

# TLC Newsletter\_ *July* 2022

Dear all,

We hope you have had a lovely break, enjoying family and lots of rest and are ready for the new year 2022-2023. Although this is a long letter, please take the time to read it to the end, so that you don't miss any information for the new term.

We start the new year on **Monday 11th July 2022 with a Work Day in Base Camp from 9:00 - 13.30** for all children, parents and facilitators. At 11:30 we will have our first TLC community gathering followed by lunch.




This community gathering will focus on our TLC TEAMS and you will have an opportunity to hear about the different teams, their current needs and to sign up for one of the teams for this year. Remember, all parents are requested to contribute a minimum of 2 hours per week to their chosen team.

If you have an additional topic for **Community Gathering** please send an SMS to Mrinalini. If time permits, we will include these topics, if not, they will be kept for the next community gathering. Remember that it is your individual responsibility to bring all concerns or questions to the community gathering. Issues should be addressed right away in this forum. It is the time/place to share through open communication, to gain clarity, find solutions and build understanding, thereby co-creating a harmonious community for us all.

Regarding the children's schedules for this term, they will begin to plan these with their mentors on Tuesday 12th July. We will send the link for the new schedules later next week.. For the first week, July 11-15, please see the schedule below:

Monday 11	Tuesday 12	Wednesday 13	Thursday 14	Friday 15
Base Camp 9:00	Base Camp	Base Camp	Srima pool	no TLC activities this week on Friday
<b>WORKDAY all TLC community: parents, children &amp; facilitators</b>	8:30 to 9:00 arrive	8:30 to 9:00 arrive	leave from BC at 8:30	
11.30 Community Gathering (CG) parents & facilitators	Circle for beginning together: new children and summer sharing (facilitators and children)	Planning: map all activities and sharing	* bring all things needed for pool and a healthy snack	
	snack	snack		
	CG: TLC agreements - facilitators & children	Individual planning: lotus diagram and new week		
12:30 lunch together	12:30 lunch	12:30 lunch	12:30 lunch	
13:30 pick up or cycle home	13:30 pick up or cycle home	13:30 pick up or cycle home	13:30 pick up or cycle home	

For any concerns, doubts, emerging situations and help regarding your child, please remember to always connect and communicate with your child's mentor. Each child has an [individual mentor](#), please read the document "*Mentors in TLC*" here [Mentors TLC](#).

Children Age 5 - 14							
Mentor	Co-mentor	No.	Name of Child	Date of Birth	M/F		
	Tamar	Mrinalini	1	Chandni Mckenzie	10/04/2008	F	
	Tamar	Mrinalini	2	Yann	10/05/2008	M	
	Mrinalini	Tamar	3	Lea Park	19/05/2009	F	
	Mrinalini	Tamar	4	Manu Budin	06/09/2010	M	TOS
	Tamar	Hoad	5	Kavi Colomba	26/09/2010	M	
	Tamar	Mira	6	Atisha Sekar	22/08/2010	F	
	Tamar	Mrinalini	7	Gautier	17/03/2010	M	
	Mrinalini	Mira	8	Sophia Azoulay	25/01/2011	F	
	Mrinalini	Tamar	9	Iam Danenberg	12/04/2012	M	
	Mira	Sara	10	Goni Eshal	02/12/2012	F	
	Mira	Sara	11	Mila Sekuloska	03/04/2012	F	TOS
	Mira	Sara	12	Chakor McKenzie	10/04/2012	M	
	Mira	Sara	13	Lukas Winkler	22/03/2013	M	
	Sara	Mira	14	Seulon Kim	18/07/2013	M	TOS
	Sara	Mira	15	Kalina Sekuloska	13/09/2014	F	TOS
	Sara	Mira	16	Avigail Cohen-Khallas	22/04/14	F	
	Sara	Mira	17	Roni Cohen-Khallas		F	
	Mira	Sara	18	Una	02/08/2016	F	
	Sara	Mira	19	Nora	04/03/2016	F	

## Comings and goings

### Families

We would like to warmly welcome the following new families to TLC!

