



ST. GEORGE'S
SCHOOL

March 10, 2021

The parachute unfurls, blocks of seemingly random orange and white cloth signaling NASA's most recent Mars success, the rover Perseverance landing on the Martian surface. It's a metaphor, and an apt one, for where you are as students and families, considering the vast landscape of independent schools. Like Perseverance's, your own landing here at SG was assured by years of preparation and careful measurement. It was ushered in by hard work, diligence, and some unknowable measure of cosmic luck. You are meant to be here. You will explore here. And you can succeed here.

But there's more.

You are not merely a tool of measurement, diligence, and luck. You are one of hope, of wonder, and of heart. The blocks of seemingly random cloth — they tell a far greater story. Encoded in this critical element is a message that captures the essence of a St. George's education, a message that you will embody in your time here. It is not apparent at first glance. But after careful consideration and effort, it becomes increasingly clear. It's a code. "Dare Mighty Things," says the parachute. Derived from Teddy Roosevelt's "The Man in the Arena" speech, it captures the essence of what you can do here. As we seek to cultivate the habits of mind that allow learners to dance across disciplines, we also want you to explore your potential in ways never thought possible. Which is to say, we want you to dare mighty things.

Soon, you will learn more about charting your own path at St. George's by blending breadth and depth of knowledge across our increasingly integrated curriculum. We look forward to welcoming you to the Hilltop soon and congratulations once again!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin P. Cerenzia".

Justin P. Cerenzia '01
Dean of Teaching & Learning
and Director of The Merck Center for Teaching