



September 2020

# Princeton Montessori Academy

## Welcome back!

We ended our summer camp on a high note last month, with many memories to carry us over to the next school year. The children had fun with dress-up days, water day activities, and afternoons preparing tasty and creative snacks.

We are off to a great start with the amazing first few weeks of school under our belt where we welcomed back our students both online and in person. The children have shown great interest and joy in learning new things and in being with their teachers and friends.

We are excited to learn that Los Angeles County's rate of coronavirus cases has dropped below the state's threshold, allowing our local government to consider schools reopening. We are anticipating the return to normalcy, while the key virus metrics such as hospitalizations, positivity rate among those tested, and demand for hospital beds indicate a downward trend. However, as we continue our path of recovery from the pandemic, we are persistently cautious in our daily operations by strictly implementing the government guidelines on hygiene, sanitation, social distancing, screening, and wearing of appropriate masks.

### Dates to Remember:

\***September 7:** Labor Day

\***September 13:** Grandparents Day

### Back to School Zoom Session

Thank you for taking the time to attend the informative virtual sessions. It was great to have our parents come together, even remotely. We hope it was a great opportunity for you to meet our teachers and learn more about your child's academic program and day-to-day activities.



### September 7 – Labor Day

The school will be closed on Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day. Our students will pay tribute to the American workforce for their social and economic contributions in making our country prosperous and strong. Have a safe and

### September 13 - Annual Grandparents' Day

Grandparents give unconditional love, wisdom, and emotional security to their families. Our students will be celebrating the unique relationship they have with their grandparents with an incredibly special memento made with lots of love.



## School Reopening in L.A. County

As the outbreak slows down in the Los Angeles county, school and health officials are moving cautiously in easing restrictions and reopening schools. We are hopeful that with the new normal where infection-control practices are part of our day-to-day school operations, the transmission rates among our families and community will continue to decline.

### Optimism Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic

It is particularly important to acknowledge the positive developments in the control of the COVID-19 thus far, and we have many. Possible treatments such as cloned antibodies are becoming effective in treating the virus. The rapid, low-cost saliva test for Covid-19 could be a game-changer in mass testing. Communities are more aware of the importance of wearing a mask. Safer building strategies such as using higher ventilation, better filtration, and air-cleaning devices may help mitigate the airborne spread. Past exposure to common-cold viruses may help protect some people from COVID-19 infection. Successful vaccine trials may lead drug makers to deliver the vaccine expeditiously. We are jubilant and proud of the above progress in controlling the spread of disease during the current pandemic.

We are also thrilled to learn that the spread of the coronavirus is slowing in Los Angeles County, mainly due to strict compliance of health orders and widespread testing.

### Influenza Vaccinations

We strongly recommend all our students over the age of six months receive the influenza vaccination this year. Preventing influenza's spread amid the COVID-19 pandemic is crucial in mitigating the burden on our families who are already overwhelmed by COVID-19. The flu and COVID-19 share many symptoms such as fever, chills, cough, sore throat, muscle or body aches, headaches, and fatigue. September is an ideal month to be vaccinated to achieve immunity throughout the flu season. It typically takes two weeks after the flu shot for the



### COVID-19 Saliva Test

The U. S. Food and Drug Administration is working on a saliva-based diagnostic test for COVID-19 that will cost less than \$5.00. If the spit test is widely adopted, it can help expedite the COVID-19 testing process. If approved, the alternative testing will help us navigate through the pandemic more effectively even before a vaccine is approved. However, it is not a rapid, at-home test that many have suggested using daily to control the pandemic.



### The Development of the Coronavirus Vaccine

There is a worldwide effort to find a vaccine for COVID-19. Typically, vaccine development takes years and unfolds step by step. However, Russia has already announced that it will begin using the vaccine in people at high risk even before Phase 3 trials, and China has authorized a vaccine to be used in members of the military. The United States has set the goal of having a vaccine by late fall or early winter.



## Infants sleeping on Back vs. Stomach and SIDS



Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) occurs typically when infants younger than one year suddenly and unexpectedly die while sleeping. While SIDS cannot be prevented or predicted, there are many ways we can help reduce the risk of sleep-related infant deaths. Infants who sleep on their backs can clear the amount of carbon dioxide in their lungs.

## Recalled Infant Sleepers (Rocking Sleepers)

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued a safety recall on certain sleepers due to the infant fatalities that have occurred as a result of infants rolling from their backs to their stomachs or sides while asleep. We encourage all our parents with infants to look into the infant sleeper recalls ensuring their sleepers at home are safe for their infant.



### Please Like Us On Facebook!



We are constantly updating our page with the activities of your children to keep our parents connected. Follow us on Facebook to see the exciting academic and co-curricular activities at our school. Indeed, the school is always a beehive of activities!