#### Joining the Nursery:

Roo, Lauren, Raj

Nayan, Inès, Deepak

Hillel to join the rest of the family Roni, Avigail, Amos & Osnat

Zadig, Fleur, Vijay

Solar, Ximena, Francisco

Mae, sister Noa, Helena, Antonello

Ananda, to join the rest of the family Lukas, Michael & Sarah

River, Georgia, Samrat, welcome back to Samrat for a second time in TLC.

Leela, Mathilde, Andres

Sienna and Valentina

Aiden, Olga and Shivaji

### **Joining TLC's older group:**

Una, Krishna and Island.

Norah, Nasim and Roberto

Yann, Gautier, Thomas, Annick

### **Facilitators**

We have several changes in our adult facilitation team for the coming year.

Maya will no longer be a main facilitator and mentor, as she will be taking time during the coming years to deepen her work with research on Integral Education. She will continue to support the older children in Math, be involved in the nursery group and hold the communication around new admissions.

Mrinalini will take a more active role with facilitation and mentoring.

We would like to welcome Nilima who will be the main facilitator for the nursery and part of the co-education parent program team.

We welcome Deepak who will join as a facilitator for the older children.

We welcome Thamu who will be joining as a facilitator for the Nursery group.

We welcome Aravind who will join our Campus Love team to hold campus maintenance, support the children during service time, and organize the workdays.

We welcome Eswari who will support the kids in the magazine headquarters, with computer related work, both in regards to the children's learning as well as with technical aspects and maintenance of the space and equipment.

Thomas will be volunteering with TLC this year, in the Seed to Plate project, focusing on the setting up and running of the Dew Drop Inn. He is a professional baker, offering his passion to the community.

Alex will also help to organize and participate in the Dew Drop Inn with his knowledge in running restaurants in Italy and working with children.

Also in the Seed to the Plate project, we have Adele volunteering with us, mainly for gardening and supporting children to visit the Auroville farms.

### **Goings**

We wish Leonor, Clara, Ananda and Raphael all the best as they return to France to settle back in their lives there.

Maisie will continue her learning journey in Deepanam, but we hope to see her regularly at our open spaces and Friday potluck lunch. Amy will continue as part of the TLC team, responsible for our finances.

Celestin has decided not to continue in TLC, we wish him the best.

Mohini has moved on to Last School.

### Coming later:

Manu is currently in Italy, planning to return and join us again in September.

Seulon, Miya and Joon are extending their visas in Korea and we hope to see them back soon.

Kalina, Mila, Sashka and Petar will be out during the first term visiting their family, to return in September.

Margherita, Btoo and Nadir are still waiting for their visa. For the moment they are settling in Italy, we deeply hope that they can come back soon.

