



April 3, 2020

Notes from Ojai Valley School

Dear OVS families,

Normally, there would be a buzz of activity at the Lower Campus this afternoon with PK-2 students, all dressed in their finest clothes, greeting parents and grandparents for the traditional High Tea. We would be tightly gathered in the Greenberg Center, enjoying finger sandwiches and messy chocolate-dipped strawberries, all while practicing our best manners.

But these are not normal times.

The same holds true for the high school where, barring the interruption of the coronavirus pandemic, we would have held Prom last night. We want to assure you that we have not forgotten these OVS traditions, nor have we abandoned hope that we will still be able to hold other special events on the school calendar, including the late May graduation ceremonies. Some events may be held virtually, but we are determined to hold onto these traditions as best we can.

For now, we are sending a second round of parent surveys today and we encourage you to give us your continued feedback on distance learning. We have included a link below to Everest Mueller's introduction to mindfulness strategies. More of these online videos will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead

As we head into Spring Break, we encourage you to get outside during non-school week. Get your students away from their computer screens, and take time to relax and decompress. We've provided a list of healthy, engaging, and creative activities for students and families. They are all optional, but we hope you enjoy them. Now is a great time to tackle a range of creative hands-on projects, whether that's baking, drawing, writing, or making music.

On behalf of the entire faculty, we wish you an enjoyable break.

Best wishes,

Craig Floyd,
Head of School, Upper Campus

Gary Gartrell,
Head of School, Lower Campus



FUN SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES!

We have curated a list of creative Spring Break activities for students and families. These activities can be enjoyed by students of all ages. We hope you enjoy them! Please share your experiences with us through photos and videos of your family having fun participating.

Click the categories below. They are also posted on our [website](#).

[Maker Projects and Builds](#)

[Reading and Loving Words](#)

[Music and Dance](#)

[Arts](#)

[Woodshop Skills](#)

[Get Moving](#)

[Uncategorized Fun](#)

VIRTUAL ALL-SCHOOL

This week, the OVS faculty pets weigh in on how distance learning is impacting them. Plus, student recognition, art projects, another Mr. Street song, and a Flashback Friday to fall camping! Follow the link below or check [YouTube!](#)

[VIEW VIDEO](#)



A SPRING BREAK MESSAGE FROM THE UPPER FACULTY

As we head into Spring Break, the Upper Campus faculty have a few words of encouragement for our students! Check out their video on [YouTube!](#)

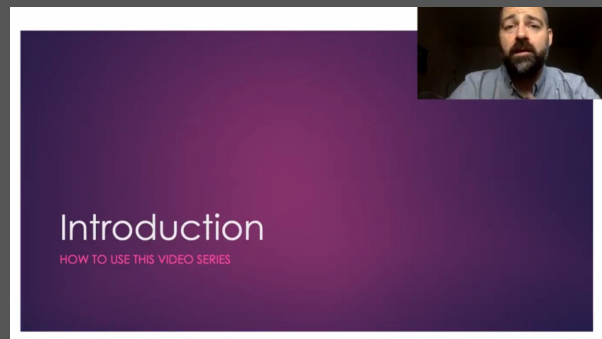
[VIEW VIDEO](#)



INTRO TO MINDFULNESS

Everest Mueller, PhD. debuts the first in a series of mindfulness videos to provide strategies for managing stress and anxiety. Everest is an accomplished educator who lives in Ojai and has led mindfulness workshops with our faculty. Please enjoy this introductory video.

[VIEW VIDEO](#)



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

This week our 25 seniors hit new heights with 151 acceptances from colleges around the nation! The list includes small liberal arts colleges and large universities, including Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, UC Berkeley, UCLA, Skidmore College, Colorado College, Pepperdine University, Boston College, Bard College, Reed College, and many more. In the coming weeks they will be committing to their schools of choice leading up to May 1 national college decision day. Way to go Class of 2020! [Click here](#) to view the list on the OVS website.

