

# LS WEEKLY BULLETIN

Weekly Bulletin 2 August 25, 2017

## Important Dates

- **August 26<sup>th</sup>:** SCIS-Pudong Welcome Back BBQ sponsored by PAFA
- **August 28<sup>th</sup>:** Quarter I ASA's begin
- **August 31<sup>st</sup>:** Lower School Picture Day & Back to School Night for parents from 6:00pm until 8:00pm. Students do not attend Back to School Night.
- **September 4<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup>:** NWEA MAP Testing for Grades 2-5
- **September 5:** Lower School Principal and Counselor's Coffee Morning at 9:00am and PAFA General Meeting at 10:00am
- **September 22<sup>nd</sup>:** United Nations International Day of Peace Whole School Assembly



*"The most valuable resource that all teachers have is each other. Without collaboration, our growth is limited to our own perspectives." ~Robert Meehan~*  
Grade 4 Teachers and specialists pictured above attend the PYP Unit 1 Kick-off for Grade 4's first unit of inquiry focused on Growth Mindset. While teachers collaborate weekly surrounding multiple aspects of teaching and learning, "kick-off" meetings occur six times over the course of the year and provide an opportunity for all teachers to brainstorm ways in which students can make authentic transdisciplinary connections across subject areas.

Dear Parents,

We are so looking forward to welcoming you to **Back-to-School Night** next Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. The event will begin at 6:00pm in the Theater, followed by three 30-minute sessions with Lower School Teachers. During this fantastic evening, you will have an opportunity to meet your child's Homeroom and Specialist Teachers in the classroom setting. Teachers will share a wealth of valuable information surrounding the grade level curriculum and the ways in which you can support your child's learning at home. Please keep in mind that Back to School Night is not a time to have an individual

conference with your child's teacher(s), rather it is meant to provide you with a big picture overview of how and what your child will be learning this year. However, you are more than welcome to arrange for a one-on-one meeting with your child's teacher at a later date. Please note that **Parent-Teacher Conferences** will occur on October 26 and we will be asking parents to sign up for a conference time slot at Back-to-School Night.

**Student school photos** will take place throughout the day on Thursday, August 3. Please ensure that your child wears or brings with them their light blue SCIS collared shirt. In the event your child has PE on Monday, they will be able to change into their blue shirt prior to having their photo

taken.

**Session I of After School Activities (ASAs)** will begin next Monday, August 28. After school activities take place from 3:00pm until 4:00pm each day. If students are signed up for an ASA, they will need to attend. Students will not be allowed to "miss" their ASA unless a valid reason has been communicated to the school from the child's parent.

I look forward to seeing many families at the Back to School BBQ on Saturday and I hope that all families have a wonderful and relaxing weekend!

Liz Gale  
Lower School  
Principal



**A Message from  
Mrs. Luebbe, Lower School Counselor**

**How Was Your Day?**

As I talk to parents about their kids, I have noticed a common concern. Quite often the parental lament is the same; “They don’t talk to me as much anymore.” “I’m not sure what is happening in their lives because they are sharing less with me.” “How do I get them to tell me about their day without them feeling I am interrogating them?”.

There is no easy answer to this struggle. It is common, normal, yet still painful when parents feel like they are not as aware of the tiny details of their child’s lives anymore. It is part of growing up for kids to withhold more information from the adults in their lives, but there are creative ways you can ask that age- old question, “How was your day?”.

These ideas are taken from an article written for an online magazine called Parent Co and are some fun ways to spark a great conversation with your child about their day at school! I hope you find this useful-Mrs. Luebbe

**Questions a kid will answer at the end of a long school day:**

1. What games did you play at recess?
2. What was the funniest thing that happened today?
3. Did anyone do anything super nice for you?
4. What was the nicest thing you did for someone else?
5. Who made you smile today?
6. Tell me a new fact you learned today?
7. What challenged you today?
8. What would you rate your day on a scale of 1 to 10? Why?
9. If one of your classmates could be the teacher for the day who would you want it to be? Why?
10. If you had the chance to be the teacher tomorrow. what would you teach the class?



**TIPS FOR KICKING OFF A  
STRESS FREE SCHOOL YEAR**

For many Lower School students, the first few weeks of school means getting to know new teachers, new friends, new environments and new routines. This may serve as a source of anxiety, particularly for those who have not had a structured schedule during the course of the summer. Below are a few Back-to-School tips to help ease your child back into the school year and back into their school routines. By following these tips you will help inspire a love of learning as you transition back into the new school year and minimize academic and social-emotional stress for your child.

- **Get back in the routine.** Work with your child to re-establish bedtime, mealtime, reading and homework routines. Discuss the importance of routines and how they help ensure a healthy and balanced life.
- **Set education goals.** Review information sent home from the school and help your child set goals at the very beginning of the year. This will get them excited about school and learning and help start the year on a positive note.
- **Develop a relationship with your child’s teacher.** Take the time to meet your child’s teachers at the beginning of the school year. Teachers are a great source of information and developing a relationship early in the year will benefit both you and your child tremendously.
- **Homework routine and place.** Designate a specific time and place for homework. Help your child discover a regular, quiet place where he or she can study.
- **Emphasize organization.** All children benefit from being organized. Work with your child to determine the best method for them to use.
- **Encourage learning at home.** Promoting learning outside of the classroom helps children perform better in school. To nurture reading skills, spend at least one hour per week – 10 to 15 minutes a day – reading with your child.

