



**PALLEN'S**  
MARTIAL ARTS™

**PARENTS**

**MAY 2022**

**PERCH**

# FAIRNESS

**“Strive together,  
Thrive together.”**

**Young students:** “When everyone has or receives what they deserve and what they need.”

**Older students/teens/adults:** “Treating others according to what is deserved, needed or appropriate.”

- WEEK 1** Fairness defined: What is fair? What is unfair?
- WEEK 2** Play by the rules: Achieving fairness in competition and in life.
- WEEK 3** Fair share: Taking turns, being accountable and making mistakes.
- WEEK 4** When fair is not the same: Special situations, special needs, different ages?

Dear Family,

This month we will focus on the powerful word, “fairness.”

Fairness is a tough concept for many children to understand. Research continually reveals that children believe that “fair” is interchangeable with “equal” or “the same.” If it’s fair, doesn’t it mean that everyone gets the same amount? Doesn’t it mean that everything is divided equally? Of course this is not always the case. As adults, we know that fairness is reached when everyone gets what is needed, deserved and appropriate given age and circumstance.

For example, picture the family that sits down to dinner. If fairness meant “the same” then

everyone should be given the same amount of food regardless of need, hunger, weight, or size. Most would agree, that wouldn’t be fair at all!

Fairness takes some sacrifice. It’s an ideal that supports cooperation and resource-sharing and downplays greed and selfishness. We will be stressing these ideals throughout the month.

Interestingly, in a recent Harvard study published in Nature, when children played an “inequality game” that tested reactions to unfairness, kids across the board showed a predictable aversion to getting less than their peers (disadvantageous inequity). However, only some also voiced dismay when

receiving more than a peer (advantageous inequality). The researchers hypothesized that the latter result may be an illustration of how some countries stress equality and fairness more than others. It is our goal to help students see the value of fairness over selfishness.

We thank you for your support. You are pivotal in helping to make our school one of the best personal development centers in the world.

Here’s to your success!

Best Regards,  
—Your Motivated and  
Dedicated Instructors