



WESTPARK MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF IRVINE NOVEMBER 2019

A TIME OF THANKSGIVING

As we pause and reflect on what we are thankful for at this time of the year, all of us at the Montessori Schools of Irvine thank you for the joy of sharing your children and your families with us.



WHAT CAN WE DO WITH ALL OF OUR EXTRA HALLOWEEN CANDY?

It's not too late to donate your extra Halloween candy. Montessori Schools of Irvine will be collecting any excess Halloween candy you would like to donate. The candy donations will go to Operation Gratitude and The Salvation Army. Operation Gratitude sends Care Packages and Halloween candy to deployed troops, Veterans, Wounded Heroes and Caregivers, Military Families and First Responders. Please drop off your excess candy no later than: Friday, November 8, 2019.



FAMILIES FORWARD

DIGNITY • EMPOWERMENT • HOPE

Our "Canned Food Drive" for Families Forward has begun! Each Thanksgiving season our schools sponsor a canned food drive to help those who are less fortunate. Again, this year Montessori Schools of Irvine will be coordinating our donations with "Families Forward".

The goal of Families Forward (based in Irvine) is to help families in need achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. Families Forward does this through housing, counseling, education and other support services.

We are collecting canned food items and grocery gift cards (see list posted in front office) as well as toiletries.

ALL donated food must be within date and in its original packaging. Unfortunately, they will have to throw out any expired food.

We are collecting from **Monday, November 4 - Friday, November 15.**

WE GIVE WEDNESDAY

Please join us our Westpark Staff for "We Give Wednesday." On this day the kindergarten children will be collecting all the can food and handing out stickers thanking you for your donation. We are asking that on the next two Wednesdays that each child bring one can or non-perishable food item to donate to Families Forward.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

FALL BACKWARDS, SPRING FORWARD

Reminder: Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 3rd. Please be sure to set your clocks "BACK" one hour!



VETERAN'S DAY

Montessori Schools of Irvine will be **CLOSED on Monday, November 11** in observance of Veteran's Day, a legal holiday. Thank you to ALL the Veterans who have served in the United States Armed Forces for our great country!

BOOK CLUB ORDERS

A big **Thank You** to all the parents who purchase books through the book clubs! These purchases allow us to make sure that our classroom libraries have new and exciting items because we get "points" that allows us to buy new books!

November book club orders are available at the front desk and due no later than Friday, November 8. DECEMBER will bring our Scholastic book fair to our atrium. (Hint: Books make great holiday gifts!)

HEALTHY MORNING SNACK REMINDER

We want to remind parents that morning snack is a part of the day's nutritional component for each child and is NOT a "treat". We thus ask parents to be aware of sending healthy foods from the snack grid and suggestion list compiled by the school. These suggestions are whole foods, whole grains, low sugar. Serving sizes are also shown at the top of each food group. Please note that we cannot serve foods containing nuts or processed on equipment that processes nuts and that "treats" that contain no nutrition may be sent home at the end of the day without having been served. (A healthy alternative will be served.)

EXTRA CLOTHES

As we finally "breeeze" into cooler weather please remember to check your child's extra clothes supplies. Each child should have at least TWO complete sets of clothing: underwear, socks, shirts and long pants. Younger children should have THREE sets. Extra clothes should be put in a Ziploc bag and all pieces of clothing should be labeled with your child's name. Please remember to bring a jacket for your child to wear as the weather cools in the afternoons. Due to limited space on the classroom coat racks, we ask each child to have only ONE jacket at a time. Thank you!!



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

In observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday, Montessori Schools of Irvine will be **CLOSED** November 28 and 29. Happy Thanksgiving!

holiday Craft Fair

CRAFT FAIR INVITATION

Our annual craft fair will be held on **Tuesday, December 3 from 3-5:30 PM** in the school atrium. **We invite parents** to join our staff in selling their special hand crafts, toys, books or other items during this time. Those participating will need to supply their own table (card table size) and are responsible for their own set up and clean up. See the school director to sign up if you are interested in selling a product, or with any questions you may have. All parents wishing to participate in the craft fair **MUST** have their immunizations on file with the school director.

