



News and Notes for VMS Families

We Are Growing
VMS will add an additional lower elementary classroom for the 2015-16 school year to accommodate our growing student body of grades 1, 2 and 3.

Summer Apps Due
Applications for Summer are due. We are filling up quickly. We are accepting applications for children entering grades 1-6.

Career Opportunities
We are hiring assistant teachers for both summer and the 2015-16 school year. See Melissa for information.

Get Bash Tickets
There are a limited number of tickets left for the Builders Bash. Bash tickets are available for purchase online at visaliamontessori.com/parents/foundersbash for \$50 each or \$80 per couple. Printed tickets may be purchased/picked up at school starting in April. We would love to have all VMS families there!

Usborne Book Fair
We will have an online book fair from April 8-22. To order books, go to https://y3468.myubam.com/84638

Usborne Books are high quality in both construction and content. VMS will earn free books based on our sales during our book fair.

If you would like to help add to our school library, search for our school using the "Find a Wish List" button. Shipping to VMS is free.

Read for Life Book Drive
Our Pajama Day fundraiser was a success! Students who participated offered gently-used books and cash to donate to Read for Life.

VMS Tax ID Number
46-4903966

Montessori Matters: Math Sequence

The Montessori curriculum meets and/or exceeds all expectations set forth by the Common Core State Standards. We also have a sequence of teaching math operations that differs from the traditional model.

We teach children to make numbers larger by first teaching addition and then multiplication. Then we move onto the art of making numbers smaller by in-

roducing subtraction, then division.

Many people ask why we teach multiplication before subtraction. It's logical. Multiplication is just addition over and over! After mastering skills in addition, multiplication is simple transition.

All four operations should have been introduced during the kindergarten year.

This makes way for dynamic operations (with exchanging) in lower elementary.

All math concepts are taught using Montessori materials, which target specific skills with increasing levels of abstraction. Eventually, students discover how to do the operation abstractly (on paper). It's a slow, but satisfying process to discover.

Upcoming Events

Builders Bash Meeting
Tues., April 7, 6:30 pm
Bash Event Site

Usborne Book Fair
April 8-22
Online

Bash Yard Work Day
Sat., April 11, 8-? am
Bash Event Site

Builders Bash Meeting
Tues., April 14, 6:30 pm
VMS

Builders Bash Meeting
Thurs., April 23, 6:30 pm
VMS

Bash Staging Meeting
Thurs., April 30, 6:30 pm
Bash Event Site

Builders Bash Event
Sat. May. 2, 6:00 pm
Bash Event Site

VMA Meeting
Tues., May 4, 6:00 pm
Greenhouse

VMSPA Board Meeting
Thurs., May 21, 6:00 pm
VMS

Memorial Day
Mon., May 25
VMS Closed, No School

Last Day of School
Fri., June 12

First Day of Summer Program
Mon., June 29

Students Hatch Discussion on Life of a Chick

We have six healthy chicks! After two failed attempts, the third



round yielded hatched chicks. Students were able to witness our new friends hatching out of their shells and observe them in their first few days of life.

Our class is now proficient in candling them to verify fertile eggs and accurate growth throughout the incubation process. They are also familiar with the disappointment of chicks that don't hatch.

By the third round of eggs, many students took it upon themselves to research how chicks grow inside their shells and to have a successful hatch. Next, we will re-

search the breeds of the chicks and attempt to figure out if we have hens or roosters.

Sadly, one of the chicks that hatched didn't survive its first 24 hours. We had a simple burial for the chick. It was an opportunity for the class to come together and discuss the reality of the life and death of animals and of people.

The chicks will soon move outside to live in the red coop on loan from the Knudsen family. VMS students care for school pets as part of their daily responsibilities.



Melissa Dabadie– Owner/Director

Nina Clancy– Owner

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7:30-5:30 Mon-Fri



Like us on facebook.

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www.visaliamontessori.com

The *Visalia Montessori School* mission is to build an engaged community of respectful and compassionate learners by providing a world-class Montessori environment that supports individuality, self-discipline and a lifelong love of learning.

Currently enrolling grades 1-3

Before and After School Care Available