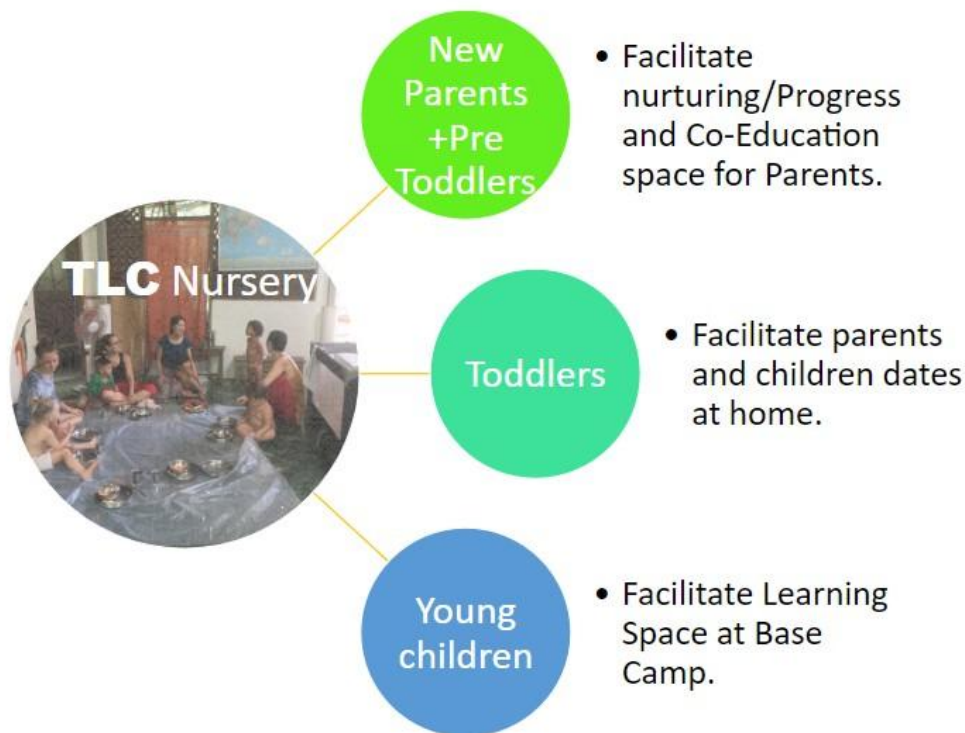
Omid is in Iran, also awaiting his visa and we look forward to his return as soon as possible.

There are several additional families who have asked to join TLC and have gone through the initial admissions process through the School Board. However they still have not received their visas. We are unsure as to when they will arrive but we hope to welcome them soon!

## TLC Nursery - How we nurture and care for our seedlings



After over five years of efforts to start the Nursery, we have finally received SAIER's approval. As the permission to go ahead with the project came very late, we will continue to run as a "parent group" for the first year, without funding from SAIER, but now as an official part of TLC. This means that, for this year 2022-23, we will welcome all present families regardless of AV status, while from the year 2023-2024 all will need to go through the regular Auroville school admission process and fees. This will give the families who are not Aurovilian/Newcomer/living in Auroville time to organize themselves if they wish to continue long term in TLC. During this year we will not add any additional new families who are not Aurovilian/newcomer/volunteers to the Nursery. Nilima and Thamu will be the main facilitators, together with some parents on a rotating schedule. The Nursery will have three different areas of work, with focus on both co-education of parents and facilitators, as well as a pedagogical learning environments and activities meeting the different needs of children/parents.



## Destination Summerhill

At the start of the lockdown we watched some educational movies with the older children, to give inspiration in decision making processes and the community gatherings facilitated by the children. We had already watched the Summerhill film with the children the year before for the same purpose.

Soon after this we heard that Summerhill, which is a very famous school, known as being the first democratic school, offering inspiration to many other schools, was organizing a festival to celebrate 100 years since its founding. The festival was not directed only at celebrating Summerhill, but also focussing on alternative, child-centered and self- directed learning. It will bring together educators and children from all different educational backgrounds from around the world, like Democratic education, Integral education, Montessori education and many more, to celebrate Childhood.

Some of the older children set their minds on participating in The Festival of Childhood at Summerhill in the UK, 5-10 August 2022. They have spent a year fundraising in many different ways, through AVI's, crowdfunding, organizing events, writing funding proposals, meetings with the festival organizers, and much much more. And through their determination and very hard work, they managed to fundraise the money for flight tickets.

They will be in the UK for two weeks, camping, participating in the festival, where they will show the TLC film and hold a presentation, and then a few days in London visiting museums before heading back.

This project is the amazing outcome of self-directed and self-motivated learning in practice.

If you would like to contribute with what you can, they can still use more funds for food and travel inside the UK! Please also share their crowdfunding link with your family and friends around the world.

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/destination-summerhill-part-2/x/28522369#/>

People inside Auroville can donate using account number 252864. Thank you for your support!

## TEACHER TRAINING

Sara has applied for a one-year blended Montessori Elementary program.

