



# August - September 2019

## Welcome Back to School Edition



Dear Families:

Welcome back! We are glad to see the returning families and are excited to welcome new families to Villa. Staff and I look forward to working with your children this new school year!

FYI to new families at Villa: - Important school events and reminders will be shared via our monthly newsletter, *Hello Villa*. During the school year, you will also receive RSVP for a school event or signup sheet for volunteering tasks and such through emails.

**Congratulations** to Baha's family! Baha is a big brother now! Please join us in welcoming Arin to the wonderful Villa community!

**Jovial:** Most of Villa families have successfully enrolled in an online payment system. This is a huge help! Thank you! We are unable to accept personal or bank/e-checks, and credit cards. E-check is NOT an online payment. Kindly set up monthly tuition payments to be paid on or before 5<sup>th</sup> of each month; you may choose to do this via Jovial or through personal bank.



### Villa Parent Board Election Night:

Parent potluck and a general election will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 pm. Parents are encouraged to apply for board positions for the new school year. Please contact [board@villamontessori.net](mailto:board@villamontessori.net) **immediately** if you are interested to serve as Villa's Board of Directors for 2019-2020. Thank you for your support! A signup sheet for potluck dinner will be posted closer to event date.

**August** zipped by us! Children enjoyed practicing classroom routines and the environment, following daily procedures, exploring learning materials, and getting to know their teachers. In the past few weeks, children also learned about community helpers, five senses, and learned about staying safe during dangers.

**Emergency Drills:** Each month children will practice fire or earthquake drills. During spring we will practice a lockdown and emergency evacuation drill. Children completed their first fire drill in August.

**Room Parents:** We have three wonderful and generous minded room parent volunteers: Kaivalya's mother, Kalyani, Lia's mother, Erin, and Prithvi's mother, Kruthika. You may reach them using this email id: [room.parents@villamontessori.net](mailto:room.parents@villamontessori.net). If you are interested to volunteer in any of the listed requests from teachers, please send an email to the room parents including your child's name, your name, and your availability time and days, name of an activity that you are interested to work on.



## Upcoming Events in September:



**Montessori Workshop for Parents:** We will see you this **Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> between 9-12pm** at our annual workshop which has been a favorite of parents year after year! We invite to attend this fun filled workshop that will introduce you to Montessori philosophy, pedagogy, and allow you to experience the Montessori methods and to learn as a child would do in the classroom! Teachers request

parents to wear closed toe shoes and comfortable clothing. The session will closely imitate your child's experiences at school on a given day including snack time. You may bring a snack and drink to play the Silent Game.

**Rainy Day practice:** On Friday September 13<sup>th</sup>, parents will follow rainy day pick up and drop off procedures at school. This is to give an opportunity for new families to practice Villa's Rainy-Day procedures. Please refer to the parent manual for more information.

**NLNC Invitations:** Villa is located in New Life New Church premises. Church invites all families to movie nights, campus clean up days, and community events. Upcoming Movie Night: title cannot be disclosed due to copyright issues. Join\* us at **7pm on Friday, September 13** for a sequel about the mysterious lives of little animals in our houses. *\*Movie with popcorn and candy shared with your family - there isn't much better! We will have free popcorn, candy, and water (and coffee for adults) in our Auditorium with several BIG screens. You can bring your blankets and lawn chairs or use our chairs. Invite your friends and neighbors to this fun & free event.*



## School Policy Reminders:

**Sick policy:** Children must stay home with any symptoms of consistent runny nose, cough, diarrhea, contagious rashes, vomiting or fever. Children may return to school only after they are symptom free for 24 hours without any medication. Teachers and staff will help children gain mastery in many life skills during the day. It will greatly help children gain independence in selfcare when you too help them practice blowing their nose with a tissue or wiping clean and washing hands thoroughly after each toilet use at home. Please call the office to report if your child will be absent for the day.

