



DIYA

the newsletter for Houston's D.A.V. Montessori school



April 2017

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FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear DAVM families,

Spring is in the air! So is change. Parents, you have spoken and D.A.V. Montessori school is proud to introduce a number of changes that will make the elementary experience better for you and your children. This month, I'd like to share these changes with you.

Transportation: D.A.V.M. has purchased a school bus to provide pick up and drop off service to our school families in the Energy Corridor area. A bus driver is in place and a trial run starts in April, with pickup in the Eldridge and Briar Forest neighborhoods. Students will be picked up and dropped off at designated bus stops in these neighborhoods. For those families that choose to use the bus service, the cost is \$150 per month. Contact the school office for further information and details regarding this service.

Costs: At D.A.V.M, we truly strive to be a family and offer a great value in education. Two cost control changes will be an increase in the discount offered for enrollment of siblings at the school. This discount will be increase from 10% to 15% on the tuition for additional siblings. In addition, the tuition for academic year 2017-2018 will not change, with the reenrollment fee decreasing from \$100 to \$50.

Schedule: With the increasing burden on families to have both parents working and the commute times in Houston continuing to increase, the school has decided to extend our day for the full-day students to accommodate parents. Students in the full-day program can be dropped off as early as 7:00AM starting the 2017-2018 academic year.

Curriculum: An art program will be added to the academic curriculum, based on the Texas Essential Knowledge Standards (TEKS) for all grade levels. Starting in the 2017-2018 academic year, MonArt will provide art instructions once a week.

Our parents have spoken and the school wants to accommodate the varying demands on the DAVM families. As always, I hope that you elect to keep your children at the school through their entire elementary years.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, April 07 Spring Picnic

The students enjoy a day to be outside, sharing a picnic with their friends. This year, the picnic will be held at McClendon Park.

Sunday, April 09 Arya Samaj Sthapana Diwas

The Arya Samaj in Houston celebrates its 26th anniversary with a day of activities.

April 10 - 13 Iowa Testing

Students test their academic mettle during the Iowa testing week. Only for Kindergarten through 5th grade. Make sure your kids have a hearty breakfast.

Friday, April 14 Good Friday

To commemorate sacrifice and resurrection. Also, enjoy the egg hunts and chocolate bunnies.

April 20 – 22 First Lego League Jr. World Festival Expo

Go cheer on the D.A.V.M team, the Chasing Cheetahs, at George R. Brown Convention Center.

IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS?

Don't hesitate to reach out to the school for ideas, suggestions and feedback for the newsletter. This publication is for you to stay informed and involved with DAV Montessori.

WEB GEM: <https://www.facebook.com/davmontessori/>

Stay connected with the D.A.V.M news and families through the Facebook page. Use it as a place to post and share, make connections with other parents, and exchange outside of the school.

MONTESSORI MOMENT

THE BLITZKIDZ CHESS

D.A.V. is training the next Grand Master chess champion. New this year is an after-school chess program, where students are starting with the basics and moving onto an intra-school tournament. Watch out world, we may have a few chess champions in our midst.

If you are interested in joining the BlitzKidz chess program, please contact D.A.V. Montessori



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: ST. JUDE'S TRIKE-A-THON

Students followed up a fun-filled Father's Day celebration with an exciting round of biking for the St. Jude's Trike-a-thon. The week before the trike-a-thon, students were learning about bicycles and bike safety, some important lessons for future bicyclists. The day of the trike-a-thon turned out to be gorgeous, several students set personal records, and the school rose over \$3,000 for the St. Jude's organization. That's called a win, win, win!



In The Community

Discovery Green

It's that time of year to get out and explore the city. Discovery Green park in downtown Houston has a full calendar of events for the family – from art cars, to movies and circuses. Many of the events are available to enjoy at no cost and the park offers options for food and relaxation with lots of green space available to play and lay. More information is available at:

<http://www.discoverygreen.com/>

Look In a Book

Earth Day

On **April 22nd**, people around the world will celebrate Earth Day. Started in 1970, Earth Day is a time to bring together the global community to focus on preservation of the Earth and celebration of peace. It's during this time of the year that people are getting more engaged with nature, from planting gardens, enjoying flowers, and embarking on outdoor activities. Take the chance to encourage your children to learn more about nature through reading. There are many books that incorporate the theme on nature and Earth Day, including:

[Lola Plants a Garden](#)

[Anna McQueen](#)

[Seeds of Change](#)

[Jen Johnson](#)

Riddle Me This

Q: What musical instrument do you have in your bathroom?

A: A tuba toothpaste.