

August 2008

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2008-09 school year at Rowland Hall-St. Mark's Lower School. We look forward to your arrival for the first day of school, Hello Day, Wednesday, August 27th. This year, Hello Day is a **FULL** day of school, starting at 8:30 and ending at 3:15.

Now that August is here, we are busily getting ready for the start of school and looking forward to seeing children and parents on campus. Please stop by during the first week of school and let us know how your child's transition back to school is going. If you have questions or suggestions, please call at any time and let us know how we can help you.

We will greet new students and parents at our Lower School New Family Social on Monday, August 25 from 5:00-6:30 PM. Along with planning for a full day of school on Hello Day, you will want to plan for Back to School Night scheduled for September 11. The 3rd-5th Grade session starts at 7:00 pm and the 1st-2nd Grade session starts at 8:00 pm. In order to keep up on Lower School events we will continue to use "Friday FAQs" (Frequently Asked Questions) sent to you each Friday by email. Please be sure we have your current email address. New this school year we are asking that all students use reusable water bottles. Please read the letter from the RHSM Sustainability Committee for more information.

RHSM Lower School faculty and staff are taking the summer to rejuvenate for the upcoming school year. Even though teachers have taken time off, many have worked on curriculum projects and others attended classes and conferences. We have three new people joining the faculty this year. Abigail Bacon is teaching Spanish to first and second graders, while Sheri Harris is the new computer lab teacher. The Emotional Support Counselor position will be announced at a later date. You can read more about new faculty in the Faculty Biography attachment. Two teachers have new assignments this year. Chad Obermark is teaching fifth grade and Michelle Wolchok is teaching fourth grade.

If you have any questions please call me. Enjoy the rest of the summer and we will see you on Hello Day!

Best Wishes,

Deborah Mohrman