.

We encourage ALL parents to participate in parent conferences, as it is the perfect time to sit with the teacher and focus on YOUR CHILD without interruption. Regrettably, with June program preparations upon us, teachers will be unable to provide additional times to review your child's progress report following the formal conference date.



***NAEYC accreditation is a feather in our parents' caps, too!***

Thank you for assisting us in maintaining this **honor for your child's school.**

### **PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES FOR ACCREDITATION**

As parents, we know that you are proud to have your child at an NAEYC accredited program. A VERY important component of our accreditation relies on feedback from our parents. We ask you to participate in our parent questionnaire process twice each year. We want to thank all of our parents who have completed our recent parent survey. We appreciate your time and value your feedback!

We will be having a validator from NAEYC coming for our renewal visit within the next couple of months. This is a somewhat unannounced visit as they do not give us an exact date for their visit, just notifying us the evening before. We are looking forward to sharing the results of our visit with you.

Thank you for helping us maintain our accreditation. Your child attends the **ONLY** NAEYC accredited Montessori program in Irvine!



### ***National Police Week - Let's Meet Officer Ayala, Officer Eric and Officer Hom***

May 15-19 is National Police Week! Officers from the Irvine Police Department will be visiting our schools this week, giving a presentation and up close view of their police car. They will also be reading a book written by Office Frank, "Let's Meet Officer Frank", which will be available for purchase (\$4.00) with personalization. Forms will be available at the front desk. A big "thank you" to the Police Officers who serve and protect us!



### **MOTHER'S DAY**

Sunday, May 14 is Mother's Day. Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful mothers!



### **MEMORIAL DAY**

Reminder: Montessori Schools of Irvine will be **CLOSED** on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day. Memorial Day commemorates all men and women who have died in military service for the United States.

### **SPRING CLEANING**

Please help!! May is "Spring Cleaning" month! Please send a spring set of extra clothes and a new bottle of sunscreen for your child (if you didn't in April). Please label everything! Also, it is time to take home all jackets, toys, etc. from the bin and shelves, and anything that may have been left at school. All articles remaining unclaimed at the school after May 25 will be donated to charity. Thank you for your help.

### **TEACHER "PREP" DAY**

On **Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>** our teachers will be preparing and planning for our June performance and summer unit. It will be a modified schedule and regular Montessori classes will NOT be in session. Daycare activities will be planned for this day.

### **BALLET END OF THE YEAR RECITAL**

Just a reminder: The end of the year ballet recital will be on Saturday, June 3. The performance will be at the Woodbridge Community Church, 5000 Barranca Pkwy. Please note that there are two different show times in order to accommodate requests for additional tickets. Westpark Montessori will be participating in the show beginning at 4:30 pm Please check with the director if you have any questions, or feel free to e-mail Miss Merle, Miss Robynne, Miss Bridget or Miss Jordana at [contact@academyofdance.org](mailto:contact@academyofdance.org).



## **“Creepy, Crawly Summer (Insects)” SUMMER 2017**

This year our summer theme is Creepy, Crawly Summer. Get ready for our special summer program, as it takes a closer look at the wonderful world of insects! The children will be learning about the different types of insects and how they live in our world.

Join us on for a *Creepy Crawly Summer* as the children learn about the exciting world of insects and much, much more. What fun it will be!

**Look for more information and a summer packet/schedule in late June.**

## **KINDERGARTEN NEWS**



### **GRADUATION PICTURES**

Tuesday, May 9 both individual and group photos will be taken of our Kindergarten Graduates. No pre-payment is necessary. You will receive a proof sheet approximately 2 weeks after the photos are taken and can place orders at that time. REMINDER: Please remember to wear a light color to go under their graduation gowns. Thank you.

## **TODDLER NEWS**



### **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

See our first article in this newsletter ☺

### **MAY “TEACHING THEMES” FOR THE TODDLERS AND TWO’S**

This month the toddlers and Two’s will be learning about family and pets!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY 1-5	Teacher Appreciation Week
MAY 3	Parent/Teacher Conference Sign Ups Posted
MAY 5	Cinco de Mayo and Japanese Children's Day
May 9	Kindergarten Graduation Pictures
MAY 14	HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
MAY 17	Parent/Teacher Conferences- <b>DAY CARE ONLY</b>
MAY 19	Parent/Teacher Conferences- <b>DAY CARE ONLY</b>
May 26	<b>DAY CARE ONLY</b> - Teacher "Prep" Day
<b>MAY 29</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED *** Memorial Day Holiday</b>
JUNE 3	Ballet end of year recital
<b>JUNE 21</b>	<b>YEAR-END ALL SCHOOL MUSICAL AND KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION</b>
JUNE 30	Last day of the session before *** SUMMER RECESS



### **MAY Staff Birthdays**

May 23                      Miss Tu