

GARRISON FOREST SCHOOL

300 GARRISON FOREST ROAD • OWINGS MILLS, MARYLAND 21117

Dear GFS families,

Though this has not been the traditional first week of school, I have been thrilled to see the many students and staff who were on campus for Monday's packet pick-up and to experience the joy of our students reconnecting online with their teachers and one another. In true GFS fashion, we've kicked off the school year with joy and lots of spirit.

While the school year is officially underway, I know you will have questions about the gradual re-entry process we outlined a few weeks ago. As of now, we are on track to begin our re-entry the week of September 14, starting with our Preschool and K-2 students. More information will be forthcoming with details for each division and grade as you prepare to head back, but I wanted to share a few important notes with our entire community.

First, as we look forward to our gradual re-entry and start to see more folks on campus, I wanted to share the [GFS Community Agreement](#) with you. **Please read this and share it with your student, as it outlines our expectations for the year ahead and the steps we can all take to ensure our community remains as safe and healthy as possible.** As we head into the holiday weekend, I particularly wanted to point out the note within the agreement about avoiding unnecessary travel and, if you must travel, following the State of Maryland's recommendations for quarantining upon your return—for details, please [refer to page 8 of this document, question 15](#). While we all want to be back on campus, we can only do so if everyone in our community can honor a mutual agreement to keep ourselves and one another safe.

Secondly, I wanted to give you a glimpse of what to expect in the coming weeks:

- Next week, you will receive information on how to install and use the Magnus app that we will be using for our daily screening questions. Installation is quick and easy, and your daily entry should only take a moment or two. (Note: the Magnus app will be used for all faculty and staff and students in grades K-12; Preschool students will follow a different, state-mandated protocol.)
- Next week, you will also be receiving details about ordering lunch through the new Sage app.
- As our Middle and Upper Schoolers heard from Athletic Director Jessy Morgan last week, we will begin limited on-campus athletics options for Middle and Upper School students starting September 8. If your daughter is hoping to participate, it is vital that you complete all necessary items to ensure she will be able to join us. This includes this [Acknowledgement for Athletics waiver](#) that must be signed and submitted prior to the first session. [Please click here for detailed information.](#)
- As we move closer to each division's or grade's date of re-entry, you will receive more information, reminders and updates on what to expect. We are all dedicated to making sure this is not only a safe, seamless transition back to campus, but an exciting one.

I hope all of your children are having a wonderful start to our new school year. I know the qualities that make Garrison Forest a great place for them to

learn and grow—resiliency, bravery, creativity and compassion—will bolster them as they prepare for a school year unlike any other.

I thank you, as always, for your partnership and support in kicking off the school year and preparing for our safe return to campus.

Warmly,



Chris Hughes
Head of School



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