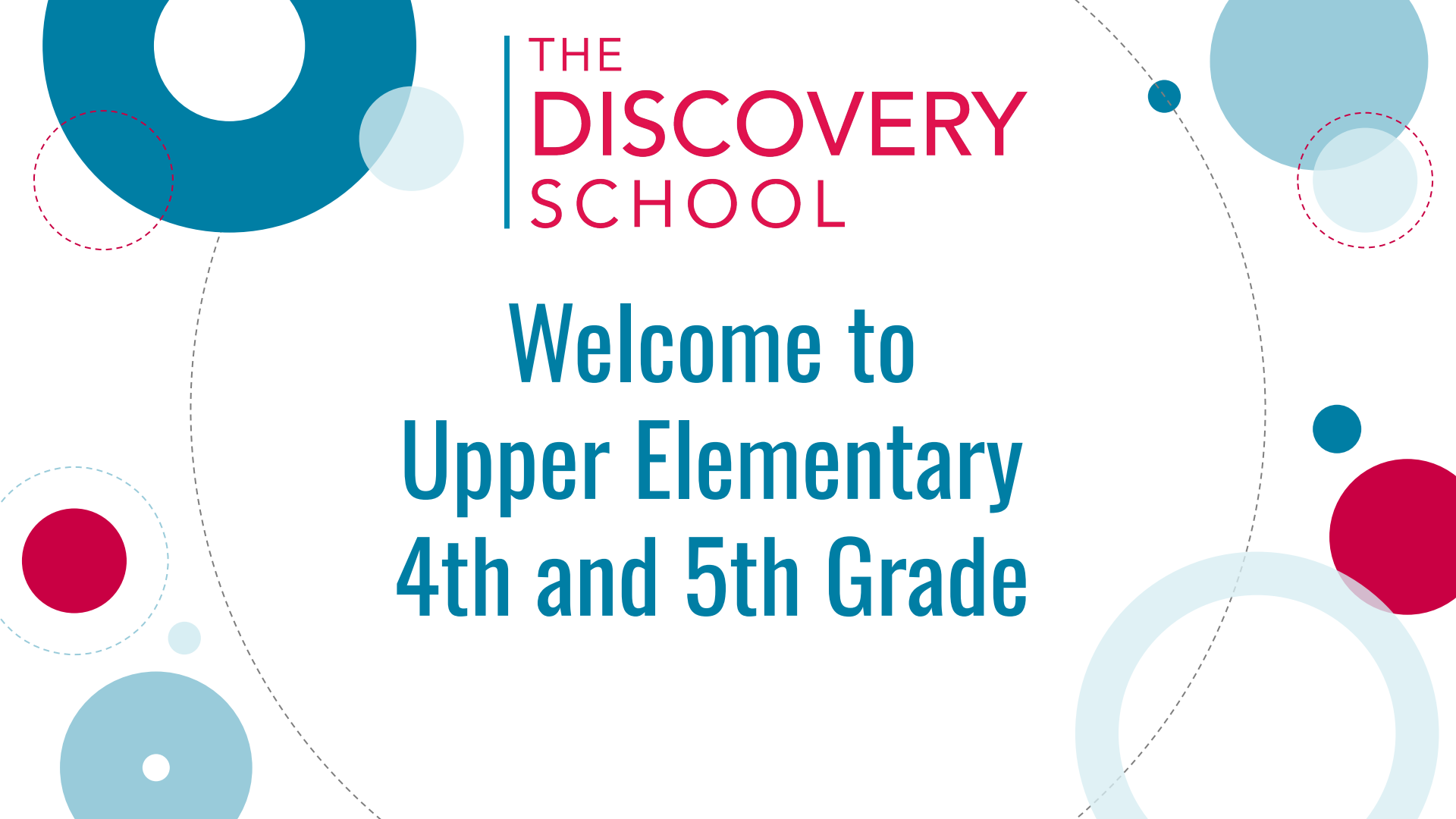




THE
DISCOVERY
SCHOOL

**Welcome to
Upper Elementary
4th and 5th Grade**

“

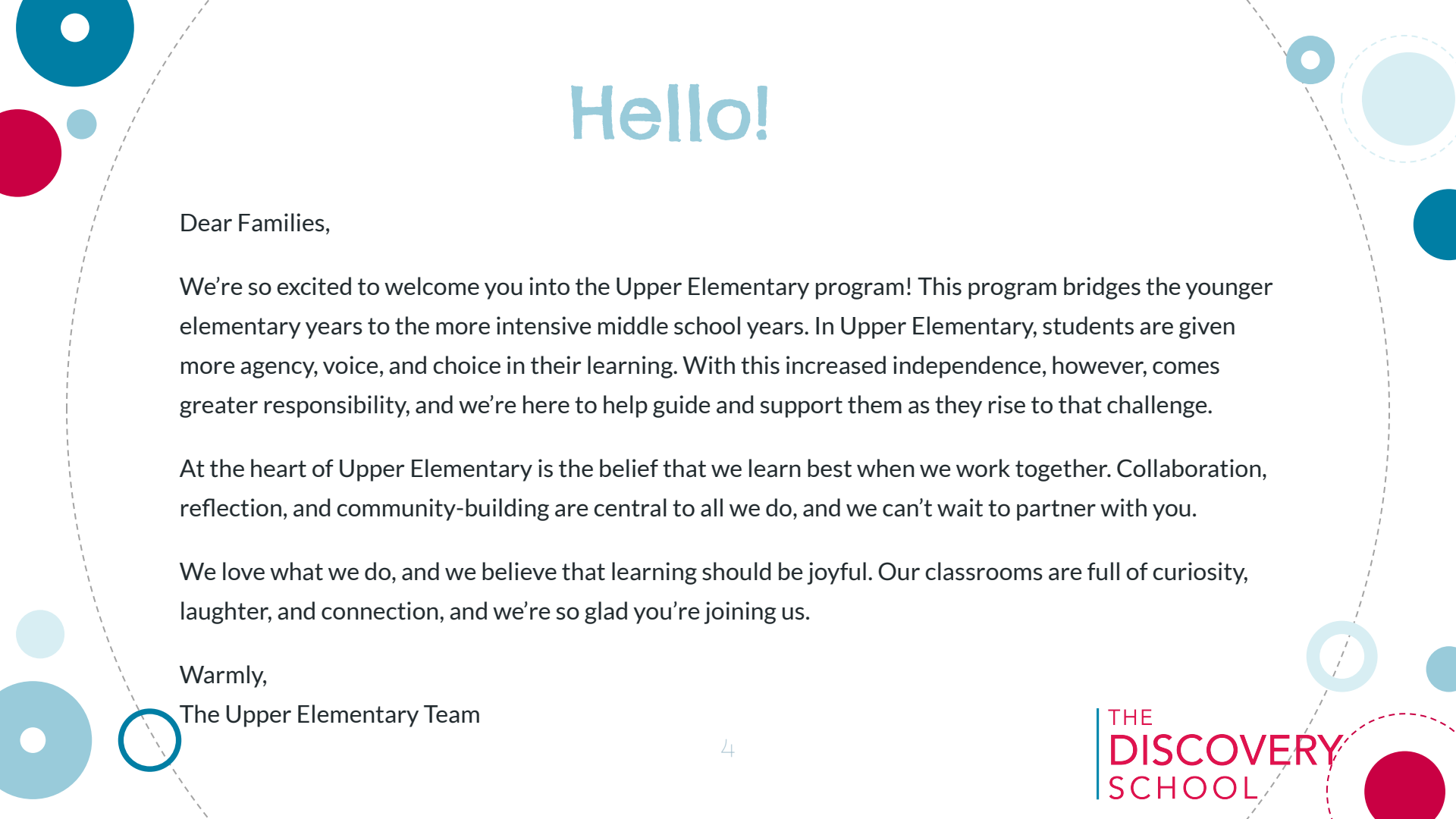
“We open our minds and hearts so we can
discover the knowledge and ideals to build
a better world.”

Mission Statement

Our UE Team



- ★ Ms. Emily Harezlak
- ★ Ms. Amba Kone
- ★ Ms. Maggie Venn
- ★ Ms. Laura Weiss
- ★ Ms. Caroline Lebet
- ★ Ms. Cara Baxter-Downs



Hello!

Dear Families,

We're so excited to welcome you into the Upper Elementary program! This program bridges the younger elementary years to the more intensive middle school years. In Upper Elementary, students are given more agency, voice, and choice in their learning. With this increased independence, however, comes greater responsibility, and we're here to help guide and support them as they rise to that challenge.

At the heart of Upper Elementary is the belief that we learn best when we work together. Collaboration, reflection, and community-building are central to all we do, and we can't wait to partner with you.

We love what we do, and we believe that learning should be joyful. Our classrooms are full of curiosity, laughter, and connection, and we're so glad you're joining us.

