October 25, 2019

**Headlines**
♦ How children learn
♦ Board Updates
♦ PC's New Kindness Committee
♦ Calendar

♦ Just in: DVMS Mom’s Night TONIGHT, October 25 – 6:30pm at Danville Brewing Company. Come join us for this casual get together and we’ll see where the night takes us! Please Lyft/Uber, if possible and drink responsibly.

Address: 200 Railroad Avenue, Danville, CA 94526

**Message from Suzette**

One of the things that distinguishes Montessori from more traditional educational approaches is the way children are encouraged to learn by touching, feeling and doing. In our classrooms children are encouraged to move around the classroom and engage with the wide variety of activities available. They choose the activity they would like to work on, bring it
to a table or mat, explore the materials and make discoveries for themselves. This is true for our very youngest children as well as our third year, 5 year olds.

When children work with their hands, they gain a very concrete understanding of the materials. When we show children and allow them to touch and explore, they make many more neural connections. Later on, more abstract learning will naturally evolve from the concrete experiences they have had.

Would you like to see how this works in our classrooms for yourself? We’d love to have you observe a classroom. Please call the office, 283-6036 to make an appointment for a morning observation.

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**DVMS Board News**

The DVMS Board of Directors is made up of school parents who meet every month. Below are highlights from the October meeting. You can find more BOD info on our website: [click here](#)

**BOD Meeting Highlights, 10/23/19**

- 2019-2020 BOD goals and school operating budget were reviewed and approved
- Head of School reviewed current enrollment report and shared 2020 enrollment planning
- Fundraising & Auction committee reported success of Fun Run and updates on Spring Auction Gala (Mark your calendars for 4/18!)
- Marketing & Tech chairs are working on an action plan to optimize school communications and DVMS’ digital presence
- Safety committee reported on latest School Safety Plan *(don’t forget to register on Nixle.com for up-to-date safety info from local public safety depts & schools!)*
- Next board meeting is 12/18. All parents are invited to attend. If you’re interested in joining the board next year, we’d love to meet you! Please reach
out to Brian Caughell bcaughell@gmail.com to learn more about open positions.

Parent's Club News

The DVMS Parents Club is delighted to announce that we've created a **Kindness Committee** with the goal of giving back to the community and also teaching our children invaluable lessons about kindness and compassion. Our first event will be our **Annual Coin Drive** (November 4-November 22), benefiting the Contra Costa Food Bank. More info to come on the Coin Drive, but in the meantime, start saving your coins! Later in the year, we will host a **Diaper Drive** (hold onto those diapers your kids have outgrown!) and our second annual **Food Drive + Food Bank** volunteering event. We are also working on some events with a local retirement home. We need parent volunteers to make these events happen. If you're interested in helping out, please reach out to Annie Myers annieb@gmail.com. The time commitment is relatively small and even counts toward your work hours.

Stay up to date

**Mark your calendar**
### October-November Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>Halloween Parade 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
<td>In-Service-No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>Veteran's Day-School Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 27-29</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday-School Closed</td>
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