



## WESTPARK MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF IRVINE - 2018



### **NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

May 7 - May 11 is National Teacher Appreciation Week with May 8<sup>th</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?" . Recognizing their hard work in educating your children as well as their loving care of your children would be most appreciated by any teacher. In addition, a personal thank you note will be most welcome.



### **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. All parents wishing to share must have a copy of their immunizations on file with the school director.



### **MAY BOOK FAIR**

Our semi-annual Scholastic book fair is happening in the atrium through May 4<sup>th</sup>! 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.

### **IMMUNIZATIONS FOR PARENTS**

Just as a reminder, CA SB 792 requires any parent who wishes to volunteer in any way in the school or chaperone field trips to have immunizations on file for pertussis and measles, as well as an annual influenza shot (a waiver may be signed for the influenza shot only). We value your help and support. Please submit your immunization record to keep on file with your child's records so you can join us!



## **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, kindergarten and primary are scheduled:*

#### **All Day Conference day - Wednesday, May 16**

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

#### **Alternate morning Conference times - Friday, May 18**

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 16 or Friday, May 18. 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 2.**

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 11. 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 positive feedback from our parents. We ask you to participate in this process twice each year. PLEASE take a moment at parent conference time to complete the required questionnaire to assist us in maintaining this important status within the community and providing us with your valuable feedback.

We have, through our continued self-study process, been able to meet all the criterion being asked about on this parent questionnaire and thus you should be able to answer a "YES!" to all of the questions that pertain to your child/family. However, if you are hesitant to answer yes, PLEASE take a moment to ask our director how exactly this criterion is met.

We have learned that sometimes parents are unaware of how we rank a yes simply because they have not had the need or opportunity to experience it. Please do not leave an answer blank as this lowers our percentage of "yes". Some questions only apply to a small group of families, and there is a non-applicable (N/A) to mark. If there is not a non-applicable choice, please answer after finding out how we meet the criterion.

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



### **MOTHER'S DAY**

Sunday, May 13 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 28 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 24 will be donated to charity. Thank you for your help.

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

On **Friday, May 25<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.



### **"Down on the Farm" SUMMER 2018**

This year our summer theme is Down on the Farm. Get ready for our special summer program, as it takes a closer look at the working farm, animals and crops! The children will be learning about the different types of animals and crops that live on a farm.

Join us down on the farm as the children learn about the exciting farm animals 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

Wednesday, 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.

## TODDLER NEWS



### TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

See our first article in this newsletter ☺ This is a wonderful time to recognize the teachers for all their love and hard work!

### MAY "TEACHING THEMES" FOR THE TODDLERS AND TWO'S

This month the toddlers and Two's will be learning about bugs and flowers.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY 2	Parent/Teacher Conference Sign Ups Posted
MAY 5	Cinco de Mayo and Japanese Children's Day
MAY 7-11	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 9	Kindergarten Graduation Pictures
MAY 13	HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
MAY 16	Parent/Teacher Conferences- <b>DAY CARE ONLY</b>
MAY 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences- <b>DAY CARE ONLY</b>
May 25	<b>DAY CARE ONLY</b> - Teacher "Prep" Day
<b>MAY 28</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED *** Memorial Day Holiday</b>
<b>JUNE 20</b>	<b>YEAR-END ALL SCHOOL MUSICAL AND KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION</b>
JUNE 29	Last day of the session
<b>JULY 2-6</b>	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED *** SUMMER RECESS</b>
JULY 9	First Day of the Summer Session