



Westpark Montessori Schools of Irvine – August 2017



“CREEPY, CRAWLY SUMMER” SUMMER 2017

Our summer unit “Creepy, Crawly Summer” is off to a great start. The children have been learning about the different bugs, insects and things that crawl. The children have begun to learn about where the insects live and what they eat. What fun it has been so far!

We have two ***on-site field trips*** this month; Wild Wonders (August 1) and Education Through Nature: “Incredible Insects” (August 17). Registration forms are available in the front office.

A NOTE FROM MISS PENNEE

This is just a quick note to let everyone know that I will be having hip replacement surgery on August 15th and will be on medical leave for about 6 weeks. I am planning to be at Spaghetti Dinner on September 14th to visit with everyone. While I am recovering, Miss Lisa Sabatini (who has been filling in for Northwood’s director while she was out on maternity leave) will be coming to Westpark to fill in as director while I am gone. Miss Lisa is a familiar face and has been with Montessori Schools of Irvine for over 20 years. Please feel free to introduce yourself. You will continue to see Miss Jenn open and close the school.



ART DISPLAYS AND BROWN PAPER BAGS

Watch for the children’s end of summer art show, “Art Affair” on Thursday, August 24 in the afternoon. On this day, the children will be displaying art projects from the summer program. All projects will be sent home on Friday, August 25. Please send a brown paper bag, labeled with your child’s name on it, by Thursday to hold these precious items!

KEEPIN’ IT GREEN!

The monthly newsletters are available online and if needed, you can print from home. A printed copy will be posted in the front office and at each classroom for “quick” reference. If you need an immediate paper copy, please ask at the front desk. Thank you for helping us “Go Green”!

CONTINUING STUDENTS - FORMS AND INFORMATION UPDATE

As autumn approaches, it is time to update your child’s records and fill out state required forms. Packets will be put in the children’s Friday Folders on August 18.

Each fall, we ask families to complete a new ID Emergency form to ensure that we have current information for your child. Also, the State checks your child’s immunization records to verify that they are properly immunized. Please bring in a copy of any NEW immunizations your child may have received since beginning their enrollment at Montessori Schools of Irvine. As these immunizations are required by the State for enrollment, children

showing deficiencies will need to receive the required dosage in order to continue attending school.

TEACHER IN-SERVICE WEEK

Friday, August 25 is the last day of the regular summer session. The week of August 28-31 (Monday-Thursday) is TEACHER IN-SERVICE WEEK. Montessori classes **will NOT** be in session during this week. Day care for continuing students is available. A good part of our days will be spent outside having the last of the summer fun! Since so much of our time is spent playing outside, please be sure to apply plenty of sunscreen to your child before they come to school, and feel free to have them wear a hat! Lunch and both AM and PM snacks will be served by the school. Montessori Schools of Irvine are **CLOSED** Friday, September 1, 2017.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY– SCHOOL CLOSED!

Just a reminder: **Friday, September 1** school will be **CLOSED**. This day is an in-service training session for ALL staff members!



LABOR DAY HOLIDAY AND FIRST DAY OF THE FALL TERM

Montessori Schools of Irvine will be **CLOSED** on Monday, September 4 in observance of the Labor Day Holiday. Tuesday, September 5, 2017 is the first day of the fall term.

FAMILY SPAGHETTI DINNER NIGHT

Welcome to all of our new families! Please let your child's teacher or the office staff know if we can help you and your children in any way. Also, watch the September newsletter for more information on our annual "**Family Spaghetti Dinner Night**" on Thursday, September 14! Spaghetti dinner night is a great way for both new AND continuing students to meet other Montessori families and enjoy dinner at school, as the school provides a fantastic spaghetti dinner for all of our families! Sign up to bring a desert to share and bring a picnic blanket for your family.



SCHOOL HOURS REMINDER!



Montessori Schools of Irvine open at 7:00 AM for our early childhood – primary programs and **7:30 AM for our infant toddler program**. Please be so kind as to allow our staff to open the school before dropping off your children for safety and security reasons. School closes at 6:00 PM. After 6:00 PM, our late fees are \$1 per minute paid to cover the staff time of those who remain after this time with your child.

