

Hari Om and Salutations to the Chinmaya Family!

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Welcome to the 2020-2021 Chinmaya Bala Vihar/Yuva Kendra school year.

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## **What's new for 2020-21**

1. All classes will be online for the entire school year. CMSJ has standardized on Webex as the platform to conduct all classes. Please read this to get ready for classes: <https://www.cmsj.org/webex-information/>
  - The schedule is still listed by location for administrative purposes (Fremont, San Jose, San Mateo and San Ramon as primary locations). However, students from any location, including Berkeley, can choose any Bala Vihar schedule that works best for them.
  - A global class schedule across all locations is published here: <https://www.cmsj.org/bala-vihar/#schedule>. Please consult this to determine the set of classes that works best for your children. It is possible to take a Bala Vihar class offered from one location-schedule along with optional classes from other schedules.
  - Once you have determined the schedule/"location" of the classes, please proceed to the registration process
2. Bala Vihar textbooks and Hindi language books can be purchased online at <https://bookstore.cmsj.org/collections/bala-vihar-text-books-1> Please choose the pickup location when placing your order. The CMSJ Bookstore team will contact you with a pickup time window.
3. In consideration of economic hardships related to COVID-19, we are making a one-time reduction of the annual membership fee for 2020-21. Our community has always supported us well, and we are reducing our fees this year to support our community. The fee has been reduced to \$450 for this year. The annual fee for a class e.g. Bala Vihar or Hindi, stays at \$35 per child per class for the entire

year. We expect we will increase our fees again only in 2021-22, provided economic conditions improve. Please reach out privately to the Bala Vihar coordinator of the location closest to you if you have any circumstances that need financial accommodation.

4. Only parents or legal guardians can register a child e.g. you cannot register your niece or nephew or a family friend. This has always been the policy, but this year this will be enforced more strictly. You may be asked to provide documentation in case there are questions about registration. Refer to the [Chinmaya Mission San Jose Bala Vihar Terms and Conditions](#) for more details.
5. The change fee of \$35 per change is waived till Oct 31st, 2020. You can do this yourself. Instructions are in this document – follow steps here: [Changes to Registration](#)
6. These classes are no longer offered in 2020-21:
  - Cognitive Math under the San Ramon schedule.
  - Hindi language classes on Saturday mornings under the Fremont schedule.
  - Kannada language classes under the Fremont schedule
7. Yoga classes are now offered Saturday morning under the Fremont schedule.
8. Live discourses for adults: We are blessed to have a resident spiritual teacher at CMSJ, [Brahmachari Soham Chaitanya](#). Soham ji will conduct live discourses for adults Saturday and Sunday mornings. As always adult classes are free and open to all. See [Discourses](#) for more details.
9. Please send an email to [helpdesk@cmsj.org](mailto:helpdesk@cmsj.org) if you have any questions regarding Bala Vihar and other children's classes.

## Class Details

**Note that all classes are not offered in all time slots - please check the global schedule Also ensure that your child is enrolled in the right grade level - matching school grade.**

1. **Shishu Vihar ( Bala Vihar for PreKG):** a parent-and-toddler style class for 3 and 4 year olds. Children attend with their parents and get familiar with basic concepts in Hinduism (gods and their characteristics, names of holidays) in a fun and engaging way through songs, stories, arts and crafts appropriate to their age and development. Swamini Supriyananda (a child psychologist before she turned to the Vedantic path) conceptualized Shishu Vihar and first implemented it in Hong Kong years ago. She has trained all of CMSJ's Shishu Vihar teachers in the style and preparatory materials for this class. If you have any further

questions, please reach out to the Bala Vihar/Shishu Vihar co-ordinator for your location.

2. **Bala Vihar (Grades KG-12):** follows the student's grade level in school. The Chinmaya Bala Vihar curriculum can be found here: [Chinmaya Bala Vihar Curriculum](#)
3. **Geeta Chanting:** classes have these levels:
  - a. L1 - (Grades KG-3) Learning to read and less than 2 years learning chanting
  - b. L2 - (All Grades/Adults) - Able to read transliteration and less than 3 years of learning chanting
  - c. L3 - (All Grades/Adults) - Able to read transliteration or Devanagari and 3-5 years of learning chanting
  - d. L4 - (All Grades/Adults) - More than 5 years of learning chanting
4. **Swaranjali:** This is our bhajan group - classes are offered only once a week per schedule.
5. **Cognitive Math** (formerly known as Vedic Math) is offered in six levels: Level 1 thru 6
  - a. Level 1 thru 5 is for students in the corresponding grade in school only
  - b. Level 6 is for students in Grade 6 thru 8
  - There are no Cognitive Math classes for KG students or students in Grade 9 and above.
6. **Yoga Beginner in San Jose:** This is available only for 5th grade and above
7. **Hindi:** Please follow this guide while selecting the level for your child(ren): [Hindi Curriculum](#)