KlayKids Holiday Pottery Paint Day!

Projects made by your little ones will make wonderful holiday gifts... Don't miss out- sign up by completing the form at the front desk. The painting date will be Friday, December 6th.



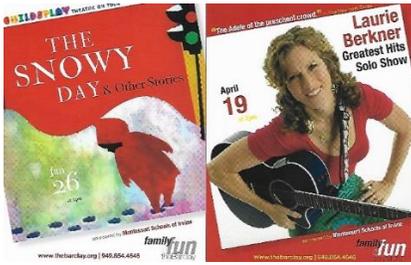
HOLIDAY SHARING

It is almost that time of year when people around the world begin a wealth of holiday celebrations. Please help us enrich our children's lives at school by sharing special traditions and customs that are celebrated within your families. Parents who wish to visit their children's classrooms to demonstrate or share cultural or religious celebrations, special songs, stories, etc. for November and December celebrations are invited to schedule a time with their child's teacher. Presentations will be on a first come, first served basis. The schedule and title of the presentation will be posted outside of your child's classroom door. All parents wishing to give a presentation **MUST** have their immunizations on file with the school director.



DECEMBER TOY DRIVE FOR THE CAMP PENDELTON MARINES

This year Montessori Schools of Irvine will assist the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps for our annual "Toy Drive" during the beginning of December. We will be collecting **NEW** toys and gifts for children ages newborn to age 18. Look in the December newsletter for more information.



Save the dates @

Montessori Schools of Irvine are sponsoring two fantastic Children's Theater Events at the Barclay theater! This is a wonderful way to introduce your child to the magic of theater arts in a lovely just the right sized theater that is warm and welcoming to one and all.



FREE CHILDREN'S CONCERT

There will be a "Free" Children's Suzuki Festival Concert on Sunday, November 3 @ 3:30 PM. The concert will take place at St. Mark Presbyterian Church; 2200 San Joaquin Hills Road, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Please join us for these fantastic events. Look for the cards pictured in your Friday folders 😊

January 26 – 2:00 pm **The Snowy Day and Other Stories**

April 19 at 2:00 pm – **Laurie Berkner Greatest Hits Solo Show**

The Barclay! Sponsored by the Montessori Schools of Irvine

Extra News for, One's and Two's

MORNING SNACK

A big THANK YOU to all parents signing up for the toddler morning snack program and for the healthy nutritious snacks!

NOVEMBER TEACHING THEMES

The One's and Two's will be learning about Thanksgiving and Farm animals this month!

Chef Cyndi's November – Chefs Table Recipe

Fall Pumpkin Bake

- 1 medium pumpkin
- 1 red, 1 green and 1 yellow apple
- 1 ½ cups frozen cranberries
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 Tablespoons brown sugar
- 3 Tablespoons white sugar, to taste



1. Scoop out insides of pumpkin and throw away (save the seeds for roasting!)
2. Slice apples into bite size pieces.
3. Mix together all ingredients. Put mixture into pumpkin shell.
4. Bake in 350-degree oven for 3-4 hours, until mixture is soft.
5. Serve with vanilla ice cream.

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 3	Daylight savings time ends
November 11	SCHOOL CLOSED- Legal Holiday – Veteran’s Day
November 21	Children’s Thanksgiving Feast
November 28 & 29	SCHOOL CLOSED ** Thanksgiving Holiday
December 3	Holiday Craft Fair
December 11	Holiday Open House – School CLOSSES at 5:00 PM
December 19	Children’s Holiday Party
December 20	Last day of school
December 23-January 3, 2020	SCHOOL CLOSED/Winter Recess-Happy Holidays!
January 1, 2020	Happy New Year!!
January 6, 2020	School Resumes



STAFF BIRTHDAYS!

November	4	Miss Lisa
November	5	Mr. TJ (Facilities Management)
November	20	Miss Sasha
November	23	