

*HELLO VILLA ~ Mrs. Geetha Sunder*

Dear Villa Families:

October is here already! We are proud to share that children have settled into their routines very well! It is such a joy to hear from parents how much their child enjoys coming to school every day! Children are eager to learn new skills! They have begun curriculum focused activities like creating a “Family Tree.” Fall season is upon us! Kindly change the spare set of clothes at school to suit the seasonal weather changes. Add a sweater or a jacket, long sleeved tops, pants, and a beanie/cap.



We need your help in keeping ALL children at Villa healthy and strong! We request that you keep your child home if you observe onset of your child falling ill, have a fever of 99°F or more, cold, constant runny nose, sneezing, and/or coughing. It is important to protect all children’s immunity and good health in a group setting like preschool classrooms as the children are very young and are highly vulnerable to infections.

In the past few weeks alone, ten-twelve families reported absence due to cold infections and fever. Two of our staff members fell ill and went home during the day with fever! Without your support to care for your child at home when they are sick, we suffer to maintain a healthy learning environment for all children and adults caring for them here at school. We appreciate your support in making Villa a healthy place for all! Thank you!

**Important dates:**

Tuition Due first of every month. After fifth day of the month, a late fee will be collected.

**October 3rd Board’s General Meeting-Parent Potluck!** Special thanks to all the families who joined us and kindly shared treats for the night! Villa director met families one-one and presented Q&A to parents!

**October 5<sup>th</sup> Friday:** First day of sharing began with the “My Family Tree/Root” topic at Villa! Teachers want to introduce theme-based activities for sharing activity instead of choosing simple objects related to a letter sound like we did in the past. Therefore, AM only and the PM only program students will bring items related to the topic listed under their program name (a sharing theme list was sent via email). The School Day (SD) program students will bring items related to either of the theme listed for AM/PM programs.

October Themes: My Family, Solar System, Autumn Fun, Diwali, Ocean and Rainforest. Start collecting items and/or stories relating to these themes that your child can bring to school on corresponding sharing day dates! 😊

NOTE: if the sharing day falls on a holiday or when a special event is happening at Villa then sharing will not happen. If you still have questions about sharing activity at Villa please email the director at: [directoratvillamontessoridotnet](mailto:directoratvillamontessoridotnet).

**October 15<sup>th</sup> Monday: Staff In-service Day [SIS]!** No school for children.



**SAVE THE DATE! October 31<sup>st</sup> Wednesday: Halloween Day**

**Performance!** Villa families are invited to watch the performance! All children will come to school at 9:00 am, including PM program, and we will follow this schedule: **AM:** 9 -12pm; **PM:** 9 – 12pm; **SD:** 9 – 4 pm.

Tentative agenda for October 31<sup>st</sup> performance:

9:00 am: AM, PM, and Full Day children come to school with their costume on.

10:30 am: Halloween Parade! Children will walk to St. Jude’s church’s parish hall located next to Villa campus.

10:45 am: Children sing to live piano music played by Mrs. Wilson.

11:00 am: Children will walk back to school. Great time to click the smiles, picture time!! We need parents to chaperone children as they walk from school to the hall and back to school from the parish hall.

11:30 am: Full Day students join lunch session inside school/AM and PM students join outdoor recess activity.

11:55 am – 12:10 pm: AM and PM students will be dismissed from the playground.

Last year, Mrs. Sunder reached out to the Live Oak Senior Center director to find out if Villa children can perform to the seniors who are being cared at the center! Senior center director and the seniors were thrilled to have us! We too had a wonderful event last year and the tradition is continuing this year! They are unable to move from the center to school for watching children perform. So, the lovely, generous, kind and frail seniors eagerly look forward to see Villa children in colorful costumes and it makes their day! Senior Center has no space for large group. Luckily this year, we managed to rent the parish hall to allow seniors, and Villa families gather at the same place and enjoy children's performance!



**Note:** Full day, AM and PM students will come to school at 9:00 am. No candies or unsafe costume choices. Refrain from masks and/or large, odd shaped, sharp accessories on costumes worn to school. School Day children must bring CHANGE OF CLOTHES in a bag! Children will change into regular clothes after their performance. **Please label child's costume** (name must be on all pieces of the costume) and the spare set sent to school! Remember to take home the costume bag! We don't want children getting disappointed during their trick or treat trip in the evening!

### **Election message from Mr. Eric Lee, 2017-2018 Board President:**

Dear members and staff of Villa Montessori School,

This is Eric, President of Villa's Board of Directors for the school year 2017-2018. I would like to share with you the result of the 2018-2019 Board of Directors election.



First of all, let's thank Amin, Jean, Han Jun, Yang, Preeti, Yixin, and Hui, who volunteered to serve the board for the school year 2017-2018. These wonderful board members helped the school in every way possible - facility improvement, finance oversight, procedure/policy revision, staff liaison, activity coordination, budgeting, marketing, graphic design, licensing meeting, and monthly operation oversight. Most importantly, they worked closely with the school director Geetha and the staff to make the 55-year old Villa a better preschool for this community.

With students graduating and newly joining every year, the Board of Directors is also refreshed with new members. On Sep 12, the 2017-2018 board held a special introductory session for the parents who are interested in serving the board positions. Upon the board nomination closed on Sep 18, we had 8 individuals who volunteer to serve the board for 2018-2019 school year. During the general member meeting held on Oct 3, these candidates introduced themselves to the community, and once again, Villa has a group of strong, energetic and passionate parents to execute Villa's vision toward its mission statement set in the bylaws. For those who could not attend the general member meeting, the candidates' biographies were attached to the voting ballot for your reference. Hopefully, you got a chance to get to know these candidates and maybe ask some questions.