It's an online program for working teachers, so our kids will get to take part in the journey with her. The training builds an understanding of the whole child in the age group 6-12 years old. It covers many areas, like language, mathematics, botany, geography, history, zoology and more, through hands-on and experiential learning.

Sara is very happy and inspired to learn more and she feels that this will help her to feel more secure and creative with the work that she is already doing with the kids.

All she learns will go directly to inspire our kids and enrich our program.

We would like to call out to all of us in our learning community, to come together in a fundraising effort to help cover the costs for this training for Sara!

The total cost of the course is: 107,660

Plus 10 days residential in December or May

So far Sara has raised:

From TLC - rs 30000

From PCG - rs 40000

She is still missing rs 37,660 to cover the course fees.

The 10 days residential she will cover by herself.

We would like to reach out and request of our TLC families, or your wider circles, to contribute anything you can, to cover the final amount. Ac number 5802

## Dew Drop Inn

This new term we really want to open the new Dew Drop Inn, first to TLC families, and later to the Auroville community - as a morning cafe and community kitchen with lunch scheme.

The kids involved are very interested in making a menu, cooking in the new kitchen and serving the customers but before this is possible, we need first to complete creating the physical space.

We still need to clean the walls and finish painting. Hopefully on workday we will engage many adults and kids in some jobs that need to be done to get ready for the new restaurant. Also the garden area around and the arrangement of the furniture needs help for more beauty and care.

## Vegetable gardens

From July we are ready to restart our vegetable garden and all the kids can be involved in the project "from seed to the plate". At the end of last year we had individual gardens and kids enjoyed a lot to see all the growth steps of the development of plants. We want to continue this year and also have more beds for community vegetable gardens. We will learn many things from our Nature 'teacher' and observation is the best quality we need to connect with her and inside of us. Adele with Mira will help to support the children to be involved in this activity and create a continuity with the "seed to the plate" project.



## Activities

### Baking English

When we move the kitchen into the new restaurant space we will also be able to restart the “Baking English” sessions in the old kitchen, which will be set up as the bakery. Kids who wish, and who have reached competency in reading and writing skills and independence in Baking and caring for the space, will be eligible to participate in these sessions. Through “Baking English” the kids explore various aspects of the English language, like grammar, creative writing, research topics, handwriting skills etc, using the recipe of the day as the basis for this exploration.

### Electronics

Chris will offer a space for electronics experimentations and projects in base camp on Thursdays from 2:30-3:30

### Remember Pencil Cases!

Each child needs to have a proper pencil case. The pencil cases are kept in Base camp. Your child's pencil case should be ready at the start of the term and contain:

- Several new pencils (old ones can get dry and hard to sharpen)
- A good pencil sharpener (marked with your child's name)
- Scissors (marked with your child's name)
- Color pencils in all colours (also new so that they can sharpen easily)
- Eraser
- Ruler (marked with your child's name)
- Glue (marked with your child's name)



## Trips

In TLC trips are an integral part of a learning process that values the educational benefits that children derive from such an experience.

This year Tamar, supported by Ohad, will hold the trips project.

They will work with the older children one morning a week to develop all aspects of this multi-disciplinary project, which will include planning of our short, medium and long trips in all their aspects (locations, research, budgeting, fundraising, actualisation and implementation...etc). While the older children will be the 'holding group' for this project, children of all ages will be involved and included in all aspects of the project, according to interest and capacity. We look forward to many wonderful adventures together this year.



## To remember for Base Camp

The children are welcome to arrive between 8.30-9.00 and settle in with their work.

All children need to have arrived before 9 am.

Remember that morning is a quiet zone in Base Camp, and adults and children on campus need to keep in mind to speak softly as others will be engaged in focused work. The day ends at 13:00 for the Nursery children and 13:30 for the older children. All children are expected to remain in Base Camp until this time. For the Nursery children the moment after lunch is needed to close the day together in a quiet way before their afternoon rest. For the older children playtime and socializing after lunch is an important part of the morning - enabling the kids to deepen their connections with others and to allow the many vital expressions of their beings to emerge during play. After 13:30 children will have individual schedules, depending on their sports activities, individual nourishment sessions and others.