**Playground use after school:** When school is still in session, parents are requested to not use the playground after signing out their child. The school playground must be used by children under a teacher's supervision during school hours. We appreciate your cooperation and encourage using nearby parks to socialize. Public parks closer to Villa are Jollyman Park on Stelling Road and Memorial Park on Stevens Creek Road.

## Teachers' Corner:

**Curriculum and Sharing Topics:** An email with links to the school curriculum and sharing topics will be sent out soon. Fridays are Sharing Day at Villa. We encourage children to bring an item related to the sharing topics listed for each week and share interesting information about the item during circle time. Please encourage children to make the sharing item themselves. Sharing item can NOT be a toy or represent any brand name characters. **Note:** Sharing topics and Curriculum topics may or may not be in sync for that week. Sharing activity will begin on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Please **LABEL ALL ITEMS** sent to school with your child's name written boldly on the item itself. Many children bring similar items and it becomes a concern for children and teachers when an item gets misplaced or accidentally gets used or taken home inadvertently.

**Spare set of clothes** must be provided for your child. We request you to send them in a labeled shoe box as soon as possible.



**Layered clothing:** Fall season is right around the corner weather will begin to change; please send children in layered clothing. Label all items sent to school including water bottle, hat, jacket, sunscreen. Please help your child practice how to use these items independently at home.

**Sunscreen:** Teachers can not apply sunscreen on your child but will assist them while they apply it on themselves. LABEL sunscreen sticks with your child's name, SEAL it in a plastic bag with your child's name written on the bag again. Sunscreen in the sealed bag must remain in your child's backpack.

Children must wear **closed toe shoes** to school. No Crocs, open toe shoes, flip flops, sandals, footwear that makes a sound or lights up while children walk and play. Mulch and rocks in the playground can cause harm to little toes easily. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Friday tote bag:** Each Friday children will bring home classwork in a tote bag that must be **returned to school on the following day**. Starting in October, teachers will send home notes for each child. You may use the backside of the note to send a message to your child's teacher.

**Birthday Celebrations at Villa:** More details will be emailed to you about how your child's birthday will be honored and celebrated at Villa. Classroom teachers will approach you to set up a meeting closer to your child's birthday date. A **Teachers Wish** list for classroom materials will be shared with families. If you wish you may choose to donate an item from this list in honor of your child's birthday.

#### October Events and Requests from Teachers:



We plan to bring **pumpkin patch** to Villa in October. On Oct 31<sup>st</sup> children will pick pumpkins from our playground after the annual parade and performance event. May we request you to donate a pumpkin or two that is just **about five inches or smaller in diameter?** Kindly drop off pumpkins at school starting from October 18<sup>th</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

**Save the date:** Week of October 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> will be filled with **Diwali themed activities**. We need parent volunteers to read/present stories about Diwali festival, share an art/craft activity, teach traditional Indian dance moves, *dandia*, using school rhythm sticks, bring individually packed snacks for children to take home, share some children's festive clothes, bring a traditional art or décor piece depicting the festival which will be used for cultural gallery walk at school. Please contact room parents immediately if you are interested to volunteer for any of these activities.

**Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities:** Separate sign-up sheet link for the following requests from teachers will be sent in an email later.

**Technology help:** Four to five parents who are computer savvy will help us upload children's pictures on to the school Google Drive every few weeks; sort and organize multimedia slideshows for school events 3-4 times a year; be the Official School Photographer for ALL school wide events throughout the year.

**Talent and Interests:** You are welcome to come to classroom and share your talent with children once or twice a month. You may participate in activities like reading stories to children; teach a science project, art or craft lesson; cultural holiday and festivals around the globe; yoga; music and movement; play instruments to classroom songs; gardening or cooking projects and more. These tasks will be counted toward Villa's parent volunteer hour requirement.

# We're Going Back To School



Parking: Parents are requested to use the parking spaces that are open after the fire hydrant located near school gate. Drive SLOWLY at 5mph or less. Always hold your child's hand in the lot. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our community safe.

Once again, we warmly welcome you to another great school year!

From all of us at Villa,

We wish you a colorful autumn season!