Warmly,

The Upper Elementary Team

Here are some of the new and exciting things you will do next year

New Units of Inquiry

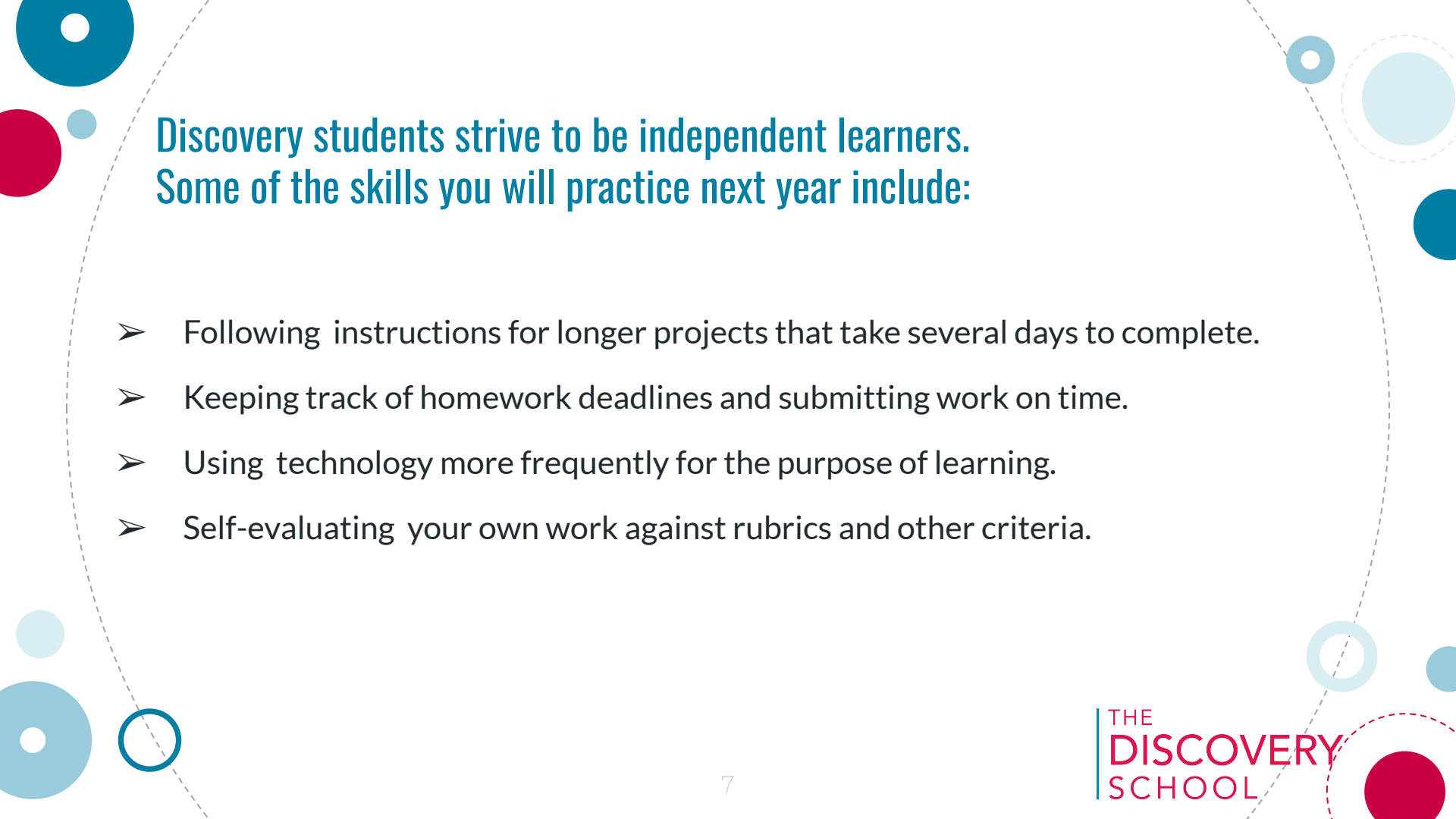
Next year, the UE units will explore many exciting topics. We will learn about natural disasters and climate change as well as understand more about ourselves, our sense of aesthetics and people we admire. We will also explore the past and learn about inventors and inventions.



More student agency: you are in charge of your learning!

- Self-chosen Projects
- PYP Exhibition
- More Independence





Discovery students strive to be independent learners. Some of the skills you will practice next year include:

- Following instructions for longer projects that take several days to complete.
- Keeping track of homework deadlines and submitting work on time.
- Using technology more frequently for the purpose of learning.
- Self-evaluating your own work against rubrics and other criteria.

Summer Language Arts Learning

Read, read, read, and read some more

Reading: Our goal for the Summer Reading program is for students to continue to be engaged and motivated readers over the Summer Break. Research shows that of all the activities children participate in outside of school, time spent reading is the greatest indicator of reading achievement. Audiobooks offer increased vocabulary fluency and are a perfect option while traveling.

Required Summer Reading

★ Required Reading *It's The End Of The World And I'm In My Bathing Suit* by Justin A. Reynold.
Four additional books from the summer reading list are also required.

