



May 15, 2020

# Notes from Ojai Valley School

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Dear OVS Families,

We want to take a moment, at the close of Teacher Appreciation Week, to recognize our dedicated primary, elementary, middle and high school teachers whose hard work and perseverance in the transition to remote learning has been nothing short of extraordinary. It hasn't been easy.

Ojai Valley School's philosophy encourages students to explore their interests, solve problems, work with their hands, and exchange ideas in a supportive, collaborative setting. We continue to live this philosophy because we have educators who know how to engage students, to push them to their full potential and support them when it gets hard. They encourage discussion and discourse, and provide the nurturing often missing in other schools. All this is far harder to accomplish through a computer screen, but our teachers are making it work as best they can. We appreciate their patience and positivity, and we look forward to seeing them back on campus, working their magic in person, in the fall.

This week, some parents reached out with questions about the coming year in light of the announcement by the California State University system that college instruction would be taking place almost exclusively online in the fall. We want to emphasize that we are not a large university with thousands of students. We are a small, independent school with the ability to adapt quickly and modify our programs and facilities to meet the needs of our community. We shared the [Update on our Future Plans](#) last week, and if you missed it you can read it on our website. We will continue to communicate regularly as more details of our plans emerge, but we want to assure you that we are working hard to resume in-person classes while protecting the health and safety of our students and faculty.

As we approach the weekend, we encourage you to tune in tonight at 6 p.m. for [OVS Has Talent](#). The show will feature student performances and special guest judges during a live stream from the Lower Campus. Tomorrow, at 7 p.m. please watch the [Festival of Talent](#), featuring students and faculty at the Upper Campus.

We hope it brings a smile under your face masks. As always, feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. Have a great weekend.

Craig Floyd,  
Head of School, Upper Campus

Gary Gartrell,  
Head of School, Lower Campus

## SPRING TALENT SHOWS

Tune in for the live performances from our talented students! Follow the links below to watch on a computer or phone. If you want to watch on your television, you will need to download the Vimeo application on your smart TV or Apple TV. You can also follow the livestream on the [OVS Facebook Admissions page](#). If you miss the live shows, don't worry, we will send recordings next week.



[OVS Has Talent, Lower Campus, 6:00 p.m. Friday, May 15](#)  
[Festival of Talent, Upper Campus, 7:00 p.m. Saturday, May 16](#)

## WEB WORKOUTS

From online classes to online workouts, OVS teachers and faculty are doing all they can to keep students sharp mentally and physically throughout COVID-19. OVS soccer coach Paloma Sandoval has been leading online workout classes. Read more in a story by junior Bella Slosberg (L17).

[READ MORE](#)



## SHOP TALK

Last time we checked in with him, OVS woodshop teacher Ryan Lang made a surfboard out of agave. In this episode of Shop Talk, he takes on an 8th grade tradition: the skateboard! Since our "Ochos" can't be in the woodshop right now, Mr. Lang shows us how they would cut and shape these special pieces of wood to create their own custom boards.

[VIEW VIDEO](#)



## VIRTUAL ALL-SCHOOL

This week, our students send their warm wishes to their teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week. We also share a student recognition, a flashback Friday slideshow, and classroom spotlights for P.E. and Spanish.

Enjoy!

[VIEW VIDEO](#)

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Virtual All School  
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