2017-2018 TUITION RATES

All of us at the Montessori Schools of Irvine thank you for the privilege of sharing the precious moments of your child's early childhood years with us. We take our partnership very seriously.

Our mission is to provide the highest quality of Montessori early childhood education and care available – *anywhere*. We continue to be an NAEYC accredited school and an American Montessori Society Affiliated Program. Compromising on the quality of your experience is not an option for us. This requires an extraordinary, stable staff of highly qualified professionals as well as an environment that is both beautiful and enriched with a multitude of appropriate materials.

Our tuitions are set annually for the school year which begins September 1 and ends August 31. This year our program has been impacted, just as many others have with increased staff health care costs as well as changes in employment law. Additionally, the cost of procuring healthy foods in order to provide nutritional fresh lunches and snacks daily also increased our operating costs.

We have budgeted very carefully and will need to increase rates \$50 per month to cover our increased operating costs.

Thank you again for your continued patronage. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Richard Ruzsat, Executive Director of Business Management at the school office (949) 854-6030.

Tuition Rates for the 2017-2018 School Term – Effective Sept. 1, 2017

Infants \$1,745.00/mo. (3 mos. – 1 yr./walking)

Toddlers \$1,695.00/mo. (walking to 3 years)

Full Day Preschool \$1,435.00 /mo.

Kindergarten-Primary \$1,475.00/mo.

All tuitions continue to include extended child care, lunch and afternoon snack



WOW! – YOU CAN HELP!- WE WILL DONATE YOUR TUITION!

MONTESSORI SCHOOLS OF IRVINE GIVE ONE FULL TUITION TO DISCOVERY CUBE (Children’s Science Center) TO HELP STEM EDUCATION!

Each year Montessori Schools of Irvine allows Discovery Cube to auction a full year of tuition to either a caring already enrolled family or a family who is on our waiting list who will gain immediate entry into the program at the school of their choice. This auction item is **now available for live bidding in time to utilize it for this coming year. All proceeds from this auction item go directly to Discovery Cube!** The value of the tuition for either preschool or Kindergarten/Primary Grades is between \$17,499 -\$17,999.

This is also open to our current parents and as the bid includes the registration fee, we will refund the \$100 registration fee for your continuing child if you “buy it now” for Discovery Cube. The full \$18,000 bid would still be paid to Discovery Cube for scholarships.

Bidding is done by contacting Lacy White at lwhite@discoverycube.org or (714) 913-5021. Bids will be taken on a first come first serve basis so don’t hesitate if you’re interested to bid at a price you are comfortable with. The “buy it now” auction price is \$18,000.

If still available, live bidding will take place on September 23, 2017 at the Discovery Cube Gala. (Reservations for this Gala can also be made through Lacy White. This year’s theme: “Beyond the Tide!” to highlight the new Newport Beach facility!)

NEW STUDENTS, “MEET YOUR TEACHER”

Tuesday, August 29 at 8:30 a.m. is “Meet Your Teacher” for all new students. This time is set aside for all **NEW** students (September start date) and their parents to stop by the classrooms to meet their teachers for the first time. Continuing parents who have already met their child’s teacher while invited, are not required to attend.

We would like to remind ALL new parents that our entire staff is prepared to assist your child with entering their group of children each morning. Please feel free to go to any staff person in the classroom or on the playground to transfer your child into the school day. Please be sure to let the teacher at hand know that YOU, the parent, are *ready* to relinquish

your child for the day. Teachers will not interfere with the separation process if they feel you are not ready to let them help you!

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 1	Wild Wonders on-site Field Trip
August 17	Education Through Nature On-site Field Trip
August 25	Children's art display, "Art Affair"
August 25	Last day of the summer session
August 28-31	Teacher In-service Week - "Outside Daycare Only"
August 29	"Meet the Teacher" for all NEW incoming students

SEPTEMBER 1 **SCHOOL CLOSED** - Staff Development Day

SEPTEMBER 4 **SCHOOL CLOSED** - Labor Day Holiday

September 5 First Day of the 2017-2018 School Year!