The approval vote of the 2018-2019 Board of Directors was carried out from Oct 4, 2018 through 6 pm Oct 7, 2018. The ballot was distributed electronically to the email addresses registered with Villa admin office as of Oct 3, 2018. Verbal and electronic reminders were given during the election period.

The voting result is as follows:  
Number of qualified voters: 87  
Number of ballot cast: 69  
Number of approval vote: 69  
Number of disapproval vote: 0  
Number of abstain: 18

As the number of votes and the number of approvals exceed the simple majority, I hereby announce the new 2018-2019 Board of Directors for Villa Montessori School:

Amin Ahmad President (Overall Coordination)  
Claire O'Neill 1st Vice Chair (HR, Budget)  
Connie Chou 2nd Vice Chair (PR, Fundraising)  
Michael You 3rd Vice Chair (Project Management)  
Erik Ortega 4th Vice Chair (Technology)  
Han Jun Kim Secretary (Correspondence, Records)  
Jean Lee Treasurer (Revenue, Budget)  
Pradeep Bisht Comptroller (Audit, Budget)



## Introductory message from Room Parents!

Hello from this year's Room Parents Team at Villa! Hope your kids are settling in well. We would like to introduce yourselves and give you a little information about what to look out for in the near future. We are very excited about serving in this important role as a conduit between all the parents and the school. We look forward to getting to know you and your children well, and hope that we can together ensure our kids have a wonderful year at Villa. You can communicate with us by sending an email to <room.parents@villamontessori.net>.

Image L-R:

**Kalyani Raravikar:** I am Kaivalya's mom. Kaivalya goes to room 2

**Anu Murthy:** This is my daughter Aanya's first year at Villa. She's almost 4 and is in Room 2. I also have an older son who just started middle school at Kennedy.

**Ellen Chumbe:** My son Ethan is 3 ½ years. It's his first time at preschool and goes to room 1.

We are also excited to introduce the new platform we will be using this year to facilitate communications between parents, sign up for events, upload pictures etc. We will be using Shutterfly Shared Site.

The website is <<https://villamontessoricupertino.shutterfly.com/>>. You will need an account on Shutterfly to access this shared site. Please note that everything on this shared site will be private and will not be shared to the outside public, it will be accessible only to the members of the site. To be added to this site as a member, please do the following: 1. Create an account on Shutterfly, if you don't already have one. 2. Send a message to <room.parents@villamontessori.net> and provide the same email id you used to sign up to Shutterfly. 3. We will add that email id as a member of the site. 4. You will receive an email with an invitation to join the site. Please accept the invitation to gain access and complete the process.

All members will be able to view the school photos, message board, and information shared here with you by the room parents. When you sign in you agree to the terms that: any media, news/information posted on this site by the school administration and the Villa family members **MUST REMAIN** confidential within the member group. No contents from this shared, protected, private site will be distributed outside of Villa's private Shutterfly site. All questions can be directed to our email id for further clarification. Thank you! Once we have everyone signed up, we'll communicate further about all the exciting events coming up in the next few weeks.

## Director's Special Thank You & Welcome Message to the Board Members!



On behalf of staff and myself, I extend a very warm welcome to the 2018-2019 Board of Directors! Congratulations! We look forward to working with you closely! Once again, Welcome and Thank you!

I want to recognize and thank each one of the 2017-2018 Board of Directors for their immense support, effort and time! An amazing group!

I extend my sincere gratitude especially to Mr. Eric Lee for his unwavering dedication and determination to keep Villa's success in mind above and beyond his role as the Chairman and President of Board of Directors!

Team Villa is honored to recognize your service to this community! Mr. Lee's eldest daughter graduated from Villa three years ago; his second daughter studied at Villa last year and his youngest child will return to Villa next year!

Mr. Lee worked quietly in the background, day and night, always available to those who worked for Villa and needed support or answers even during the wee hours of night! Mr. Lee established policy standards and revised Villa's Mission, Vision, and Parent Policies which will help both the incoming Board and our community for many more years to come! He worked hands-on in upgrading Villa's telecommunication features; helped manage funds and investment, found solution to challenging new ideas, and never failed to recognize staff's hard work at Villa!

Mrs. Jean Lee (two children at Villa) and Mr. Amin Ahmad (three children at Villa) were very involved in staff support, appreciation, and development, student reports, counsel, and overall school operations. Their guidance to run Villa successfully was huge for the staff!

Special thanks to Mr. Yang Wang (two children at Villa) [entrance security], Mrs. Preeti Powar (counsel) oldest child graduated and youngest child will be joining soon, Mr. Yixin Li (investment) current parent, and Mrs. Hui (slides) for their efforts, time and help!

Mr. Han Jun Kim, current parent, is very resourceful in networking with vendors, he is currently working closely with the administration to modernize administrative tasks at Villa!

We could not have done it without you all! Thank you so much, sincerely from our hearts! Again and again! 😊



We are looking forward to seeing you all at the Halloween performance on the 31st at 10:30am. Please plan for an hour or so event starting at 10:30am. Wishing you all a fabulous fall season and a safe trick or treating!

With A Boo! A Trick! A Treat!

Kind Regards!  
~Team Villa!

PUMPKIN PATCH AT VILLA! Someone went shopping! 😊 Enjoy!

