

First Week of School - September 4, 2020

Welcome back to school! We were so happy to see so many of our students during this week of orientation. This week, and over the next few weeks, teachers will be focusing on building community and renewing relationships that have been challenged by the time of separation. Teachers priorities will be:

- Keeping children safe (health questions at drop off, lessons on mask wearing and physical distancing, etc.)
- Having them feel loved (meaningfully engaging with each child individually and in small groups)
- Giving children opportunities to laugh (more fun games with friends)
- Teaching them something "academic" (there will be some regular lessons starting up too)

In that order . . .

There is a lot that has changed this year with COVID-19 restrictions, and we are, as always, so grateful to our loving community as you all work with us through these ever changing times. These next couple of weeks will take flexibility and patience from all of us as we move through morning health checks and traffic jams - be on the lookout next week for Admin traffic helpers to assist with drop-off and pick-up. Our new systems will take time for all of us to learn and practice. **Please drive slowly and carefully to your program's designated spot, use your turning signals, do not use your phones, and watch out for other moving cars and car doors opening.**

One change with the new restrictions is us not being able to welcome family members onto the campus and into the classrooms, which includes giving you opportunities to meet and get to know new staff and faculty. Please check out the [HMS website for updated photos and staff bios](#).

As always, feel free to reach out to me with any question or concerns,
-Tamara