

Marin YMCA Child Care

Novato NEWSLETTER

Session 1
August 20-29

Important Reminders

- California State Licensing requires that ALL children be signed in/out by their guardian every day.
- It is the parent's responsibility to call the child care site and inform them of your child's absence by the time he/she is to arrive in our care.
- We will not allow any child to leave with a family member or friend if they are not on the emergency pick up list or if we do not have a written letter from you. We will also ask for a photo I.D. of all visitors who will pick your child up.

Important Billing Information

The following applies to ALL families including agency subsidized billing.

Fees are due one month in advance, on the 20th of each month. A \$15 late fee will be charged to the next month's bill if not paid by the 20th. Any outstanding balances more than 5 days past due will result in your child automatically being dropped from the program. Outstanding balances may be sent to collections if not paid within 30 days.

If you have any questions regarding the billing calendar or your statements please call 415-446-2157.

Director's Maternity Leave

Dana McCune, Child Care Director, will be out on Maternity Leave at the end of August through the middle of January. If you need assistance while she is out, contact Kara Ghilotti, Youth & Teen Director, at 415-446-2134 or Mickey Pedersen, Associative Executive Director at 415-446-2108.

Bank Draft

There is still time for you to save on child care fees by signing up for bank draft, which begins on Session 3. Sessions 1 and 2 will be billed and need to be paid separately. Families on bank draft will not receive invoices once automatic payments start.

Phone Numbers

- Lisa Herrmann, Loma Verde (Facility #210108649) .. 883-2663
- Shyla Bauer, Pleasant Valley (Facility #214005036) ..892-7476
- Joy Lindeman, Rancho (Facility #210110154) 898-6061
- Trish Cross, San Ramon (Facility #210110153) 892-4849
- Dana McCune, Director..... 446-2140
- Marin Branch..... 492-9622

Dear YMCA Parents

It is time to put away the flip flops and open up the books. We are very excited about the 2008-2009 school year and hope everyone had a spectacular summer break. Many of our Child Care Sites have new staff that will bring in a bundle of energy and laughs. Along with the new fees, we will be providing a light breakfast every morning, guest speakers throughout the year, and exciting new clubs.

The YMCA takes the child care business very seriously and wants to make sure we are providing the best care for all the children. We simply can not do it without your support. Every year we ask for parents to be part of a parent advisory committee and every year we have not been very successful. This year we are asking again but trying something new. Parent surveys will be sent out in the beginning of October and each site will be holding a parent meeting to go over the results. With your input the Site Directors will be creating a chart of work to ensure we are fulfilling the needs of all of our families. Then we may ask you to be on a committee that will meet 5 times throughout the year or a sub committee to complete a task like a vegetable garden. Please be on the lookout for the Parent Night date.

Thanks for choosing the YMCA as your child care provider. We are honored to be trusted with your child/ren.

Dana McCune
Senior Child Care Director

Site Specific Information

Loma Verde

I would like to welcome all of you to another fun filled school year at Loma Verde YMCA. My name is Lisa Herrmann and I am the new Site Director. I previously worked as a teacher at the San Ramon site and I also worked at San Marin High School. I am grateful to work here with such a great staff.

Please give a warm welcome to our returning staff members: Amy, G, Nana and Tanya. They have been busy this summer. G, Nana and Tanya have been working at Rancho with the Summer Childcare. Outside of the YMCA, G walked for Breast Cancer Awareness, Nana played tourist around the bay with her friend from Puerto Rico, while Tanya and Amy have been enjoying their family time.

I would like to welcome Maria Paoli to our site. Maria was the Site Director at Rancho. She has decided to step down to the Lead Teacher position at Loma. She will be a great asset to our team. She is bilingual, very creative and has a big heart! Please come by and say hi!

For the month of August, we are planning great welcome back activities. We will remember the past summer and look forward to a great school year. On August 19th we will have an open house from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for those that have not enrolled their child yet. Please let your friends know to come on down.

Finally I would like to thank you for entrusting your most precious possessions with us at the YMCA. We strive to keep them safe while they enjoy their after school experience and are kept busy with activities.

The Loma Verde Staff

Rancho

Welcome back, Rancho families! I hope all of you had a relaxing and safe summer!

I would first like to introduce myself, my name is Joy Lindeman and I am very excited to be joining the YMCA family at Rancho. I am coming from the YMCA's Manor School site in Fairfax where I was site director for the past year. Prior to coming to the Marin YMCA, I worked for the Sonoma County Family YMCA for eight years. I earned my Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Sonoma State University. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and your children and to having a great year! I encourage all of you to express any ideas, comments or concerns you may have to me throughout the year.

