



News and Notes for VMS Families

Read for Life Book Drive

We are anticipating our 2nd annual Pajama Day fundraiser for Read for Life on Friday, April 1. Students who wish to participate by wearing their pajamas to school may bring gently-used books and/or \$1 to donate to Read for Life.

A representative from Read for Life will visit us and read to the children to kick off our school-wide read in.

We Are Growing

VMS will add an upper elementary program for the 2016-17 school year to accommodate the growing student body of grades 1, 2,

3 and 4. We are expecting new students in every grade level.

Summer Apps Due

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

The summer program will run from July 6 to August 19. Families may choose full or half days and full or partial weeks. Children will have the opportunity to practice their Spanish with our summer school teachers.

Usborne Book Fair

We will have an on-site and

online book fair from April 4-17. To order books, go to <http://y3468.myubam.com/266529>

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.

School Supplies Provided

Please encourage your child to leave personal items at home such as special pencils. We provide all supplies at school. Thanks!

VMSPA Builders Bash on May 21

Save the date! The third annual Builders Bash is on Saturday, May 21 at 6 pm at Visalia Montessori School. The Bash is a fundraiser for the Visalia Montessori School Parents Association (VMSPA).

The VMSPA, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization led by dedicated parents and community members, pro-

vides funding for the following:

- Student scholarships
- Classroom materials
- Teacher training
- Student and teacher projects

The Bash committee is in need of volunteers and donations for the silent and

live auction. We want all of our parents to attend! Tickets are \$50 for one and \$80 per couple.

Contact parents@visaliamontessori.com if you can help by volunteering, donating, or both.

Tickets are available online at visaliamontessori.com/parents/foundersbash

Upcoming Events

Read for Life Fundraiser

Fri., April 1, all day
Wear Your Pajamas!

Usborne Book Fair

April 4-17
Online and On-Site

Field Trip: Enchanted Playhouse

Fri. April 15, 9:00 am
'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs'

Field Trip: El Diamante Theater

Thurs., April 28, 10:30 am
'School House Rock Live'

Builders Bash Event

Sat. May. 21, 6:00 pm
VMS

Memorial Day

Mon., May 30
VMS Closed, No School

Last Day of School

Wed. June 15

VMSPA News

Thank you to all the families who participated in the mixed bag fundraiser! We were close to our goal for purchasing the million work for VMS! Orders should arrive the week of April 11.

Montessori Matters: Math Sequence and Core

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 introducing 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.



Our campus wildlife is back! We are excited to learn of the return of the killdeer family and the doves that we enjoyed observing last year.



Melissa Dabadie & Nina Clancy-

Owners

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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 leaders by providing a world-class Montessori environment that supports individuality, self-discipline and a lifelong love of learning.

Currently enrolling grades 1-4

Before and After School Care Available