

# LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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Photo Sora O'Doherty

The new normal: hand sanitizer before entering the classroom on the first day back to school at Del Rey Elementary School since the COVID-19 pandemic forced the closure of schools.

## Elementary students make slow return to classrooms

By Diane Claytor

After 11 long months, meeting after meeting, survey upon survey, plans and schedules developed and revised, guidelines given then changed, and opening dates aborted, it's finally a reality. Lamorinda schools are open for TK (transitional kindergarten) through sixth grade in-person classes.

It's been a long process with an incredible

number of moving parts. And while it's certainly not a return to what school days looked like pre-COVID, it's definitely a step in the right direction.

Each school district's plans are slightly different than its neighbors, but all three have adopted an in-person hybrid model and all are welcoming students back with open arms and excitement at being together again.

Orinda schools opened TK through second

grade, as well as sixth grade, on Feb. 10, while third through fifth grades returned Feb. 16; Moraga opened its schools for TK through sixth grade on Feb. 16; and Lafayette is opening TK through fifth grade on Feb. 18.

Lafayette and Moraga are following a similar hybrid model for their elementary school students while Orinda has implemented a different hybrid schedule.

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### Preparing for Spring

With the passage of Proposition 19 last year there are more opportunities for those 55 and older to move their property tax basis to any community in California.

Let's meet and discuss strategies!

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## Multiple PG&E projects pursued throughout Moraga



PG&E roadwork on Camino Pablo across from JMIS

Photo Vera Kochan

By Vera Kochan

Drivers in Moraga can't help but notice all of the roadwork popping up

around town. While the projects belong to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, there is nary a familiar baby blue utility vehicle in sight. That is because PG&E has contracted out to various companies for the specialized jobs while it continues to supervise.

Of the three major projects, two are continuations from last year. The first is pavement restoration on Larch Avenue, with site contractor ALB. "After recently completing a gas safety and reliability project in Moraga, PG&E is working to restore pavement in the area of the job," explained PG&E spokesperson Tamar Sarkissian. "The project required boring and limited trenching to safely replace underground gas distribution main and service lines." The project was delayed due to inclement weather, but has

since begun the second week in February. If the weather cooperates, Larch Avenue residents should see its completion within a month. PG&E does not expect any traffic issues or road closures.

The other project currently taking place along Moraga Road is a carry-over from last June, with contractor Veteran Power Inc. "The electric system hardening project is a continuation of PG&E's Lafayette Saint Mary's Road project," said Sarkissian. "These projects upgrade and strengthen PG&E's electric system in communities throughout Northern and Central California where wildfire risks are highest, including parts of Alameda and Contra Costa counties."

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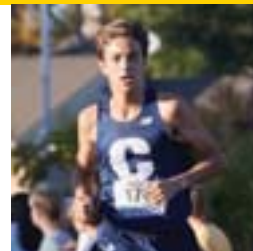
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