We are all ready and ecstatic to jump start the year with fun and rewarding time together that includes a heap of games, crafts, sports, and clubs such as homework and cooking. We also will be implementing our core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility into our daily curriculum where kids can earn stars and redeem prizes.

Keep on the lookout as we are planning to have a few Kid's Night Outs throughout the year to raise money for our annual Campaign.

To ensure the quality and safety of our program, we ask that you call and inform us of any absences or changes to your child's daily schedule and that all play dates are arranged ahead of time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Sincerely Rancho Staff,

San Ramon

Welcome to San Ramon YMCA! We are looking forward to a wonderful year! We would like to create a safe and nurturing environment for our kids. In order to ensure their safety, we need your help to keep an accurate account of your child's emergency information and attendance, so please always contact us when your information changes or your child is absent. Stop by our Open House on August 19 from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

This year we are very fortunate to have all of last year's staff returning for another great year. However, we are losing Lisa Herrmann who will be the new Site Director at our Loma Verde site. Below is a brief introduction of the fantastic San Ramon team!

My name is Trish Cross and I have been the Site Director at San Ramon with the Marin YMCA for almost two years. I have a BA from Marshall University majoring in Child Development. I am a mother of two teenagers ages 16 and 18. My hobbies include photography, reading, and creative writing.

Josh Mills has been with us for almost two years. He's currently a student at SRJC where he is studying to be a Radiology Tech and is a graduate from Novato High. Josh is looking forward to planning some great sports and games for our fall program.

Karina Hamilton has been with us for a year and half and is also a student at SRJC where she is majoring in Child Development. Karina has a passion for teaching young children and would like to be a Kindergarten teacher someday.

Lourdes Sosa has been with the Marin YMCA at San Ramon and Rancho for a year. Lourdes was born in Puerto Rico where she completed her degree in Education. She has three kids who are all in college. She plans to continue with the Spanish club this year.

Linda Fredrick has been with us for a year. Linda has a BA in Education and enjoys working with the kids to help them respect each other and understand each other.

Haley Coffman has been with us for almost a year. Haley enjoys planning activities with the kids and looks forward to some great clubs for the fall. She is a great organizer and loves to keep our site looking great!

Please remind your kindergartner that we will pick them up on the green bench in front of the Kindergarten class rooms at 1:30 and first graders at the picnic tables near the playground at 2:50. Make sure your child's teacher knows he/she is a YMCA kid!

Thank you! The San Ramon YMCA staff

Pleasant Valley

The Pleasant Valley YMCA staff is anxiously awaiting an awesome August! We can't wait to meet the new families and we are planning many exciting activities. By popular demand, we will once again be offering two cooking clubs each week. We will also feature Volleyball, Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Outdoor Game, Fascinating Fact, Surprise, Sketch, Drama, Movie, Adventure, Discovery, Free Art, Karaoke, and Style Clubs throughout the month of August. We will change and continue clubs each month depending on interest.

We will keep Kinde Club open the first two weeks of school and hope to continue it through the school year, although we need a minimum of 8 full-time kindergartners to keep it going. We have two staff on duty for Kinde Club at all time and offer music, art, P.E., socialization, homework help, playtime, outdoor play, library time and story time. This program is available from 8:15 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 8:15 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. on Wednesday. Please sign up and tell all your friends to sign up so that we can keep Kinde Club going.

Most of the YMCA Pleasant Valley Staff is returning this year. B will once again be in charge of the Kinde Program. Michell Lancaster, a sophomore at UC Santa Barbara will be helping the first two weeks. Mike Witzel, a student at Sant Rosa Junior College will return to share his Fascinating Fact Club. Nate Willis, a student on the Santa Rosa Junior College Basketball Team will be running our Basketball Club. Nate and Mike will also be running other sports clubs. Denielle Whitaker is getting her Teaching Credential at Sonoma State and will run our Outdoor Sketch Club. Karil Federoff will continue to amaze the kids with her Adventure, Discovery, Surprise, Drama, and Karaoke Clubs.

Shyla Bauer will continue to be the Pleasant Valley YMCA Site Director and can't wait to see all the returning families again and meet the new ones.

See you soon!

B. Davison, Karil Federoff, Denielle, Whitaker, Mike Witzel, Nate Willis, and Shyla Bauer