



# Serra Preschool

*A Parent Participation Nursery School  
Where Kids and Parents Learn Together.*

## Summer 2018 Newsletter

### Director's Message

#### *Dear Serra Families,*

The end of school... The closing of one door, and the opening of another. This has been a fun year. We did so many things in both classes.

Little Bear Stories  
Mother Goose Rhymes  
Letters in our name  
The Question of the day  
The surprise box  
Eating our way through the Alphabet  
Pats on the back messages  
Coffee Can Theater  
Story Walks  
Packy the Pack Rat collections  
Pancake Breakfast  
Dads Desert night  
Stone Soup  
Valentines and Mother's Day Celebrations  
The Nut Cracker performance  
Decorating Pumpkins  
Dramatic Play: Harvest Market Haunted House, The Bakery, The Doctors Office, Post Office and Fairy Land.  
Stories, Songs, cooking, art, science, writing.  
Playing Outside and learning to give messages.

These are just some of the things we all enjoyed this year. I could not have done it

without your hard work and dedication. I hope you enjoyed your time at Serra. I know that all of you will in one way or another continue to volunteer and be an important person in the lives of children. I appreciated your time, your energy and your talents.

I want to extend a big thank you to the Board of Directors, who work tirelessly behind the scenes keeping our school running, securing the passage of one year to the next.

A very special thank you goes out to Miss Lisa who I have come to depend on for some many things. Thank You Lisa for your hard work and the love you gave to all the kids.

Kids I hope more than anything that you had happy experiences playing in a place where you felt loved and safe and if it's time for you to go that you are leaving with an excitement for learning!!!

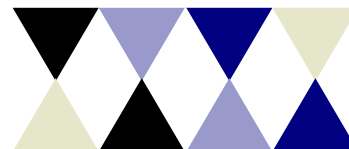
I hope you all have a fun, safe and happy summer!

Thanks everyone for all you do!!!

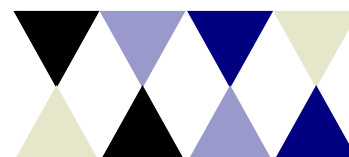
*Love,  
Mrs. Nowicki*



Serra Preschool Director Mrs. Nowicki



*With  
heartfelt  
thanks*



## President's Message

Even as an adult, I still love walking down Main Street, USA in Disneyland. Right as I walk through the entry gates, I feel the nostalgia hit me. Then going through the short tunnel to get onto Main Street gives me a sense of excitement and calmness at the same time. I have a little tradition of saying, "It feels good to be home." And my kids giggle at that. And they roll their eyes a bit too. And if I forget, my 8 year old Elisa will remind me.

What I like about Main Street is that it has the potential to be full of trash. Popcorn, napkins, water bottles, dropped ice cream... you name it. It could be everywhere, yet it's not. Disney employees are adamant about keeping the space clean and tidy. The attention to detail on the buildings and on the signage shows pride that Disney has for Main Street. When decorated for Halloween or Christmas, Main Street looks so magical, and I wish Disney would decorate my own house! The cast members working in the shops or guiding the horses and vehicles up and down Main Street are fun, courteous, knowledgeable, and have

a complete understanding that this is your family's special day. And even though there are kids and families smiling from ear to ear, there is always a child having a meltdown somewhere. Yet all are welcome and all are part of a larger community of people who want to make memories with their families.

I think the "Mojo" or "Zeitgeist" of Disneyland is often found right here at Serra. There are happy children everywhere with a teacher or parent helping those who are not. There are projects and experiments and toys and all sorts of materials to be seen, but it's not total mayhem. There is organization and a purpose and intention to the centers and activities. Patty and Lisa and each working parent wants to make this a special day for the children and families, and they encompass traits of being fun, courteous, and knowledgeable. One would be able to tell what time of the year it is and be able to see the focus of the curriculum unit. Families here not only see why their child is at Serra, but they feel it. Since a co-op preschool is an entirely different experience than a traditional

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preschool, families that come to a co-op really have to want to be there. Otherwise, it could be just too exhausting... like Disneyland! Nonetheless, I have many days that I feel exhausted. I think that's a good sign! It's telling me I put in a lot of effort and used my energy the best I could. When we sit with Patty at the end-of-day meeting and we feel a little wiped out, feel proud too!

Thank you to everyone who has put their best foot forward to making Serra a wonderful experience for your child, for my child, and for all the families that make up our community. I couldn't ask for a better set of parents to play with Luke, to guide him, to teach him, and to help him grow into this little person that he is. And the same could be said for me! Thank you for guiding me and helping me, because my learning isn't over. I still have a long way to go; and I want to be a forever-learner. I can't do that without your friendship and support. I feel grateful and blessed, truly, from the bottom of my heart.

~Cori

**Serra's bonfire** will be on Tuesday, June 5th at Hole in the Fence Beach (Capistrano Beach Park, across Olemendis) at 5:00 pm. There is metered parking until 6:00 pm in the parking lot adjacent to Beach Rd. Located on the corner of PCH and where Palisades Dr. turns into Beach Rd. Bring your beach chairs, beach blankets/ towels, and your own dinner items and drinks. Serra will provide skewers, s'mores stuff, and firewood. It can get cold, so pack sweatshirts as well.



## Clothes for the Cause

Summer 2018

**All items for Clothes for the Cause are due May 30.**

This is a fundraiser set up by Erin to help clean out our closets and make some money for Serra!

**YES-** new or gently used clothing, paired shoes, hats, gloves, belts, purses, bags, draperies & curtains, table linens, stuffed animals, backpacks.

**NO-** hotel linens, industrial textiles, bulk uniforms, bedding & mattresses, pet beds, carpeting or area rugs, fabric remnants, luggage, glass, electronics, or breakables.