Summer Reading List



Summer Math Learning



For upcoming 4th-grade students:

Math Skills Review Workbook:

[Summer Math Skills Sharpener for 3rd Grader](#)

Zearn Online Summer Review:

<https://about.zearn.org/math-learning-acceleration/grade-3>



IXL Online 3rd-Grade Review:

<https://www.ixl.com/math/grade-3>

IXL Online 4th-Grade Challenge/Prep:

<https://www.ixl.com/math/grade-4>



For upcoming 5th-grade students:

Math Skills Review Workbook:

[Summer Math Skills Sharpener 4th Grade](#)

Zearn Online Summer Review:

<https://about.zearn.org/math-learning-acceleration/grade-4>

IXL Online 4th-Grade Review:

<https://www.ixl.com/math/grade-4>

IXL Online 5th-Grade Challenge/Prep:

<https://www.ixl.com/math/grade-5>

UE Supply List

Personal Items Clearly labeled with the student's name!

- Supply carrying case (label with first and last name) - <https://a.co/d/g7m1Cto>
- 1 pair of Fiskars Scissors (label with first and last name) - <https://a.co/d/8gGIU4y>
- One roll of 24 colored pencils
- Headphones stored in a labeled zip-lock bag (please no earbuds or Bluetooth headphones)
- Chromebook Protective Case
- Reusable water bottle (labeled with child's name)
- 1 box of pre-sharpened Ticonderoga Pencils
- Highlighter, any color (4)
- Personal calculator (labeled with child's first and last name) - <https://amzn.to/3PUvBS0>

Required Novels to Purchase

Books are chosen specifically for each IB unit of study. You will receive at least **two weeks'** notice before a purchase is needed.

Art

- 1 paper bag with handles (Trader Joe's or Whole Foods)

Dress Code

General information

Students enrolled in the Foundational Elementary program are required to wear uniforms.

- These uniforms may be purchased from [Lands' End](#) using school number **900064593**. Once you enter the school number, all approved items will be displayed for you to order.
- All tops (shirts, blouses, cardigans, sweaters, even dresses) must display the school logo.
- You may also request the school logo (admissions@thediscoveryschool.org) and add embroidery to tops you purchase.
- Bottoms (shorts, pants, and skirts) may be bought from anywhere as long as they are approved school colors.

Guidelines

- School colors for polo shirts are Blue, White, Maize, and Gray.
- School colors for pants, shorts, skirts, jumpers, etc. are khaki, navy, and gray.
- Outer garments such as jackets, sweaters, or sweatshirts that are worn in the classroom must be school colors. Any non-Discovery logo on the apparel must be smaller than a business card.
- **We strongly encourage you to label your child's attire with their first name and last initial.**

Sweatshirts, sweaters, and hoodies must be plain white, navy, or grey. School logo is required. Other logos are not allowed.



Polo colors include white, blue, maize, and heather gray. Rapid dry polo colors include blue, soapstone and white. School logo is required.



Tshirt colors include white and heather gray. School logo is required.



Shorts colors include navy, white, khaki, and grey. Shorts must be at least mid-thigh length. Shorts worn under dresses/skirts can be any color as long as they are not visible when the child is standing.



Skirts colors include navy, white, khaki, and grey. Skirts must be at least mid-thigh length and have shorts worn underneath.



Pants colors include navy, white, khaki, and grey. Sweatpants, joggers, yoga pants, gym shorts, and jeans are not permitted.



Leggings colors are navy, white, khaki, and grey. Students in 1st-8th grade may wear leggings or tights in instead of shorts when wearing dresses or skirts. Leggings or tights may not be worn as pants.



Several dress options are available on Land's End. Dresses must be at least mid-thigh length and have shorts worn underneath.



All shoes must be closed toe and cover the foot, with socks worn. Shoes should either tie or Velcro snugly. No flip-flops, thongs, jellies, or sandals



Other Important Information

Arrival/Dismissal

Please note the arrival time for Elementary students is between 8:00 am and 8:15 am, and we begin **promptly** at 8:15 am each day. If a student arrives after 8:15, please sign them in at the front office, and a staff member will walk them to class. In the carline, a teacher will open the car door and greet your child. Please be sure to remain in your vehicle at all times as a safety precaution and courtesy to others. As a reminder, questions or concerns should be addressed with teachers outside of pickup/drop-off times.



Snack and Lunch

Students are encouraged to bring a nutritious, low-sugar snack and lunch. There will be an option to pre-purchase lunch from local restaurants through our school lunch program. They will also need a reusable water bottle that they will be encouraged to refill throughout the day.

Open House

Open House will be on Tuesday, August 11th. You will receive the Open House schedule at the beginning of August. This time will allow you to visit our classroom and familiarize yourself with the campus. It is optional for you to drop off any labeled and unpacked classroom supplies at that time.



Can't wait to see you next year!