



# Napa Valley Nursery School

A Parent Participation Nursery School  
Together, We're Better!  
Since 1950



## NVNS Alumni Newsletter

Fall 2011

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### Fall Frolic

**Sunday, October 16th  
Kennedy Park (by the play structure)**

Come one come all to celebrate Fall! Fall Frolic is a lovely way to keep in touch with alumni and gather current families for a fun-filled afternoon at the park. Bring a picnic for your family and park toys to share if you'd like!

### Dine and Donate

-  Tuesday, October 11th, Fazeratti's Pizza in Napa
-  Wednesday, October 26th, Villa Corona in Napa
-  Wednesday, November 16th, Gott's/(formerly known as Taylor's) in Napa

Eat dinner with NVNS alumni friends or take out, and Napa Valley Nursery School receives a percentage of the proceeds. All you have to do is eat! Keep a watch on our website for this year's dine and donate coupons and location information.

### Heading Back to School!

Yesterday was my last day working/playing in my own back yard before heading back to school as well. I could see and feel that it was time as I watched the leaves of my oak tree dance across my autumn yard. Just a few weeks ago I also caught a different glimpse of autumn as I saw happy children on bicycles at eight o'clock in the morning. They were sporting clean shirts and many new back packs as they headed off for new adventures.

I am thinking of you all who headed back to school a month ago! I hope you all had a fun, fresh beginning in your new schedules together. Our motto, Together We're Better, can continue to assist you as you grow in public school with teachers, parents and children. You will continue to make an impact on the lives of children and families. Happy Back to School!

NVNS has been busy preparing for our first days together. This year's board is implementing and growing our goals of "Simplifying and Solidifying" our school as a business.

Over my past 25 years at NVNS, our school has truly grown and evolved. It seems important to me that we all take time to make our "thumb print" in the world, a "mark" in the world/community that is uniquely yours. Just as I enjoy children's handprints, I say thank you to all of you for leaving yours at NVNS. As we are getting our little place and yard ready for healthy play-based learning, I have been seeing many of your "thumb prints" around our school ... new carpets, tree lofts, flooring, new kitchen, a new play yard, shade sails, and murals, just to name a few.

New "thumb prints" for you to come and see this year includes a beautiful new mural in our nature play space, and a great new water trough feature outside. Remember how much time we need to spend outdoors? Deanna Boustead's mural is Grandfather Twilight's door, living amongst the trees. Now we, too, can live amongst the trees with Grandfather Twilight. Come take a look and put that book,



## Fall Plate-Making Day

Wed. November 9th

12:00 - 4:00 p.m. at NVNS

Calling all current and alumni families: come make another plate, bowl or tray for family keepsakes or gift giving. Plates will be ready before the winter holiday break. Bowls and plates are still \$7.50 and trays are \$10.00. See you there!

## Have you heard? NVNS is on Facebook!

“Like” our FB page to spread the word about NVNS:



Check Out the NVNS Website:

- [Alumni Section](#)
- [Mz. Lori's Blog](#)

Grandfather Twilight, on your “must read” list!

I look forward to staying in touch with all of you and “watching” your children grow. We have many opportunities for reconnecting.

This year we will hold a [Fall Frolic](#) and a Spring Fling. These events are now a simple “bring your own picnic” gathering held at Kennedy Park. Some people will bring their own kites, balls and entertainment beyond the play structure. It’s just a beautiful time of year for a picnic and gathering for hugs and hellos with family.

Other ways to stay connected include:

-  [Parents' Nights Out](#)
-  [Fall Plate Making Day](#)
-  [November Town Hall: Dr. Louise Hart](#)

We will also have many [Dine and Donate](#) events as we are raising monies for tuition assistance. Watch for the announcement of these dates.

If we don't see you at any of these events, please find new ways to reconnect. I always appreciate your holiday picture cards as I have saved them through the years and I continue to watch your children grow.

Together We're Better!

Love, Mz. Lori



## FUNdraising at NVNS!

by *Holly Nuss (NVNS Fundraising Chair)*

Hello alumni! Well, it's finally happened. NVNS is running IN THE BLACK! Our 4-year plan to bring tuition up to support our budget has reached completion. As a result, we are re-focusing our fundraising efforts to be more in-line with our focus of Simplifying and Solidifying our school. This year's fundraising will focus on a much smaller effort that will allow our families to spend more time TOGETHER. In addition to our Parents' Night Out, Platmaking Days, and t-shirt sales, which consistently bring in around \$5000 per year, we will hold an **Instant Wine Cellar Auction** this Fall. There are two ways you can help. First, we are looking for **wine donations**. We are collecting bottles that are worth \$20 or more each. If you have a winery or connections we would love your help. You can drop off wine at NVNS or email me ([fundraising@nvns.org](mailto:fundraising@nvns.org)) and I can arrange for pick up. Don't forget your donations are tax deductible! The second way you can help is to **buy raffle tickets**. Tickets go on sale Oct 1 and are \$10 apiece. You can buy them from current families or email me and I can sell some to you. We'll hold our drawing at our December parent meeting—what a great way to ring in the holidays!



## Parents' Night Out, Friday, October 21!

We are continuing our fun evening of "night school" while parents have a night out! Along with 15 currently enrolled children, we offer 5 alumni spaces for these special evenings of play, stories, snacks, and time at NVNS with Mz. Lori. Cost is \$25.00 per child for the evening. 5:30-8:30pm. Children can eat dinner before or bring a sack dinner. We will serve an evening snack. Children must be out of diapers to attend this evening event. If you are interested, please send your name and number of children to our coordinator, Kristi at

[Kristileamer@yahoo.com](mailto:Kristileamer@yahoo.com). She will have a lottery draw for those that have entered and let you know if you have been selected. Future Parent Night Out days are Dec. 2nd, Jan. 20th, and April 20th. If interested, email Kristi no later than October 15th to get a spot!



## November Town Hall: Dr. Louise Hart Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2011, NVNS/First United Methodist Church

### No one wants to raise a bully!

Yet, without knowing it, parents may support such behavior. Widespread and common child-rearing practices are linked to the development of bullying:

- General permissiveness
- Lack of clear limits
- Use of aggression to resolve conflicts
- Negativity on the part of the primary caretaker.

Many parents don't know how to reinforce positive behavior and redirect unacceptable behavior. This workshop will teach them a leadership style that builds pro-social skills, develops character, and prevents anti-social and other risky behaviors.

**Positive parenting is an antidote to bullying!** This win-win approach is best introduced when children are young — so problems don't develop later on.

**Dr. Louise Hart** teaches positive parenting techniques based on the best practices of psychologists and educators. She is the author of two books for adults, and co-publisher of two international bestselling children's books, *Liking Myself*, and *The Mouse, the Monster and Me*.

