August 13, 2018

Dear Carmel Creek Families,

Welcome to 2018-2019. It is going to be a wonderful school year. You may have noticed all the construction being done around the outside of our campus. Our Maintenance and Operations Department has been working exceptionally hard to enhance our school building. Carmel Creek is approaching 25 years of age. Our school looks amazing due to the pride of all staff, teachers and families who have respected our environment over the years. This will be a special year as our school is due for modernization planning. More information will be following throughout the year in respect to the modernization process. This process will include soliciting input from our community by means of design focus groups. This is a valuable and exciting process that we get to look forward to during this school year. The following enhancements were made this summer by our Maintenance and Operations Department:

- 41 air conditioning units were replaced.
- Roof repair in the kindergarten wing.
- 4 outside garden planter boxes were built to support Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and hands-on, outside learning experiences. The boxes were placed near the second-grade wing, outside the CDC classroom (eastside of the school building). A potential future site for our growing visions of an expanded outside learning lab.
- Playground asphalt repair, new playground seal coating and “Peaceful Playground” activity stations.
- Wall ball court mural painting
- Updated kindergarten safety fencing.
- Panic exit playground gates.
- “Buddy Benches” to support social emotional development and to empower our students to foster positive peer relationships.
- General carpet and building cleaning.
- Placement of interior backpack racks for efficient storage of student’s personal belongings.

Our student numbers are ever changing as school approaches. At this time, it is estimated that we will open with approximately 335 students. We are scheduled to open with 16 general education classrooms and 4 specialized academic instructional support classrooms. The following classroom configurations are anticipated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st grade</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd grade</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd grade</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
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**A Warm Welcome to our new staff members:**
Mrs. Regan Hjalmarson. Mrs. Hjalmarson is a well-respected teacher in our District and returns to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience. She served at Carmel Creek for a number of years and most recently was a second-grade teacher at Solana Ranch. Mrs. Hjalmarson is thrilled to be returning to Carmel Creek. Mrs. Hjalmarson will join our third-grade team for 2018-2019.

Mrs. Jen Goldberg. Mrs. Goldberg is also familiar to our Carmel Creek community and has been teaching in our District for a number of years. Mrs. Goldberg has taught at Carmel Creek, Solana Pacific and Solana Vista. We are equally excited for Mrs. Goldberg’s return to Carmel Creek. She has always been a member of our teaching family and we look forward to her joining our team. Mrs. Goldberg will be teaching kindergarten for the 2018-2019 school year.

We have two new instructors joining our Discovery Lab Team: Mr. Robert McIver—Physical Education Instructor. Mr. McIver comes to us with a strong background and degree in Kinesthesiology. He has a deeply rooted sense for child development and the California Standards for Physical Education. He is an experienced physical education teacher. We are looking forward to Mr. McIver’s support to continue to enhance our student wellness programs and physical education opportunities.

Mrs. Sheila Loyd—Art Instructor. Mrs. Loyd has been a substitute teacher at Solana Pacific and is a parent in our community. Mrs. Loyd has a strong sense of our school district visions and philosophies. She is a dedicated professional and a welcomed member to any school team. We are eager for her to start the year and know that she will make great contributions to furthering our art program and the development of our STREAM programming.

Our special education program has been defined as one of the best. We have the finest professionals working to support our community of students who are most at risk. This team continues to grow and our continuum of opportunities for students are consistently refined and well supported. Our new special education teachers and instructional aides have all served in a variety of capacities across the District and come to us with sound experience. Join me in welcoming:

Special Day Class (SDC) Teacher: Renae Podolsky

Special Education Instructional Aides

- Kristen "KC" Watson
- Hema Ujjini
- Kammy Kim
- Jihyun “Jennifer” Nam
- Laurice Batterson

Our Health Clerk, Jacqueline Cordiglia returned to us in late spring. Jacqueline has been a member of our Carmel Creek staff over the years and is now a permanent employee. She is highly dedicated to the wellness of all children. Don’t hesitate to reach out to Mrs. Cordiglia if you have questions or concerns for your child's well-being.
Victor Becerra, Plant Foreman. Mr. Becerra is an amazing addition to our staff since the spring of 2018. He is a professional with the high ethical standards and a strong work ethic. Mr. Becerra has worked hard all summer to thoroughly clean our school and organize all classrooms to meet each individual teacher’s needs. We are honored to have Mr. Becerra as our permanent Plant Foreman. Please feel free to introduce yourself to Mr. Becerra if you see him walking the perimeter in the early mornings. He has been a staff member in our District, for a number of years and is very anxious to establish roots within our special community.

**School Hours:**
- School Will **Begin at 8:30am**  
- School Will **End at 2:38pm**  
- Playground supervision will start at 8:15am  
- Playground supervision will end at 2:55pm

**Safety**

*Please remember that student during drop off and pick-up, dogs are not permitted* in the office or on the playground. *Dogs must remain outside of school gates and on a leash.* These efforts will ensure the safety of our children. Thank you for this consideration.

