

WELCOME BACK!



Principal Rubalcaba's
Monthly Newsletter



Laurel
Elementary School

August 2,
2019

WELCOME BACK MESSAGE

Dear Laurel Families,

Welcome to the **2019-20** school year! We are extremely excited to welcome back all students, staff, and families. Summertime is an opportunity to reflect, rest, and rejuvenate, and we sincerely hope you got a chance to do so in the warm company of friends and family.

It our hope that all Laurel students worked on their Summer Reading Challenge. Reading is an important skill necessary for success in school, society, and life in general. Please be sure to complete your reading log and submit to your child's new teacher during the first day or first week of school.

This year, we begin by welcoming new staff members. To learn more about some of our team members, please see Page 3.

Our Laurel teachers and staff have been working tirelessly all summer to prepare our classrooms and offices for all our wonderful students and families.

Special gratitude goes to Abel Batrez and Nelson Flores, our amazing custodians, for cleaning our beautiful campus and classrooms; to Debby Pacini, our office team player, for supporting families and teachers with all needs; and to Jen Liebhaber, our office secretary, for ensuring successful delivery of tools and supplies on time. Together, we have worked as a team to give our students the best learning environment possible.

Please be sure to reach out to our office with questions and for support if needed. We are here for you now and always!

In partnership,
Mr. Rubalcaba - Principal

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SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT



Learn About MAZE DAY

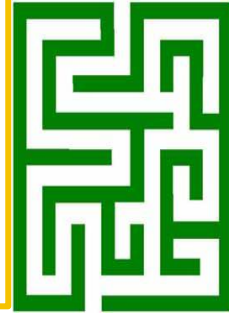
To learn more about Laurel's new beginning of year event, see **Page 2**.

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~ MAZE DAY ~
CLASS
ASSIGNMENTS

Wednesday
August 7, 2019



WE CORDIALLY INVITE ALL LAUREL FAMILIES TO
ATTEND OUR FIRST ANNUAL

MAZE DAY

COME TO RECEIVE ORIENTATION ON DIFFERENT
PROGRAMS LAUREL HAS TO OFFER, COMPLETE PARENT
PORTAL IF NEEDED,

&

RECEIVE YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENT FOR
THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR!!!

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019

TIME: 3:00-5:30PM

WHERE: MULTIPURPOSE ROOM (SCHOOL GYM)

JOIN US IN WELCOMING OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming the following members to our Laurel Teaching & Support Staff:

Lisa Ratcliffe will be joining our 1st Grade Level Team as a new 1st Grade Teacher.

Tanya Amaral will be joining our 2nd Grade Level Team as a new 2nd Grade Teacher.

John Gallagher will be joining our 3rd Grade Level Team as a new 3rd Grade Teacher.

Melissa West will be joining our School Team as the new RSP Teacher.

Cynthia Diaz will be joining our School Team as the new School Psychologist.

Deanna Gondai will be joining our School Team as the new part-time Reading Specialist.

Samantha Singh will be joining our School Team as the new Speech Language Pathologist.

Robin Lovell will be joining our School Team as the new part-time Math Coach.

Judy Wai will be joining our School Team as the new full-time School Counselor.

Enkie Solomon will be joining our School Team as the new part-time Art Therapist.

Ashely Reimers will be joining our School Team as the new Annex Lead Teacher.

They are all very excited to begin the **2019 - 2020** school year!

ATTENDANCE

- We will be diligently monitoring attendance this year, especially focusing on tardies. Please be mindful that your child misses out on authentic learning experiences when arriving to school tardy. Let's work together to ensure all students receive and benefit the most from our educational programs. Together, we can work toward 100% attendance - 100% of the time for ALL of our students!

GENERAL INFORMATION

- All TK-3rd general education classes in the San Mateo-Foster City School District will have on average 24 students. 4th and 5th grade class sizes will have on average 30 students.
- **The general education TK-Kindergarten orientation** will be held on **Tuesday, August 13th, 2019**, from **8:15-9:15am** in your child's Kindergarten classrooms. Parents and students will have the opportunity to meet the teacher and visit the classroom.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

The first day of school for all students is **Tuesday, August 13, 2019** and will be a full day with dismissal at 3pm.

- The Laurel PTA will be hosting a Welcome Back to School breakfast on **Tuesday, August 13, 2019** in front of the Multipurpose Room (School Gym).
- If your child is not present in class by **Thursday, August 15, 2019**, then your child will be dropped from the class enrollment in order to accommodate students on our waiting list. You will need to re-register your child with no guarantees of attending Laurel.