## Registration Process

1. Chinmaya Bala Vihar registration is only available online at <https://www.cmsj.org/cmsj-event-registration/?eventID=1020>.
2. Schedule: Please check the schedule <https://www.cmsj.org/bala-vihar/#schedule> before proceeding further.
3. Fee structure: There is a \$450 annual family membership (from September thru August). The membership is tax-deductible as allowed by law. In addition, there is a nominal annual fee of \$35 per class per child which is not tax deductible. Please consult your tax adviser for any tax implications. **NOTE: if you want to use a Donor-Advised Fund or matching donations from your employer, only the membership fee of \$450 can be paid in this manner.** Please see the detailed instructions at [Paying Membership fees from a 3rd party](#)
4. Please note that Chinmaya Bala Vihar is a required prerequisite for all classes, including language, other special classes such as Geeta Chanting, Swaranjali, Vedic Math, and Vedic Chanting.

5. Only parents or legal guardians can register a child e.g. you cannot register your niece or nephew or a family friend.
6. **If you are a returning parent and had registered last year:**
  - a. Familiarize yourself with the schedule of available classes (see step 2 above)
  - b. Login at [Your Profile](#) using the login id you had created last year
  - c. **If you are having trouble logging in, refer to this document for help:** [Trouble Logging In ?](#)
  - d. Register using [Registration Link](#)
  - e. After a few minutes, you will receive an email confirmation and you can also check the registration summary at [Transaction Summary](#)
7. **If you are a new parent registering for the first time,**
  - a. Familiarize yourself with the schedule of available classes (see step 2 above)
  - b. Create a new account at [Your Profile](#) and clicking on “Create Profile”.
  - c. Register using [Registration Link](#)
  - d. After a few minutes, you will receive an email confirmation and you can also check the registration summary at [Transaction Summary](#)
8. **Payment:** We only accept online payment methods (credit card or Paypal). If you are having trouble with PayPal payments, send email to [reg@cmsj.org](mailto:reg@cmsj.org).

## Changes to registration

1. Parents can perform the following changes themselves:
  - a. Add Class(es) to existing registration. NOTE: You will need to pay the appropriate additional fees (\$35 annual fee per class per child).
  - b. Change Class for an existing registration. You can change the class either to a different day/time or to another class e.g. Geeta Chanting from Sunday to Saturday or to a language. You can only change one class at a time. NOTE: There is a \$35 change fee. **The change fee is waived till Oct 31st, 2020 .**
  - c. Add Child(ren) to existing registration.

This functionality can be accessed from the Chinmaya Bala Vihar registration summary at [Transaction Summary](#) after completing the initial registration.

2. To modify an existing registration
  - a. Login at [Your Profile](#) using the login id
  - b. Go to registration summary at [Transaction Summary](#)
  - c. On this page you can add another child from your immediate family to the registration, register for another class or change an existing class (as shown in the picture below)



## Bala Vihar Summary

2017-2018 REGISTRATION DETAILS FOR YOUR CHILD(REN).

**Add Class**

Use this to Add another Class for this child

| LOCATION | DAY    | TIME SLOT         | CLASS      | SECTION | ROOM NO |               |
|----------|--------|-------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------------|
| San Jose | Sunday | 09.05 AM-10.15 AM | Bala Vihar | 1       | TBD     | <b>Change</b> |

Use this to Change to another class

**Add Child**

Use this to register a sibling

## Paying Membership Fees from a 3rd party (DAF or Employer via donation)

1. Go to [CMSJ Membership 2020-21](#)
2. Check the box below and click the 'Review Summary' button

**CMSJ Membership 2020-2021**

I would like to become CMSJ member for year 2020-2021  Yes, \$ 450

**Review Summary**

3. On the confirmation page, Click on Pay Online

**CMSJ Membership 2020-2021**

**CMSJ MEMBERSHIP**  
PLEASE REVIEW THE INFORMATION BELOW.

|                                                                    |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| CMSJ Membership for 2020-21 ( 1 x @ 450 ) (May be tax deductible ) | <b>\$ 450</b> |
| <b>Total Amount</b>                                                | <b>\$ 450</b> |

**Pay Online**

4. You will be taken to a PayPal payment page. Please do not make any payment. Send email to [reg@cmsj.org](mailto:reg@cmsj.org) and [treasurer@cmsj.org](mailto:treasurer@cmsj.org) indicating that you have done this (from

the email that has a profile at cmsj.org). At this point we have a transaction in the system that needs to be matched with a check payment from the DAF or your employer.

5. You will be provided with a transaction ID to mention in the memo field on your payment so we can correlate this e.g. it may be MB20-12345. Please add this in the memo or notes section of your payment.
6. When we receive the payment, we shall mark your membership as having been paid in full.
7. You can then proceed to Bala Vihar registration as usual using the same profile used for the membership fee. You will be charged only the class fees. These fees need to be paid online and are not tax-deductible.

In HIS Service,  
Chinmaya Mission San Jose