To continue our enthusiasm to support active transportation to school, we encourage walking, riding a bike or riding a scooter. We have young students who are still developing confidence in their riding skills. There are also even younger siblings during the high traffic periods of morning drop and dismissal. *To prevent accidents, please walk bikes, skateboards or scooters across the campus during these busiest times.* We have two bike racks located on the east side (near the CDC gate entrance) and one rack on the west side (just outside the third-grade classrooms). Students may lock their bike or scooter. *Don’t forget to always wear a helmet.*

Many of our families walk to school. It is recommended by Rady Children’s Hospital that children under the age of 10 hold an adult’s hand when crossing the street. *Remember to use cross walks at all times.* Let’s work cooperatively to model good pedestrian practices. Our children look to us as their guide.

Students will participate in monthly safety drills. Students are always advised to follow their teacher’s directions in any emergency situation. Our site has an annually updated safety plan that is school board reviewed and also signed off by our San Diego Police Department liaison. We appreciate the ongoing support that we receive from our focus safety groups and community members.

*Please respect all staff members wearing orange or yellow vests.* Staff members are not San Diego Traffic Patrol. Our staff graciously gives of their time to fulfill supervision responsibilities in an effort to support our students and to assist families in the morning and after school. Our staff deeply cares about the physical and social emotional safety of each student. Let’s work in partnership to be the cooperative and kind community that we are and to help our kids have a great day, feeling safe and empowered. It surely does take a village.

**School Calendar and Email Notification**

Please refer to the Carmel Creek School website for updates on school events and important dates. Don’t forget to sign up for the email notification system in order to receive weekly school site and District communication. Follow us on facebook, twitter (#ccsbsd and #ccstream).
Class Assignments:
Class Assignments will be posted on the Parent Portal Demographics Screen after 5:30pm on Thursday, August 23rd. Be sure to complete the Student Data Confirmation process prior to August 22nd. The link can be accessed at: https://www.sbsd.k12.ca.us/Page/6010. You will not be able to view your child’s teacher if that process has not been completed.

School Supplies:
Your child is provided with a free public-school education. Therefore, all student supplies are provided by the District. We understand that parents often want to supplement these materials through class donations. If parents choose to provide optional items for the classroom please consider checking your grade level supply wish lists. Wish lists are located on the Carmel Creek website, under “For Students”.

* Please remember that Carmel Creek does not permit the use of Zuca Backpacks. This is a result of past student as well as staff injuries and limited building storage space.

Gentle Reminders:
• It is important to note that personal toys, novelty items and other non-educational items are not allowed on campus. It is preferred that student personal devices are to be left at home, however if devices do come to school your child will be asked to keep the device in backpacks and turned off during school hours. We understand that some children need devices for medical or safety concerns. Otherwise, leaving devices at home will prevent theft or damage.
• Don’t forget to update student emergency contact and health records. Please keep the office informed, throughout the school year, if your child’s health status changes.
• Please do not park your car in the drive through drop off zones. Those zones are located in 3 different places: (1) in the front of the school building, (2) west side on Carmel Creek Rd., (3) the Carmel Creek Park parking lot (east side of the school building). All locations are designated for loading and unloading only.
• Please do not park your car in the courtesy front office 15 minutes parking zones. Those zones are not for drop off or dismissal convenience. They are allocated for parents who have student emergencies, sick children and/or for parents needing to conduct office business.
• Please follow general traffic safety procedures for stopping at stop signs. When students are crossing ALL cars should be stopped. No U-turns in the middle of McGuire, Carmel Creek or Carmel Center Roads. You will be ticketed by San Diego Police if caught violating traffic procedures.

Wellness Guidelines and School Attendance:
All Solana Beach district schools are consistent with their Wellness guidelines. Food treats for birthday parties are NOT allowed.

If you wish to commemorate your child’s birthday at school, some ideas include: sharing a favorite book or game, giving stickers or giving pencils. Please check with your child’s teacher for specific preferences or individual class practices.
Research shows that a student’s health affects their attendance and ability to learn. Consistent attendance is critical for your child’s academic success. If your child has difficulty getting to school we are always available to help support the process. For your reference, our attendance and tardy policies can be located on the district website.

If your child is going to be absent or tardy due to an appointment or illness, please contact the attendance line at (858) 794-4451.

If you would like to know more about our Food and Nutrition program or need to sign up for the lunch program, go directly to the My School Bucks. These are also of our website under quick links.

**Important Dates:**
**Thursday, August 23**th – Class placements and student-teacher assignments released via the SBSD parent portal after 5:30pm
**Thursday, August 23**th- Kindergarten Back to School Night (**adults only**) @ 5:30pm.
**Friday, August 24**th – Mini Open House 9:15 to 10am (A time for all Carmel Creek students to meet their teachers and visit their classroom.) Foundation parent representatives will be available should you have questions or would like to make an early donation. New PTO sponsored spirit wear will also be available for purchase. Each Friday the children and staff are encouraged to wear Carmel Creek Spirit Wear. The design was chosen by staff and PTO and was selected to be used for at least two years.
**Tuesday, August 28**th - First Day of School
**Wednesday, August 30**th - PTO sponsored Kindergarten Family, Kleenex and Coffee @ 8:30am All kindergarten parents welcome for a very casual meet and greet in the stage area.
**Monday, September 3**rd - Labor Day (School Closed)
**Wednesday, September 5**th - Back to School Night for Grades 1-3 (**adults only**).

I hope that you and your family had a wonderful summer filled with many special memories. Please don’t hesitate to contact the office should you have any questions (858) 794-4400.

On behalf of our entire staff, we look forward to a wonderful 2018-2019 school year.

Warmly,

*Lisa Ryder*

Principal