

HOLLAND HILL SCHOOL

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Molly Farrell, Principal

Rita Ioanna, Secretary



“Where seeds are planted and children bloom.”

August 2017

Dear Holland Hill Families,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! I am extremely excited to be here at Holland Hill with this wonderful community of families and educators. I am confident that we are going to have a productive year together, and I am looking forward to beginning that journey with you and your children! I hope that you all have had a wonderful summer, and that you will still be able to squeeze in a few more fun activities before the first day of school on **Thursday, August 31st!**

Class Placement Information

The district will release class placements on your Infinite Campus portal on **Thursday, August 24th**. ***If you have any issues with Infinite Campus, please email Reghelp@fairfieldschools.org***. The Holland Hill staff placed each and every student thoughtfully, so please know that all placements are final as the classroom teachers have already begun preparing for the start of the year. School supply lists are also currently available on the school website. These supply lists are only suggestions, and they are not mandatory. The school will provide your child with everything they need to have a successful start to the year.

Staffing Information

This summer was interesting at Holland Hill, and we have had several staffing changes! Many of you may have heard that Nancy Farrell and Laura Ehrenkranz have decided to retire after many years of dedicated teaching. I know they will be sorely missed by this community! Additionally, Amanda Kemp is moving over to Stratfield School to begin a position as a Language Arts Specialist! I know that you join me in wishing all three of these amazing educators well as they start a new chapter in their lives. The children of Holland Hill have benefited from their service in countless ways.

As you can imagine, we are happy to be welcoming some fabulous teachers to our staff and community. In First Grade, we have added **Mrs. Laura Dacorte**. She comes to Holland Hill directly from McKinley where she worked last year as a Language Arts Specialist, but prior to that she served as a First Grade Teacher for 6 years in Wilton. In Second Grade, we have added **Mrs. Catherine (Katie) Grady** to the team. Katie has taught most recently at Jennings in Grade 1, and prior to that she was at Mill Hill School in Grade 2. Also, **Ms. Jackie DePierro** will be joining the First Grade team this year, and **Mrs. Tara Bainer** is joining our Third Grade team from Stratfield School. We are also welcoming **Ms. Jessica**

Cerasoli to our staff as a part time music teacher. And joining our support staff this year is **Ms. Michelle Bisack**. I know that the Holland Hill community will welcome all of them warmly!

Construction Update

As you all know, we are gearing up for a fantastic construction project here at Holland Hill! Over the next several years, we are going to have many disruptions...but they will all lead to a wonderful ending. The first of these interruptions involves the movement of our portable classrooms this winter. In order to accommodate this change and provide for as much stability at possible for our students, here are changes you need to know about:

- Mrs. Mocker and Mrs. Shay's classes will now be in the new portables at the front of the school. *Mrs. Shay's classroom is the one closest to the building. Mrs. Mocker's classroom is the one closest to the driveway.*
- Mr. Noyes will return to his portable behind the library.
- OT/PT and Gifted programming will take place in the old grade 5 portables. These portables will be moved in December to the front of the school.

Thank you all for your continued flexibility and understanding of these changes! It is just the beginning! ☺

Finally, please note this schedule of Upcoming Important Events:

Thursday, August 24th @Time TBD!	~ Infinite Campus classroom assignments will be available for you to view.
Sunday, August 26th @ 9:00 am	~ PTA Front of school clean up!
Monday, August 28th @4:00	~ Kindergarten Playdate on HH playground
Tuesday, August 29th @6:00-6:45	~ Principal's Meet & Greet in the library. There will be a read aloud and a chance to say hello in order to lessen any jitters about the new principal before the first day of school! This is also an opportunity to pick up your School Supplies order, also between 6:00-6:45. One stop shopping!
Wednesday, August 30th @8:30-9:00	~ Classroom Visits School Supplies order can also be picked up at this time!
Thursday, August 31st	~ FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! :)
Monday, September 4th	~ School closed; Labor Day
Tuesday, September 12th	~ Open House 6:00-6:30 (K-2 parents visit classroom) 6:35-6:55 All parents in the Gym 7:00-7:30 (3-5 parents visit classroom)
Friday, September 15th @6:00	~ Fall Family Picnic

My door is always open to you and I look forward to seeing all of you and your children in the next few weeks! Enjoy the last moments of summer while you can!

Warmly,

Molly Farrell