CLOSED CAMPUS - DUE TO SAFETY

School gates will open at 8:05am. Supervision will be provided until your child's school day begins. At the end of the school day, students should not play on the playground UNLESS supervised by a parent. When the Annex Program is excused for their snack and playtime, all families should leave the playground. ******All gates will remain closed until school dismissal at 3:00pm each day (12:45pm on Wednesdays).***

PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL TIMES BELOW

Grade	Start Time	Dismissal	Special Instructions
Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten	8:20 am *A bell will ring at 8:15 am to let students know to proceed to class	12:45 pm	We ask that parents who walk your child to school, please escort your child to the classroom in the morning. If you pick up your child at the end of the day, please promptly meet your child outside the main office gate at dismissal time. This will help with the safety of the school for our 1 st -5 th grade students.
1st, 2nd and 3rd grades	8:35 am *A bell will ring at 8:30 am to let students know to proceed to class	3:00 pm	We ask that parents who walk your child to school, please walk directly to the upper grade playground. There is no supervision in the hallways before school and students should not be walking in the hallways. If you pick up your child at the end of the day, you may use the drive through in the parking lot OR meet outside of your child's classroom. Gates will open at dismissal, 3:00pm.
4th and 5th grades	8:20 am *A bell will ring at 8:15 am to let students know to proceed to class	3:00 pm	We ask that parents who walk your child to school, please walk directly to the upper grade playground. There is no supervision in the hallways before school and students should not be walking in the hallways. If you pick up your child at the end of the day, you may use the drive through in the parking lot OR meet wait outside of your child's classroom. Gates will open at dismissal, 3:00pm.
Wednesday minimum days for 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades	8:35 am *A bell will ring at 8:30 am to let students know to proceed to class	12:45 pm	Please follow the special instructions listed above for your child's grade level.
Wednesday minimum days for 4th-5th grades	8:20 am *A bell will ring at 8:15 am to let students know to proceed to class	12:45pm	Please follow the special instructions listed above for your child's grade level.

KEEP IN MIND THE FOLLOWING:

- For your child's safety, please do not leave your child at school before 8:05 am since we do not provide any supervision until that time. In addition, we expect students to be picked up promptly at dismissal time.
- During drop off and pick up, please carefully follow the directions that our teachers and parent volunteers will be giving you. By following these directions, it will help to keep your child and other students safe.
- Students will not have access to the playground equipment before school.

- Our last day of school is **Wednesday, June 17, 2020**, which will be a minimum day with dismissal at 12:45pm. **Tuesday, June 16, 2019** will be a full day with dismissal at 3:00pm.

SCHOOL LUNCH

School breakfast and lunches may be ordered on the first day of school and are available every day. The cost is \$1.50 for breakfast and \$2.50 for lunch. If your child would like to purchase milk, it can be purchased for 50 cents. Please remember that for those families requesting to be on our school lunch program, your application must be renewed each year (one application per household).

BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR PACKET

There will be a packet of important information and forms will be sent home on the first day of school. Please take the time to complete the forms and return them to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Having current information on each student helps us to keep your child safe.

AERIES PARENT PORTAL

All families are required to update their child's information in the district's parent portal. You will not receive your student classroom assignments before the 1st day of school unless this is completed.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Back to School Night will be held on **Tuesday, August 27, 2019 from 6:00-8:00pm**. Detailed information will follow.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

There are numerous ways that you can become involved here at Laurel:

- Our School Site Council will be looking for 2 parents to join the committee and applications are available in the school office.
- Our English Learner Advisory Committee (E.L.A.C.) is always looking for feedback and support and Project Cornerstone will be asking for parent readers.
- The Laurel PTA, Mom's Club, Dad's Club, and L.E.A.F. serve the school with their generous contributions, fundraising events, and beautification projects.

- Our Lunch Volunteer program welcomes parents to participate.
- Many teachers look for parent support in the classroom. Just ask about how you can make a difference for your child and for the school.

DONATIONS

Voluntary monetary donations are always welcomed to help us support students. Please inquire in the school office for more details.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our Laurel website is <http://laurel.smfcsd.net/>

THANK YOU

Thank you for your attention, collaboration, and positivity! Together as a team, we will make this a successful year for all our students!

In partnership,



Mr. Rubalcaba - Principal



Laurel
Elementary School

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