



September 25, 2020

## Notes from Ojai Valley School

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Dear OVS Families,

Next week we begin to welcome students in grades 1-6 to the Lower Campus for the start of in-person classes. This return marks a significant milestone in our path to fully reopening, and we hope health conditions countywide continue to improve so that our middle and high school students can soon join us very soon.

We know for many parents the ability to bring their children back to school is a huge relief after nearly seven months of pandemic restrictions, and we are looking forward to seeing so many of our youngest children back on campus.

However, we feel it is important to express our understanding for the families that chose to keep their children home for continued remote learning. Each family has different dynamics that play into their personal decision and we want you to know that we support your choices and are here to support you! For those of you that work in the medical field, or have jobs that may put your child or others at risk, we thank you for thinking of our entire community by keeping your child home. For those living with loved ones at greater risk of COVID-19, we know this was not an easy choice and we truly understand your decision to do what is best for your family.

Thank you for being patient during this transition, especially as we flood your inboxes with information on safety protocols, health screenings, and new schedules. And thank you in advance for the patience we will continue to need going forward, especially in the classes where teachers will soon be balancing virtual and in-person instruction.

Since arriving in Ojai, I have been overwhelmed -- not by the challenges of the pandemic, but by the warmth and can-do spirit of the Ojai Valley School community. I look forward to the week ahead as we embark on this next step together.

Warm regards,

Laurie Clark,  
Head of School  
Lower Campus



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## Lower Campus Virtual All School

In the [Virtual All School video](#) this week, Mrs. Clark gives some important reminders before we welcome back students in grades 1-6 for in-person learning, Mr. Malkin shows us how teachers are getting creative while delivering lessons online, and Mr. Mahon introduces the candidates for Lower Campus Student Council. The campaign begins next week. Elections will take place on Friday, October 9.



In this week's video, Nayelli reminds Mr. Mahon about the health protocols while at school.

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## Diplomas Delayed

Accepting your high school diploma is a proud moment -- one our just-graduated seniors missed when their graduation ceremony moved online due to the coronavirus pandemic. This week, OVS President/CEO Mike Hall-Mounsey and Head of School Craig Floyd went door-to-door to present diplomas to members of the Class of 2020. It's a process that will continue in the weeks and months ahead as we catch up with members of the Class of 2020.



Sasha Valenzuela (L16, U20) gets her diploma.

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## College Counseling

Reminder Upper Campus students and families! College Reps are visiting virtually today and in the weeks ahead. Here is the line-up of visits:

- 9/25: Loyola Marymount University, 2 p.m.
- 10/5: American University of Paris, 11 a.m.
- 10/6: Chapman University, 9:30 a.m.
- 10/6: Denison University, 11 a.m.
- 10/7: Syracuse University, 8:30 a.m.
- 10/13: University of Findlay, 9:30 a.m.
- 11/10: Reed College, 10 a.m.

Contact [College Counselor Fred Alvarez](#) for details. Seniors are reminded to attend a



## Materials Pick-Up Day

Materials Pick-up will take place today from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Grades 1-4 will pick up at the East Entrance and Grades 5-8 will pick-up at the West Entrance. We have some important items headed your way:

1. Students will receive a new academic schedule. This will be printed and placed in your bag. It will also be posted electronically in the [Family Access Module](#).
2. Families in grades PK-6 will receive a Kinsa thermometer and instructions on how to set up a corresponding cell phone app that will enable parents to complete daily wellness checks from home and remotely share that information with our Health Center. Watch this [short video](#) to learn more about how Kinsa works.
3. Families will also receive a name card, to be displayed in your car, to identify the authorized driver for afternoon pick-up. Please arrange any car seats so your child can safely exit and enter the car on the passenger side. Thank you!

