

**CARPINTERIA
CHILDREN'S PROJECT**
**PROYECTO DE NIÑOS
DE CARPINTERIA**

MILESTONES & MOMENTUM



August 2026 Newsletter

Dear Friend,

If your summer has looked like one long relay of drop-offs, forgotten water bottles, remembering to reapply sunscreen, and pickup lines that somehow always run five minutes late—you are in very good company around here.

Summer can be chaotic. But it can also be when a lot of growth happens.

This month at CCP, we watched two groups cross a finish line at the same time: our youngest learners, wrapping up their first years of school, and their parents, finishing classes that gave them new tools for the years ahead. Both are worth celebrating, and both are what this issue is about.

Here's what's inside: our preschool and parent graduations, a few tips for the new school year, a sweet surprise from some of our youngest supporters, and a little bit about what's coming next for CCP.

Thank you for being part of the community that makes all of this possible!

With gratitude,
Teresa Alvarez
Executive Director

CELEBRATING OUR YOUNGEST GRADUATES



On July 23, we celebrated our preschool graduates with big cheers from proud families and friends, lots of song, and plenty of smiles.

Graduation is a sweet milestone, but it also marks how much growth happens in these early years. Our graduates leave CCP having practiced how to make friends, work through big feelings, ask questions, explore new ideas, and build confidence in themselves as learners.

These are the skills and relationships that help prepare children for kindergarten—and give them a strong foundation for everything that comes next.

[Watch the Graduation Highlights](#)

GROWING ALONGSIDE OUR KIDS



The day before our preschool graduation, we celebrated another group that spent the year learning: CCP parents.

More than 50 parents completed one of CCP's parenting programs this year, including our bilingual literacy class, two Parenting Skills Workshop cohorts, and Connected Couples. About 20 parents joined us for an end-of-year celebration, where Carpinteria Mayor Natalia Alarcon recognized their commitment.

But parents told us the value of these classes went beyond learning new strategies.

They found other parents who understood the endless questions that come with raising kids. They swapped ideas, talked honestly about what was working (and what wasn't) and realized they weren't the only ones navigating tantrums, bedtime battles, communication, and all the uncertainty that comes with parenting.

That sense of connection and community matters. Parents leave with practical tools, but they also leave knowing they have people they can learn from and turn to.

As one CCP staff member put it: "At first, some parents aren't sure they want to be there. By the end, they're the ones asking when the next class starts."



A SWEET SHOW OF SUPPORT



This summer, two young community members gave a classic lemonade stand a little extra purpose by donating the proceeds to CCP's Helping Hands Fund.

We love seeing the next generation finding their own ways to give back!

Their gift was a sweet reminder that community building starts young, and that every act of generosity helps strengthen Carpinteria families.

READY FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

A new school year can bring excitement, nerves, and a big change in routine. A few simple things can make the transition easier:

1. **Start shifting routines now.** Move bedtime and wake-up time a little closer to the school-year schedule before the first day.
2. **Talk about what will happen.** Walk your child through the basics: who will drop them off, where they'll go, who will pick them up, and what happens after school.
3. **Let them have some ownership.** Choosing a backpack, outfit, lunch item, or other small part of the routine can make a new experience feel more familiar.
4. **Make room for mixed feelings.** Kids can be excited and nervous at the same time. Let them ask questions, even if the biggest concern is which cubby they'll get.
5. **Keep goodbyes simple and consistent.** A predictable hug, phrase, or routine can help children know what to expect and build confidence over time.

Back-to-school readiness isn't only about supplies. Feeling prepared, connected, and supported makes a difference, too.

Know a family getting ready for the first day? Forward these tips to them.

VISIT CCP: NEXT TOUR

We'd love to welcome you to campus for an upcoming community tour on September 10th at 10 AM!

Visitors will have the chance to explore our classrooms and outdoor spaces, learn more about our programs, and hear how CCP continues responding to the needs of local children and families.

September 10th | 10 AM | Carpinteria Children's Project
5201 8th Street, Carpinteria, CA 93013

Reserve Your Spot

WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR CAMPUS

We've been working toward a longtime dream for CCP:
*expanding our outdoor spaces to create more opportunities for children
to learn, explore, and grow outdoors.*

We've witnessed just how much children benefit from time outside, and thanks to early supporters, that vision is getting closer.

We're excited to invite the wider community into what comes next and to create something that will benefit CCP children for years to come.

Keep an eye on your inbox next week!

Our Contact Information

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