

MPH

Lower School Families,

We have been so happy to see your children on campus and virtually!

Thank you for your partnership, patience, and continued support as we work to revise and address any glitches that may arise.

LS Updates:

- If you haven't already, please be sure to check out your child's Google Classroom. The teachers are using this platform to post assignments, schedules, Zoom links, and updates. Please reach out to me or your child's teacher with any questions about logging in and/or navigating what's posted.
- Although we planned for a myriad of variables, the bees outside on campus have been an unexpected twist. When possible, the students eat lunch outside but there have been days when the weather (heat/rain) and the bees have prevented us from being able to enjoy lunch outdoors. We are strongly committed to masks on while inside at all times, except when students need to eat lunch or have a snack. When possible, we continue to go outside for mask breaks, snacks, lunch, recess, and Physical Education.
- Second and third-grade students will also be able to use the "big" playground. Students will sanitize their hands before play and wear face masks (as playground play is generally closer than play in the fields). Second and third-grade students will not be on the big playground at the same time as kindergarten or first-grade students.
- Lower School Spanish teacher, Karin Trouyet, was meeting via Zoom with LS classes but we found that, despite multiple audio adjustments, students were not able to hear Karin or the Spanish words and phrases. As clear audio is imperative for engaging early language instruction, this week Karin is joining LS classes in person, at a distance in front of the classroom, wearing both a mask and a shield. We're hoping that these changes will

enhance Lower School Spanish learning, while also remaining committed to our Health and Safety Protocols.

- Thank you to our families who are working to ensure that Lower School drop off and pick up runs smoothly. We appreciate that you're completing the Daily Health Assessment by 7:15 a.m. and we thank you for your patience, as it can take a bit of time to help unload and load our youngest learners out of and into vehicles.

Looking ahead, please save the date, **Thursday, October 8, 2020: Lower School Virtual Program Night (via Zoom)**. You'll have the opportunity to meet all of your child's Lower School teachers, hear an overview of curriculum goals, and navigate Google Classroom. More details will follow.

These first days have been a gift and I extend my deepest gratitude to you, our Lower School families, and to our teachers and staff. It is clear that everyone is doing their very best to come together and support our children through the challenges of these times. I continually feel so fortunate to be an educator, administrator, and parent in our MPH community.

Take such care and reach out with any questions or concerns,
Amy

Amy Terpening Abdo
Head of Lower School