

# Ventura Montessori School

38 Teloma Drive Ventura, CA 93003 (805)642-9567

## MONTESSORI NEWS

Founded 1969

September/October 2011

### Who's Who

#### *School Staff*

Directress: Indranee Wijesekera (Mrs.VJ)  
Lead Teacher: Lori Brunger  
Asst. Teacher: Amy Freehauf

#### **Ventura Montessori School Board of Directors 2011-2012**

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William Burke, Board Member Emeritus  
Irene Medina, Board Member Emerita  
Tom Olson, Board Member Emeritus  
Joan Sprinkle, Board Member Emerita

#### Welcome New Students!

We are delighted to have many new students this year. Please join us in welcoming these new children and their families to the VMS community.

**Kylie Aguilar    Sofia Aldana    Maisie Hatler    Saanvi Joshi**  
**Jonathan Kelley    Jack Merritt    Khloe Naranjo    Shane Prukop**  
**Hazel Richards    Lorne Rieman    Janani Shivarkumar**

#### Congratulations!

To the returning students who have moved up to Mrs. VJ's classroom:

**Henry B.    Emily F.    Julia G.    Sienna K.    Aubrey N.**

### Mrs. V.J.'s Corner

It is great to be back!  
Welcome to 2011-2012 school year!  
Some thing to remember:

- 1) I would like the students to be in school by 9:00 am. Thank you.
- 2) State licensing requires the parents/guardians to sign in and sign out every day (mandatory).
- 3) Sharing in my class is Monday through Thursday. Please refer to the schedule on the Bulletin Board. Share items should be educational and no toys should be brought to school. Please let your child find 3 facts to talk about the item.
- 4) Do not forget to bring a change of clothes to leave at school.
- 5) Snack&Lunch – please pack nutritious snacks and lunches, plenty of water and/or small juice boxes, 2 cloth napkins, and the necessary utensil needed for that day. We will gladly warm up the food but please do not send canned foods or food that needs cooking in the microwave. Avoid sending food in glass container. Thank you.

### Mrs. Brunger's Corner

Welcome everyone! It is so nice to be back at school. The students are doing very well in the classroom. We are working on classroom rules and etiquette, especially during snack and lunch time. We have been discussing four seasons, and the beginning of the Autumn Season.

Parents, please encourage your child to carry his or her lunchbox and to hang up their sweaters or jackets. If they need help, one of the teachers will assist them. Please refrain from talking too loud outside the classroom.

Share Day for our class is on Fridays. Please encourage your child to bring something educational. No toys, please.

Important paperwork and artwork is located in your child's folder by the outside door.

Let's make this another great year at VMS!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Riley Thompson – September 9  
 Cameryn Henuber – September 14  
 Jonathan Kelly – September 15  
 Mrs. VJ – September 17  
 Henry Bisgard – September 18  
 Hazel Richard – September 23  
 Shane Boyce Prukop – September 28  
 Mrs. Brunger – September 28  
 Jack Merritt – October 29



### Drop-off & Pick-up

Class starts promptly at 9:00 AM - Arrive a few minutes early to get settled; no earlier than 8:45 am, please.

When you arrive for drop-off/pick-up, please be as quiet as possible. Do not run or use loud voices outside classrooms.

No outside play during drop-off or pick-up. Say good-bye to your children at the door.

Sign-in and sign-out your child using the sign-in sheet with your full first and last name (Required by the Department of Social Services).

Inform teachers if students will be picked up early.

A signed note from a parent is required if anyone other than those previously authorized will pick up your child. IDs will be checked. Your child will not be allowed to leave with an unauthorized person.

### Safety

Close the gates whenever you enter or exit school. Please be especially diligent about Mrs. Brunger's gate.

Drive slowly and carefully on Teloma and in the parking lot, which can get crowded and active. Be careful when driving and when walking your children to and from the school building.

### Clothing & Personal Items

Children should wear appropriate shoes, preferably closed-toe, to protect them during outdoor activities (there is bark in play area). Bring a full change of clothes to leave at school in the child's container. Please put your child's full name on their jackets/sweaters.

### Field Trips

The field trips are an integral part of the Montessori curriculum. The field trip is part of the educational program. All staff participate in the scheduled field trips. If your child does not attend the field trip, you will need to make other arrangements for the care of your child off-premises. The school does not have vans or buses for use, so transportation to events will be provided by parents. Parents are encouraged to sign up to drive; sign-ups are posted outside the classrooms. **STUDENTS MUST HAVE A SIGNED PERMISSION SLIP AND WEAR A VENTURA MONTESSORI T-SHIRT ON ALL FIELD TRIPS.**

### School Office / Music Room

The school office/music room is typically unlocked from 8:45 am until 9:30 am and from 2:00 pm until all children are released to authorized persons. Here parents will find:

- Tuition box – white mailbox on wall at entrance
- Bulletin Board – Check periodically for updates and announcements

Parents get together for morning coffee/OJ socials in the music room twice a month. Siblings are welcome.

## Extended Day Options

Before-school Library Time begins at 7:30 am

Fee: \$7/day prepaid, \$35/week prepaid, and \$10/day drop-in.

After-school Enrichment Programs until 4:00 pm

Day	Class
Monday	Tae Kwon Do with Mrs. Jiroch of Ventura ATA
Tuesday	Mandarin Language Class by Young Bamboo
Wednesday	Kindermusik with Miss Shelby
Thursday	Mandarin Language Class by Young Bamboo
Friday	Young Rembrandts Art Class

Payments for all classes are handled directly with the instructor(s). As a service for our families, the VMS Board of Directors coordinates with independent enrichment providers to provide on-site enrichment classes. Your child will be signed out from school by the provider. Look for a sign up sheet outside the classroom to indicate which classes your child will be attending. Please ask a board member if you have any questions about the transition to or pick up from enrichment.

