

August 11, 2017



Dear Heather Families

Welcome New and Returning Families,

The first day of school is only a few days away! I hope that you all had a fun and relaxing summer and you're ready for the new school year to begin. I know I am!

Transition Year

This is a transition year for Heather, as our 4th graders will remain at Heather while the Mariposa 4th/5th school completes construction. Principal John Triska will be involved with the 4th grade students, teachers and parents this year. We will make it a great year for our "Monarch / Colt" 4th graders, as we continue to think about the unique needs of primary students, in a school-wide approach to early childhood learning, P-3.

Campus Facilities

We've made a couple classroom shifts this year, moving all learning centers to the interior of the campus. Ms. Loomis class has moved to Room 4 and a new kindergarten class will be in Room 22. Our wild zone/nature area has a new structure for balance and play thanks to Heather alumni, Jason Kuhn's Eagle Scout project.

Staff & Program News

Please join me in saying "goodbye" to **Alison Lansing**, **Deana Hawkins** and **Stephanie Brickman**. Mrs. Lansing and Mrs. Hawkins moved to Brittan Acres to take a collaborative classroom opportunity and Ms. Brickman moved to Arundel to teach with her Mariposa partner. And please welcome **Genevieve Banet**, 4th grade in room 20 and **Jenna Traylor** to the Room 5 Learning Center.

School Supplies

The San Carlos School District and the Heather School PTA continue to be committed in providing the necessary school supplies for each student, in order to ensure that all students have equal access to educational opportunities. There is no need to fill backpacks with new school supplies. In addition, all field trips are fully supported by SCEF. Parents will not be asked to contribute to individual field trips. Parents can support classroom supplies and field trips by supporting SCEF and our Heather PTA. Please see the [enclosed letter](#) about personal student earphones/earbuds.

Volunteers Needed

Heather School has always been proud of our amazing parent participation. Parents will have an opportunity to learn about and sign up for a variety of volunteer opportunities at the First Day Coffee, **August 23**, in the MUR starting at 8:25 am. Three important areas that I am personally asking support for are: 1.) Hot lunch servers, 2.) Safety volunteers for arrival and departure, and 3.) PlayPod helpers, (PlayPod Patrol).. I really appreciate the additional support in these critical areas. Our new PlayPod can only open on days with parent volunteers. If you would consider helping in this way, please let me know as soon as possible or sign up on August 23.

School Rule for Daily Arrival (with the exception of the 1st Day of School)

- 1.) Students are not allowed at school until **8:05 am**, until supervision is provided. Upon arrival, all students must go directly to the lower playground with teacher supervision and are not allowed to wander the campus and/or wait in front of their classrooms, even with their parents, unless the teacher has opened the door and has invited them inside. Parents are welcome to accompany their child to the playground.
- 2.) Students may put their backpacks on their hooks and quickly and directly go to the playground. They are not to linger or wait in classroom courtyards or the amphitheater.
- 3.) The upper primary playground and play structure is closed to everyone until 10:00 am-- even kids with parents.

Special First Day of School Instructions

The first day of school is **Wednesday, August 23, which is a minimum day**. Both the primary and upper grade playground and play structures will be closed until the 10:00 recess the first day of school, when the safety rules will be reviewed and taught by classroom teachers. Students are to go directly to their classrooms at the 8:20 bell. Early arrivers can wait in the large center courtyard/amphitheater on the first day of school. Please stay out of classroom courtyards until doors open so that teachers can finalize preparations.

Parents, please join me, and the PTA, for our **Welcome Back Coffee** in the MUR at 8:20 am on the first day of school, **August 23**. This will be a great time to meet other parents, buy Heather Spirit Wear and sign up for ways you might want to help out the school for the coming year. I look forward to seeing all of you!

Also remember to pack a healthy, easy to eat snack for the 10:00 am recess. SCSD has contracted Choicelunch to make our school lunches. Please set up an account and begin ordering lunches through www.LunchIsServed.com

Please note that class lists will be posted to the office window **after 4:00 pm on Friday, August 18**, and will also be posted to our **Heather Email System**. (Only students who have completed InfoSnap will be assigned classrooms.) New families attending the **August 15** SCEF "Heather New Family Social" can also pick up their class assignments at the event and meet other families in your child's class. Hope to see you there!

Please note: Teachers have much work to do in the days before the start of school, so please wait until August 23 to come to Heather to meet your teacher, or the TK/K Meet & Greet on August 22, 10:00 am.

I look forward to seeing all of you for another rewarding school year together!

Sincerely,
Pamela Jasso, Principal
pjasso@scsdk8.org

For More Communications

Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/PamJasso

Like Heather on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/heatherelementary

Important Dates to Calendar:

August 15	6:00 pm SCEF "New Parent" Social, Kacholiya Home, 3015 Brittan Ave, S.C. RSVP: info@scefkids.org
August 18	4:00 pm class lists posted to the office window and Heather Email
August 23	First Day of School, minimum day
August 25	PlayPod meeting; All are invited, 8:30
August 31	TK-4 Back to School Night, Parent Only Event
September 4	Labor Day, School Holiday, no school
September 28	Picture Day

Instructional Hours, K-4

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday

First Bell, 1st-4 th & 1 st Kinder Session:	8:20 am
Kinder (1 st session):	245 minutes 8:25 - 1:25
TK and K (2 nd session):	245 Minutes 9:25 - 2:25
First Grade:	310 minutes 8:25 - 2:40 (10 min. PM break)
Second Grade:	310 minutes 8:25 - 2:40 (10 min. PM break)
Third Grade:	310 minutes 8:25 - 2:40 (10 min. PM break)
Fourth Grade:	325 minutes 8:25 - 2:45

Wednesday (K-4)

225 minutes 8:25-12:25

Lunch & Noon Recess:

Grades K, 1 and 2	40 minutes	11:50 – 12:30
Grades 3 and 4	40 minutes	12:05 – 12:45

No lunch period on Wednesdays or other Early Release Days