### Dates to Know:

- May 28 | Memorial Day (No School)
- May 30 | Clothes for the Cause Ends
- May 30 | Wet and Wild Day (3Day)
- May 31 | Wet and Wild Day/Last Day of School (2Day)
- June 1 | Last Day of School (3Day)
- June 5 | End of Year Clean Up #1
- June 5 | Serra Bonfire
- June 9 | End of Year Clean #2
- June 14 | Transition Board Meeting

### Dad Jokes to get you through summer.

Where do sharks go on vacation?

Finland.

What do whales put on their toast?

Jellyfish

What did Ernie say when asked if he wanted ice cream?

Sherbert!

Why did the Scarecrow win an award?

He was outstanding in his field.

### Serra Preschool Board of Directors

President, Cori Preisler	<a href="mailto:coripreisler@hotmail.com">coripreisler@hotmail.com</a>
Vice President, Adam Griffith	<a href="mailto:allgriff@yahoo.com">allgriff@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer, Lisa Powell	<a href="mailto:lisa@inoutsol.com">lisa@inoutsol.com</a>
Membership, Kelly Howell	<a href="mailto:sageme123@yahoo.com">sageme123@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary, Lori Jenkinson	<a href="mailto:lori@circlesdev.com">lori@circlesdev.com</a>
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Family Growth, Tiffany Mohr	<a href="mailto:tiffanymohr1@gmail.com">tiffanymohr1@gmail.com</a>
Social, Tiffany Condello	<a href="mailto:tiffanycondello@gmail.com">tiffanycondello@gmail.com</a>

### Summer Birthdays

- June 2 | Camilla Mohr
- June 8 | Cruz Perez
- June 18 | Cormac Powell
- June 29 | Sofia Bori
- July 5 | Ryder Wills
- July 26 | Antonio Cifuentes-Zombulavic
- Aug 9 | Harper Hyjek
- Aug 11 | Miles Parker
- Aug 22 | Bodhi Griffith
- Aug 22 | Anabelle Millsap



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# California Surf Lifesaving Association's Top Ten Beach and Ocean Safety Tips



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1. **Learn To Swim:** Learning to swim is the best defense against drowning. Teach children to swim at an early age. Children who are not taught when they are very young tend to avoid swim instruction as they age, probably due to embarrassment. Swimming instruction is a crucial step to protecting children from injury or death.
2. **Swim Near A Lifeguard:** USLA statistics over a ten year period show that the chance of drowning at a beach without lifeguard protection is almost five times as great as drowning at a beach with lifeguards. USLA has calculated the chance that a person will drown while attending a beach protected by USLA affiliated lifeguards at 1 in 18 million.
3. **Swim with a Buddy:** Many drownings involve single swimmers. When you swim with a buddy, if one of you has a problem, the other may be able to help, including signaling for assistance from others. At least have someone onshore watching you.
4. **Check with the Lifeguards:** Lifeguards work continually to identify hazards that might affect you. They can advise you on the safest place to swim, as well as places to avoid. They want you to have a safe day. Talk to them when you first arrive at the beach and ask them for their advice.
5. **Use Sunscreen & Drink Water:** Everyone loves a sunny day, but exposure to the sun affects your body. Without sunscreen, you can be seriously burned. The sun's rays can also cause life-long skin damage and skin cancer. To protect yourself always choose "broad spectrum" sunscreen rated from 15 to 50 SPF, or clothing that covers your skin, and reapply sunscreen regularly throughout the day. The sun can also dehydrate you quickly. Drink lots of water and avoid alcohol, which contributes to dehydration. Lifeguards treat people for heat exhaustion and heat stroke from time to time. If you feel ill, be sure to contact a lifeguard.
6. **Obey Posted Signs and Flags:** It sometimes seems as though there are too many signs, but the ones at the beach are intended to help keep you safe and inform you about local regulations. Read the signs when you first arrive and please follow their direction. Flags may be flown by lifeguards to advise of hazards and regulations that change from time to time. You can usually find informational signs explaining the meaning of the flags, or just ask the lifeguard.
7. **Keep the Beach and Water Clean:** Nobody likes to see the beach or water littered with trash. Even in places where beach cleaning services pick up trash daily, it may linger on the beach for hours, causing an unsightly mess and threatening the health of birds and animals. Do your part. Pick up after yourself and even others. Everyone will appreciate you for it.
8. **Learn Rip Current Safety:** USLA has found that some 80% of rescues by USLA affiliated lifeguards at ocean beaches are caused by rip currents. These currents are formed by surf and gravity, because once surf pushes water up the slope of the beach, gravity pulls it back. This can create concentrated rivers of water moving offshore. Some people mistakenly call this an undertow, but there is no undercurrent, just an offshore current. If you are caught in a rip current, don't fight it by trying to swim directly to shore. Instead, swim parallel to shore until you feel the current relax, then swim to shore. Most rip currents are narrow and a short swim parallel to shore will bring you to safety.
9. **Enter Water Feet First:** Serious, lifelong injuries, including paraplegia, occur every year due to diving headfirst into unknown water and striking the bottom. Bodysurfing can result in a serious neck injury when the swimmer's neck strikes the bottom. Check for depth and obstructions before diving, then go in feet first the first time; and use caution while bodysurfing, always extending a hand ahead of you.
10. **Wear A Life Jacket:** Some 80% of fatalities associated with boating accidents are from drowning. Most involve people who never expected to end up in the water, but fell overboard or ended up in the water when the boat sank. Children are particularly susceptible to this problem and in many states, children are required to be in life jackets whenever they are aboard boats.