November 30, 2022

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Message from Jayne

Welcome back! I hope that the Thanksgiving break was a time of rest and enjoyment with family and friends.

The next few weeks between now and the Winter Break are always full of added excitement as the holiday season is in full swing. For young children, this can also be a time of uncertainty as routines may be disrupted, sweets are more plentiful, and extended family members visit. Ensuring your child gets plenty of rest and maintains a healthy diet are key elements in managing over stimulation.

Staying healthy over the holidays can be a challenge too. This year we have been relatively fortunate with fewer COVID-19 cases, however RSV, the stomach flu, and other serious illnesses continue to affect children and teachers alike. We rely on your partnership in adhering to the DVMS Health policy to minimize the impact on all our families. An important part of our partnership is communication. Please be sure to let us know if your child will be absent for any reason.

Some highlights from the health policy (as noted in the Parent Handbook) that we expect your adherence to include:

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES:

Parents must report to the office any contagious diseases which their children contract.

A note will be sent home to all of the appropriate families warning parents to look for possible symptoms.

HEALTH GUIDELINES:

For Temperatures

- *A child with an axially (armpit) exceeding 98.5 temperature or exceeding 99.5 orally must be kept at home.
- *A child with a mildly elevated temperature who is acting sick and needs one-to-one attention should be kept home.
- *A normal temperature must be stable for 24 hours without the use of medication to control it before a child is returned to care.

For Excessively Runny Noses

*A child with an excessively runny nose needs to be kept home (often this is the beginning and most communicable stage of an upper respiratory infection).

Vomiting

If vomiting occurs a child must be kept at home for 24 hours after the vomiting stops and normal eating habits are resumed.

Diarrhea

- *A child with diarrhea must be kept home for 24 hours after the last diarrhea (and cannot be on Pedialyte) and normal eating has resumed.
- *If a child has two consecutive incidents of diarrhea while at DVMS we will call the parents to inform them: The child will need to be taken home and kept at home for 24 hours after the last incidence of diarrhea.

Note: Parents should keep DVMS informed if their child has had any new food or medication which may result in diarrhea.

Coughs

*If a child has a persistent heavy wet cough with breathlessness or noisy breathing the child needs to be kept at home.

Rash

*Any unrecognizable rash will need to be examined by a physician. A doctor's note is required in order for the child to return to the center.

Pain

*If a child is in pain and needs parental attention the child should be kept at home.

Unable to Participate

If a child is too uncomfortable to be able to participate and/or needs constant one to one attention the child should be kept at home.

On New Medication

A child needs to remain at home for 24 hours when starting any new medication. Please note that in the Infant/Toddler House there is an exception to this policy if continuing another series of an antibiotic for a recurring episode.

We are here for any questions, concerns, and comments! Just give us a call or e-mail.
Have a great week! Jayne

This week's Fall leaves were a little too perfect not to be playing in...



Coin Drive

DVMS is delighted to host our annual coin drive December 5th - December 9th. This is a long-standing DVMS tradition to raise money for the Contra Costa County Food Bank. Bring your coins directly to your child's classroom. If you have any questions, feel

free to contact Annie Myers at annieb@gmail.com.



Parent Education AMS Family Connect

The December edition of AMS Family Connection (attached) highlights Grace and Courtesy, a pillar of Montessori. What does that mean for your young child? How can we as adults model grace and courtesy for our children?

Imagine all the ways we can show others that we value and respect them.

Even at the earliest ages, there are many ways to incorporate grace and courtesy in a child's daily life. At home, practicing skills such as waiting to speak when another family member is talking, politely blowing your nose, or how to knock on a bathroom door are simple, yet important lessons in helping children understand their ability to be a positive influence wherever they are.

Important Dates!



December 3: DVMS at the Golden State Warriors

December 5 - 9: DVMS Coin Drive

December 19 - December 23: Winter Break (No classes) for Buttercup and Preschool. Extended care for Preschool on a very limited basis.

December 25 - January 2: Winter Break for all classes and

office. DVMS Closed

January 3, 2023: DVMS reopens

January 7: DVMS at the Golden State Warriors Click here to purchase tickets

January 12: 7pm Parent Education evening with Vanessa Callaghan "5 Kind and Clever Ways to Motivate Kids... without rewards and punishments"

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