

August 2017

Dear Holly Avenue Families,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! I hope that your summer break has been filled with lots of family fun and wonderful memories. I am looking forward to an amazing year as we imagine, inquire, and inspire together. To have a smooth transition for our young learners, we will be having special orientation sessions on Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> so that children and parents will feel more comfortable on the first day of school. Please check the schedule below for some very important dates.

Just a friendly reminder, we have two changes this year. We are asking that students do not use rolling backpacks. Also, now that City of Arcadia Recreation and Right at School offer care after school on early dismissal days, we will no longer have our study hall program in the cafeteria. If you need after school care, please make sure to sign up early. Information regarding these programs is available by contacting Right at School (855) 287-2466 or Arcadia Recreation Program (626) 574-5113.

<b>Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 to 2:30 p.m. Dolphin Day Registration</b>	Classroom assignments will be given to parents on this day.
<b>Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Make Up Day for Dolphin Registration</b>	Classroom assignments will be given to parents on this day.
<b>Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> TK and Kindergarten Orientation 10:00 a.m.</b>	TK and Kindergarten orientation: meet the teachers, view the classroom, and learn important guidelines for a successful year in kindergarten. Teachers will distribute important information to parents.
<b>Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> Grades 1, 3, and 5 4:00 p.m.</b>	Meet your child's teacher to learn important guidelines for a successful year. Teachers will share and distribute important information to parents.
<b>Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> Grades 2, 4, and Special Ed. 5:00 p.m.</b>	Meet your child's teacher to learn important guidelines for a successful year. Teachers will share and distribute important information to parents.

<p><b>Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> 8:20 a.m.</b></p>	<p>Start of School! All students return to school – <b>8:20 a.m.</b> Grades 1-5 wait at the basketball court and TK and Kindergarten students wait in the kindergarten yard until the bell rings.</p>
<p><b>Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> 8:30 a.m.</b></p>	<p><b>**** First Day Welcome Coffee 8:30a.m. ****</b> Hosted by the PTA</p>

**School Hours--Grades TK-5**

School begins at 8:20 a.m. Monday through Friday. Students are expected to be in line on the basketball courts by 8:15 a.m. (1-5) or the Kindergarten yard (TK- K). Dismissal is at 2:35 p.m., everyday **except Tuesdays. Dismissal on Tuesdays is at 1:20 p.m.** Please review the school calendar for minimum days and dismissal times.

**Back To School Night is the day/evening BEFORE school starts, Wednesday, August 16, 2017.**

Please plan to attend with your student at the times listed below. Teachers will share important information you will need to be ready for school the next day. Plan to give yourself time to park. Gratefully, The Good Shepherd Church on Holly Avenue has agreed to allow parents to park in their parking lot (entrance off of Duarte Road). Parents will get the seats in the class while children will sit on the rug. Our teachers are excited to meet their new students and families!

**Back to School Night Schedule:** (check for specific teacher's classes)

**10:00 a.m.** TK and Kindergarten Classes

**4:00 p.m.** Grades 1, 3, and 5

**5:00 p.m.** Grades 2 and 4, Mrs. Bruce (Room 30), Mrs. Franz (Room 32) Room Ms. Lam (Room 34)

**Student drop-off and pick-up areas** Holly Avenue has about 725 children arriving each morning. It is very congested and your patience is necessary. Please give yourself ample time to bring your children to school safely. The church has asked that you do not park in their spaces on Holly Avenue, however you are welcome to use their Duarte parking lot and walk over to drop off and pick up your children. We also ask that you do not park in any of the staff parking spots. While the weather is pleasant, you might consider walking to school if at all possible. When arriving by car, drop off and pick-up of students may be done in only two areas:

**Magna Vista Circle Drive**—Parents follow the car line letting children out at the tennis courts (no stopping or parking permitted) Daycare has two spots, otherwise you must park down the street.

**Holly Avenue drop off**—Parents follow the car line into the school driveway and let children out on the school sidewalk. There will be adult supervision and student safeties each morning to open doors and facilitate students disembarking from vehicles. Students may **NEVER** be dropped off or picked up in the front parking lot of the school on Duarte Road. Please **ALWAYS** use the crosswalks when crossing Duarte or Holly Avenue with your children. The driveway access next to the cafeteria is not for student entrance to school.

**Parents may not wait on the playground or at classroom doors before school with children or before the dismissal bell at the end of the day. This is for our children's safety.** Parents may walk

their children to the line-up area on the basketball courts before 8:10 a.m. **No children may be on campus before 8:00 a.m. unless they are going to breakfast or daycare. Otherwise, there is no supervision.**

**School Uniforms** Please remember that Holly Avenue's school uniform policy will be in effect the first day of school. Students are required to wear school uniforms daily. Every Friday is Free Dress; however students are to continue to wear attire that is appropriate for school and shoes they can play in safely. Please refer to the Uniform Policy Guidelines that describe the compliance, exceptions, financial considerations, and uniform standards guide. (Parent handbook is on Holly's website).

**Cafeteria** Breakfast and lunch are available in our cafeteria at the cost of \$2.00 and \$3.75 per day, respectively. Breakfast will be available to purchase at 7:45 a.m. or during your child's morning recess. Holly Ave School has a computerized payment system. Every student has their own personal lunchroom account based on their current student ID number. We encourage parents to deposit money into their student's account, although you may pay cash. There are two ways you can do this: Send money by check or cash in a sealed envelope with your student and include the student's name and ID number on the check and/or envelope. The envelope will be given to the food service cashier at lunch. The second way is to deposit money into the student's account on-line through the Arcadia Unified School District web site, [www.ausd.net](http://www.ausd.net). Simply select "Lunch Menus" from the home page; next select "Pre-payment Options" and then select "On-line Payments". The amount of the prepayment deposit is entirely up to you; it can range from one day to a month, even a year. This system allows students to charge if there is money in their account. We will allow one meal to be charged with no balance. Notices will be sent home when the balance on the student's account is low.

Please do not provide fast food (McDonald's, In and Out, Burger King) lunches to your students. If your child forgets their lunch, they will need to buy lunch from the cafeteria, and your account will be charged.

Education is a partnership between home and school, and I encourage everyone to get involved throughout the year, seeing first hand the exceptional work your students are completing! We will be happy to answer any questions you may have in an effort to help you become an active member of this school. We hope you had a restful summer and that students are ready for new academic challenges.

In addition to our exceptional staff, Holly Avenue's PTA tirelessly supports the focus of our school. I'm pleased to be working with our PTA president, Claudia Bocanegra, who is a dedicated community leader. PTA has graciously offered to host a parent coffee the first day of school at 8:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. I encourage you to come for at least a short time. Also, please save the date for our back-to-school picnic on September 8<sup>th</sup>. For additional information, please visit our website and read the parent handbook online. Enjoy the last few days of summer. See you soon!

Teresa Oakland Ed.S., Principal