These schedules will be finalized in the first week or two, after we begin.

We encourage all older children to cycle to Base Camp, please support your child in this.

## Monthly parent contribution

Please remember to set up your monthly parent contribution.

For older group children, parents contribute rs 500/month for one child in TLC, rs 750/month for two children, and rs 1000/month for three children. This goes to a common pot to cover common expenses during the year, such as trips. (Only Aurovilian parents contribute as this is included in the student fees that newcomer and guest parents pay).

The parents of Nursery children contribute the same as above. This goes to cover facilitator maintenance and other expenses.

The contributions for the older group should be made through an automatic monthly transfer to FS [account nr 103229](#)

A new account will be set up for nursery contributions. We will inform you of the number asap.

**Please set up your automatic monthly transfer asap** so that the finance team does not have to have the task of following up on individual parents payments, as this becomes extra unnecessary work. Thank you!

## Communication guidelines

Our main guideline for whatsapp groups is that **we only share short messages** about everyday things that need to be communicated. If there is a need for a response it can be done as PM/DM (private/direct message). We **don't answer with emojis or short comments** that are not necessary for all. If this is not followed the whatsapp groups get overloaded with messages and we don't pay the same attention to them. Important messages can be missed.

For anything that needs deeper discussion or is of a sensitive nature, we meet to talk. We never use whatsapp or email for this. **Contact the mentor or a member of the aspiration team to book a meeting.**

**We don't use voice messaging** as it requires a lot more time from the receiver, and also there is no way of knowing the nature of the content beforehand. Therefore voice messages require to be listened to in private. Most of the facilitators have children around at home, or live with other people, which makes it difficult with confidentiality and privacy in regards to content shared if parents communicate with voice messaging.

We have four whatsapp groups:

- **TLC integral learning** - for sharing of practical information for “older children” (not nursery), our newsletters, questions to all etc. All parents and facilitators need to be a part of this group as there can be important info shared regarding practical functioning. This group should only be used for messages relevant to all the children (or the majority) - it is NOT for messages pertaining to individual children. Please message your child's mentor or the relevant facilitator in these instances.
- **TLC nursery** - a group for sharing of nursery activities, our newsletters, questions to all etc. All parents and facilitators need to be a part of this group as there can be important info shared regarding practical functioning.
- **TLC photo moments** where we share photos of the kids, quotes, reading material, invitations to events in av and other stuff to share with all. Please keep your sharings positive! (People can silence this group if it gets too much for them) People no longer in TLC are welcome to stay in this group to stay connected.
- **Team WhatsApp groups** to discuss week/monthly work that needs to be done. Depending on which team and task you will choose to participate in, you will then be automatically added to the relevant group.

