

## Important Upcoming Dates

**Academic Summer Camp**  
June 15th-August 7th

**Father's Day**  
June 21st

**Summer Day Camp**  
August 10- August 21st

**First Day of School:**  
August 24th

# Palos Verdes Montessori Academy



### Welcome back!

We are thrilled to have our students back in school! First and foremost, we hope all our families are safe and well. The last two months have been extremely challenging for all of us. At the same time, we learned the importance of being resilient, flexible, skilled, and creative in meeting the rapidly changing needs of our children and the community. With your well-being in mind, we have safely opened the school since May 18th, keeping the safety of our returning children and staff at the forefront. We have carefully restructured our resources to address the learning loss, vital health and safety protocols, and the social and emotional needs of our children so that they may return to “new normalcy”; and continue to grow, learn, and thrive.

### Eager Faces, Happy Smiles

Now that the children have returned, our students have expressed joy in being back to school. They can receive immediate feedback from teachers, and teachers are able to assess the children's work in real-time and offer help in a timely manner. Specifically, the children can use the Montessori materials again which facilitates more effective learning. Students are also very happy to be connected again with their friends and teachers in safe and familiar environments. Discussing work and exchanging ideas with friends have brought joy and delight back to their lives and in our classrooms.



### Distance Learning Program

We are concurrently offering an online program aligned with our in-class sessions for students who are still not ready to return to school. Despite unprecedented efforts from the students, parents, and staff, we have had mixed success in student engagement through remote learning. Hence, the need for a quicker return to school in a structured environment is crucial. We encourage all our families to consider having their students return to school and take advantage of the summer academics program in the interim to facilitate a smooth transition to the fall program.

HOW DO WE ADDRESS LEARNING LOSS DURING THE SCHOOL CLOSURE DUE TO THE PANDEMIC?





## The Impact of a Montessori Classroom Environment

A classroom environment certainly promotes and supports collaborative learning, transforming children into keen learners. It also gives an opportunity for children to engage in live discussions enhancing the child's critical thinking skills. The social interaction with peers and rapport with teachers help the child develop socially. Classroom learning also encourages the child to build his/her organizational skills; and the teaching style can be modified according to the students' individual needs. Hence, human interactions in a classroom environment are undeniably much more effective and beneficial to a child than remote learning.

## Father's Day – June 21st

On this Father's Day, we recognize the men and father figures for being a constant and loving presence in their children's lives and actively teaching them important life skills. Happy Father's Day to all our dads!



## Academic Summer Camp Begins - June 15th – August 7th

We have planned an Academic Summer Camp starting from June 15th. Our Academic Summer Camp will be in full swing to keep our students well engaged this summer and to ensure a successful transition into the fall term. Our intention is to provide strategies and tools to fill the learning gaps that may have occurred due to the school closure. To better prepare for the program, please contact our office by June 12th to confirm your child's participation.

## Preschool Summer Day-Camp: August 10th – August 21st

It is that season, that brightest part of the year when nature itself celebrates life. We are in the midst of planning a fun-filled camp beginning August 10th while taking a series of steps to keep the children and staff safe. Children will be grouped into a limited number of campers following social distancing, wearing masks, and adhering to strong sanitary measures. More information to follow.



## To Our Well Deserving Graduates, Our Warmest Congratulations!

We are very proud of you, and wish you the absolute best on your next adventure! Even though the school closure has forced us to forgo the traditional pomp and circumstance, and the usual flurry of celebrations, we are happy to share the excitement of your graduation and accomplishments. We also want to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful families and our outstanding faculty for a fantastic school year in spite of the unforeseen circumstances.

## FREE Childcare Tuition for Essential Workers

Are you an Essential Worker? If so, you may qualify for FREE Childcare Tuition. Please call our office for more information on how to qualify for free childcare tuition. California's classification of essential workers can be found at

<https://covid19.ca.gov/img/EssentialCriticalInfrastructureWorkers.pdf>.

The list includes, among others, health care, agriculture, grocery and pharmacy, food service, transportation, essential government services, and early care and education workers.



# SOME NOTES ON COVID-19

## Coronavirus Vaccine

The Coronavirus vaccine research is happening at breakneck speed around the world. The early clinical trials appear to be showing positive results. Most experts think a vaccine is likely to become available by mid next year.



**What are we doing to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in our school?**



On a daily basis, the school is being sanitized and disinfected to the highest standards. New and advanced equipment has been added to our cleaning tools, and stringent cleaning and sanitizing protocols were put in place. Our staff have been oriented and trained to strictly follow governmental guidelines, which include steps on social distancing-limiting grouping of students to a small number, and the proper use of personal protective equipment among children and staff. Strict procedures for the intake and dismissal of students and staff are in place. We continue to update ourselves with the latest developments on the pandemic so that we may adjust our procedures accordingly.



## What is the difference between cleaning and disinfecting?

Cleaning refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not always kill germs. Disinfecting refers to using chemicals to kill germs on the surfaces. We are repeatedly disinfecting frequently touched surfaces in classrooms and common areas.

## Should children wear masks?

Per CDC guidelines, students two years and older must wear a cloth face covering as a public health measure to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



## We continue to be vigilant about COVID-19 and its effect on children.

Based on available evidence, children do not appear to be at a higher risk for COVID-19 than adults. Children with confirmed COVID-19 have generally presented with mild symptoms similar to cold-like conditions. There is much more to be learned about how the disease impacts children.



## Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19:

MIS-C is a condition where different body parts can become inflamed in children. Even though we do not know what causes MIS-C, many children with this condition tested positive for COVID-19. However, most children who were diagnosed with this condition have gotten better with medical care. MIS-C seems to affect older children, median age 9 to 11, whereas Kawasaki tends to affect toddlers.

## What Is Kawasaki Disease?

Kawasaki disease is an illness that causes inflammation throughout the body. This condition most often affects children younger than 5 years old. When symptoms are noticed early and treated, kids with Kawasaki disease begin to feel better within a few days.