September 14 Family Spaghetti Dinner Night

AUGUST STAFF BIRTHDAYS:

August 11	Miss Ruby
August 29	Miss Mayra
August 30	Miss Vannesa



AUGUST STAFF ANNIVERSARIES:

Richard and Cheryl **THANK** our wonderful and loyal staff members!! Your dedication and contributions to the children and families you work with are appreciated more than words can express!

August 1	Miss Dona	26 years!
August 1	Miss Ina	12 years
August 21	Mr. Tomas	16 years (Our Handyman)
August 23	Miss Trinh	9 years
August 23	Miss Corene	7 years
August 28	Miss Genna	7 years
August 29	Miss Ingrid	2 years



**SCHOOL CALENDAR AND ACTIVITY GUIDE
2017 - 2018**

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR THE NEW SCHOOL TERM- SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

HOLIDAY AND VACATION DATES WHEN THE SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED

VETERANS DAY	NOVEMBER 10 (Friday)
THANKSGIVING	NOVEMBER 23 - 24
WINTER RECESS	DECEMBER 25 - JANUARY 5
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	JANUARY 15
PRESIDENTS' DAY	FEBRUARY 19
CESAR CHAVEZ DAY	MARCH 30 (Friday)
MEMORIAL DAY	MAY 28
SUMMER RECESS	JULY 2 - 6
TEACHER INSERVICE DAY	AUGUST 31 (Friday)
LABOR DAY	SEPTEMBER 3

WINTER HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSES (2017) (*CHILD CARE ENDS AT 5:00)

Village – December 11, 2017	University - December 12, 2017
Westpark - December 13, 2017	Northwood - December 14, 2017

GRADUATION & YEAR END PERFORMANCE (2018) (*CHILD CARE ENDS AT 5:00)

Village - June 18, 2018	University - June 19, 2018
Westpark - June 20, 2018	Northwood - June 21, 2018

PRESCHOOL THROUGH THIRD GRADE PARENT CONFERENCES (ALL SCHOOLS)

All Day conferences:	November 15, 2017	May 16, 2018
Early Morning conferences:	November 17, 2017	May 18, 2018

THE SUMMER MONTHS

Montessori Schools of Irvine provide a year-round program. During July and August, a special learning theme is selected around which additional field trips, visitors, and projects revolve to provide extra summer fun. Brochures and information about special trips and the summer theme are released each June. Please consult the school office for more details.

TEACHER PREPARATION WEEK (ALL SCHOOLS) August 27 – 30, 2018

High caliber teachers continue to develop their skills by learning new techniques, refreshing seasoned ones and taking the time to plan and organize. Montessori Schools of Irvine provide a teacher preparation/in-service week before sessions to ensure your child a teaching staff of the highest caliber. June 25-29, 2018 and August 27–30, 2018 our childcare staff will provide child care only. Montessori classes will NOT be in session.

(NOTE: All schools will be CLOSED on Friday, August 31, 2018 due to full staff in-service.)

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL TERM - **SEPTEMBER 4, 2018**



AMERICAN MONTESSORI SOCIETY
education that transforms lives

Chef Cyndi's Kitchen

Quinoa Salad



Ingredients:

For the Quinoa:

½ c. quinoa
1 c water or stock

For the Salad:

1 c. shelled edamame
1 c. loose corn
½ c Diced tomato
½ c. chopped fresh cilantro

For the Salad Dressing: (note: bottled dressing can also be used)

¼ c. fresh Lime juice
2 t. olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste

Preparation:

1. Prepare Quinoa by simmering in the liquid approximately 15 minutes until water is absorbed then remove from heat and cool
2. Toss quinoa with salad ingredients
3. Combine dressing ingredients to make the dressing
4. Thoroughly mix the dressing and ingredients
5. Chill before serving