Please mail checks or any other communication to  
 VMS PO Box address:  
**Ventura Montessori School**  
**P.O. Box 3719**  
**Ventura CA 93006**

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## Parent Committees 2011-2012

Thanks to actively involved parents, our school is able to keep tuition low while offering the highest standard in teaching.

Please consider the events and programs of our school that are important to your family. Keep those events and programs going by volunteering! Committee members coordinate the events and programs, often soliciting other parents to volunteer. For example, the Gardening Committee plans a work day and asks other parents to volunteer on that day.

Most families belong to two committees and volunteer for many others! Congratulations to parents who already joined the following committees:

### Hospitality/Open House

- Lynn Grogan-Brown
- **Need Volunteers**

### Publicity

- Heather Jameson
- Erika Boyce

### Spring Program

- Erin Moore
- Heather Jameson
- Renee Aguilar

### Holiday Program

- Audrey Alforque Thomas
- Rob Merritt

### Non-Event Fundraiser

- Audrey Alforque Thomas

### Restaurant Night Fundraiser

- Iva Oza
- Lisa Hatler

### Fresh & Easy Fundraiser

- Anne Eaton
- Joy and Ryan Naranjo

### Box Tops Fundraiser/eScrip

- Supriya Joshi
- Shannon Richard

### Scholastic Books

- Heather Jameson

### Kids Kreations Fundraiser

- Sarah and Wes Falls

### Recycling Fundraiser

- Thatch Eaton
- Ryan Naranjo

### Gardening

- Amy Bisgard
- Erin Moore

### Teacher Appreciation

- Iva Oza
- Shannon Richard
- Lynn Grogan-Brown

### Restoration & Maintenance

- Thatch Eaton
- David Aguilar
- Shane Prukop

### Social Events/Family Picnic

- Supriya Joshi
- Lizbeth Aldana

### After-School Enrichment Coordinators

- Sarah Falls
- **Need Volunteers**

## Thank you, Parents!

### Playground Renovation

Iva (Kiran's mom), Heather (Brayden's mom), and Audrey (Calvin and Eloise's mom) organized a fundraiser for playground improvements. Our generous parents donated over \$600, which was matched by First Christian Church and Children's Haven. Thatch (Thatcher's dad) planned the renovation and put together a team of Navy Seabees, including Charlie (Henry's dad). They began work in August and plan to finish in the next few weeks. If you did not have a chance to contribute to the Playground Fund, the suggested amount is \$25 per family. Your tax-deductible donation can be dropped in the Tuition Box (white mailbox in the Music Room).



### **All-Parent Meeting**

**September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**

We have only two parent meetings per year, so you are encouraged to participate. Come hear about upcoming events and ways to get involved. Share your ideas on how to make this a great year.

**Family picnic – September 18<sup>th</sup> at 1pm**  
**Arroyo Verde Park**



### **VMS School Picture Day – Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**

Pre-order forms with detailed information are in your child's folder. Please take one home. If you need extra forms for siblings, please ask. Cornerstone Photography gives back a percentage of your order to our school. Cornerstone would like to accommodate siblings who are able to sit up only. Please arrive by 9am.

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## Open House

October 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am



If you know families interested in Ventura Montessori, this is a great opportunity for them to see what the school is about – please invite them!

New parents can meet teachers, explore classroom materials, and learn more about the Maria Montessori teaching philosophy.

## Field Trip – Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

Pumpkin picking and hayride



## Emergency Evacuation Drill – October 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 am

VMS will have two days scheduled for Emergency Evacuation drills. Our first drill is on Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 9am. The week of the drill we will have a brief discussion about “fires” and earthquakes.”

## Ongoing Fundraisers

### Pizza Fridays

Back by popular demand, fresh, hot pizza is available to students every Friday for \$2 per slice. Look for a sign up sheet outside the classrooms. Please pack napkins, snacks and drinks as usual.

### eScrip

eScrip is the easiest way to help earn money for our school. It only takes a couple minutes of your time to enroll and requires no extra cash from your pocket.

Register all your cards with eScrip: your Safeway, credit, debit, and Macy's cards all generate money once you've registered them. A complete list is on the site.

You can even register your Target VISA card on this site and the school will get a double-dip!

School ID: 141550575

### Target

By signing up for the Target Red Card at any Target store, Target donates 1% of all purchases at Target and ½ % on all purchases made elsewhere on the Target Visa Card. Simply name VMS as the charitable organization recipient and register your Target card.

School ID: 21033

### Recycling Program

This has been a great way to expose the children to environmental awareness, and raise money for our school. Please participate!

Bring in glass bottles (beer, wine, soda), cans and plastic bottles and put in shed in the parking lot. We accept anything with a CA redemption value.

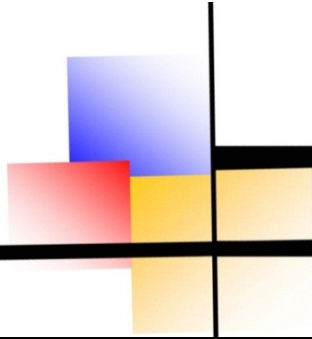
### Fresh & Easy Shop for Schools Fundraiser

Every year between September 15 and December 31, we will receive \$1 for every \$20 spent at a Fresh and Easy store. Please collect your receipts from purchases made at ANY Fresh and Easy store. Shopping night: on the designated night, from 4-8PM, 5% of the total sales from our local Fresh&Easy store go to Ventura Montessori School. However, to be eligible to receive the donation, we must have 5 adult volunteers helping at the event.

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## September 2011

				1	2	3
4	5	First Day of School	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
					School Picture Day	

## October 2011

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		No School – Fall Break				
30	31					
	Halloween Celebration					