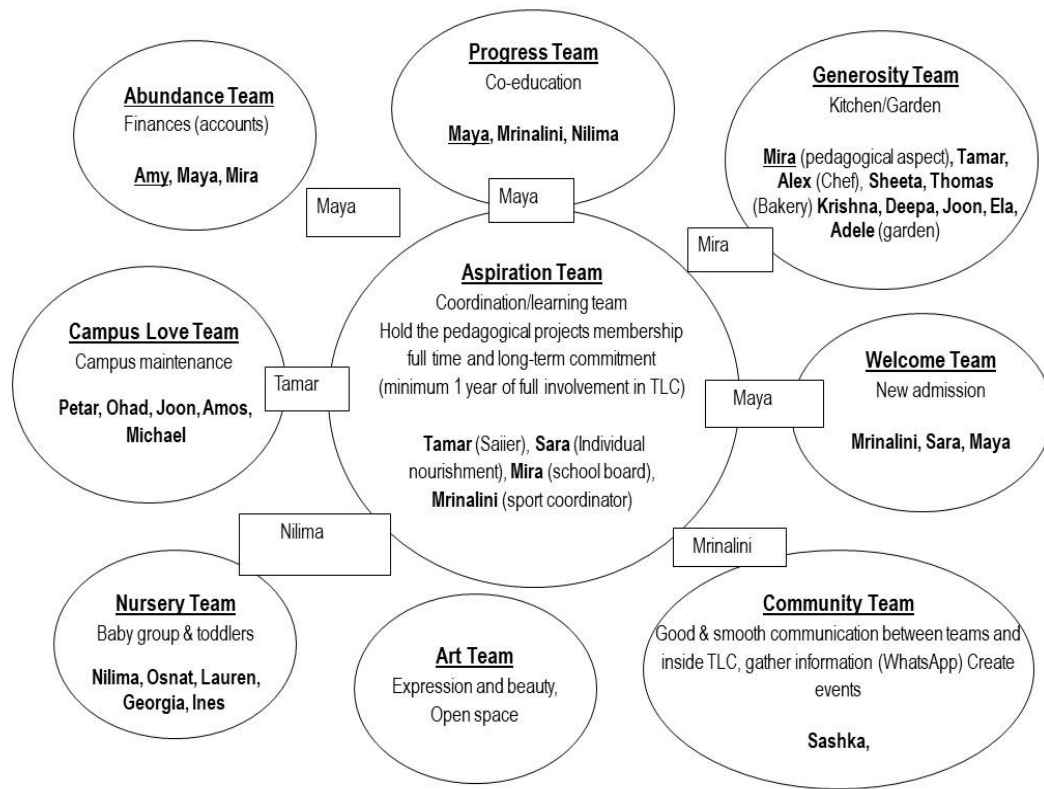
We have an all-TLC email where we mainly send newsletters, schedules etc. It is not used so often. Please remember to inform the community team if you change your email.

Thank you for taking care of all by following these guidelines.

## Teams and Tasks

Please see the attached file showing the overview of the work in our teams. This was the teams document from last year and it will be amended after all parents have signed up for their teams this year. The document should be regularly updated by each team with their ongoing work, and with the names and timelines of the tasks. Remember that each parent needs to contribute at least **2 hours per week** in the teams, and it's your individual **responsibility** to sign up for this work in your team. If you are unsure of what you can do, ask your team coordinator. If you do not contribute your 2 hours the workload will be more for others. Joining TLC you have committed to fit this into your weekly schedule.

**More about this will be shared in the Community Gathering during work day.**



If you would like to take a look at the teams and tasks document from last year, and the type of work done by each team, please [click here](#)

## Community events for your calendar

- **ALL TLC Co education gathering** - We would like to organise co-education sessions during the year, a time for all adults to come together deepening in a chosen aspect of Integral Education. More information and dates will come soon, please make every effort to join.
- **Meetings within your Team** - these are scheduled by each team and will be finalised after the teams are in place for this year.
- **Workdays** Monday July 11th, Monday August 1st, Thursday September 1st are the workdays for the first term. Remember that **all parents are expected to be there**, and the **kitchen team will prepare lunch for everyone**. If you for some reason are not able to participate you need to inform them beforehand and check for a work task to do at another time of your convenience in the week of the workday.  
We look forward to a great start working together!

If a parent needs to be temporarily relieved of their TLC responsibilities (team participation, workdays etc), this has to be shared with the community at the CG. Joining TLC means making time to be a part and prioritizing this unless there are very special temporary circumstances that then are shared and agreed upon in the all TLC community gathering. It is very important that everyone is aware if a family is not able to participate, to keep the engagement and positive energy in the community. If you have any issues regarding your community participation, share this with the community team who will help you bring the topic to the community gathering.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this. We look forward to another beautiful year of living and learning together with ourselves and our children, growing in the implementation of the Principles of Integration in our lives, and deepening in the knowledge of beings, inner and outer.

Thank you for dreaming with us...



With love, gratitude and joy  
Aspiration team  
(Tamar, Sara, Mira, & Mrinalini)  
Community team  
(Sashka)