



CALEB GREENWOOD
An International Baccalaureate World School

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Erin Hanson, Principal
Sacramento City Unified School District

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Dear Caleb Greenwood Families,

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year at Caleb Greenwood! We are looking forward to welcoming you back to school on August 30, but in the meantime, want to share some information with you make sure you are prepared for the first day of school!

BELL SCHEDULE

SCUSD will continue to give teachers dedicated time every week to plan together to support improved outcomes for students. To accommodate this collaborative time, we will continue to release students early on Thursdays.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays

Kinder: 7:55am-11:30am

1st-6th Grades: 8:00am-2:12pm

Thursdays (including the first day of school)

Kinder: 7:55am-11:30am

1st-6th Grades: 8:00am-1:12pm

UPCOMING DATES

Kindergarten Meet & Greet – Thursday, August 23, 3pm-5pm

Meet your kinder teacher, learn about the first day of school and visit your classroom.

Kindergarten Back to School Party – Thursday, August 23, 5pm-7pm

Meet other kinder families for an evening play date at Glenn Hall Park. Bring your own picnic dinner.

Back to School Social – Monday, August 27, 5pm-5:30pm

Meet your teacher and catch up with our Caleb community.
Class lists will be posted at 5pm. School will close at 5:30pm.

First Day of School – Thursday, August 30, 7:55am-1:12pm

PTSO Boohoo/Yahoo Coffee – Thursday, August 30, 8am-9am

After you drop your child(ren) off for the first day of school, commiserate or celebrate with other parents and our PTSO Board with coffee and breakfast treats.

Back to School Night – Wednesday, September 12

Parents only, please join us to find out about the 2018-19 school year, learn how to get involved, and hear from your child's teacher about this year's Program of Inquiry, events, class expectations and communication.

When attending these events and viewing class lists for the first time, please know that our staff takes great measures each spring to build balanced classes that allow teachers to maximize student learning and meet individual needs. This is a careful and thoughtful process that has already been completed, so please understand that I am unable to consider individual requests for class changes. It is important to us that every child has a positive, challenging and meaningful experience at Caleb Greenwood. Please know that if, at any time, you have concerns or questions about your child's education, the teachers and I will always make time to talk with you.

STAFFING CHANGES

As with any profession, people move and positions change. At the end of last year, we said goodbye to Ms. Cynthia Lee, who retired and Mr. Tom Wolthuis, who moved on to a new position at another site. Ms. Lyn Dilley also retired this summer, giving us the opportunity to find yet another new teacher. This year we welcome Ms. Anna Symkowick-Rose to a full-time position in 4th grade as well as Mr. Sam Prowell who is joining Ms. Symkowick-Rose and Ms. Mercado in 4th grade. We also welcome Ms. Kristi Hiatt and Ms. Kirsten Noel in 5th grade. Ms. Brittne Bond has moved to kindergarten. We also welcome Ms. Hannah Orr as our fourth RSP teacher and Ms. Imelda Ramirez is joining us as a full-time aide after several years of working at Caleb part-time.

ACADEMIC UPDATES

This year, SCUSD has adopted a new English Language Arts/English Language Development curriculum called Benchmark Advanced. All teaching staff has been fully trained in the use of this curriculum and we are implementing it fully in all grades, which means you will certainly see some different materials in your child's work and assessments. We will be working throughout this year and next to weave together the new ELA curriculum and our IB units, but you can expect us to maintain our focus on developing our students as global citizens regardless of the materials we use. To learn more about the Benchmark Advanced curriculum, visit <http://www.scusd.edu/elaeld-materials-adoption>.

IB PYP UPDATE

It's hard to believe, but this spring will mark four years since our initial authorization as an IB World School. As such, we are required to participate in a Self Study of our own program, which we embarked on as a staff last year and will complete by December 1, 2018. Following the completion of our Self Study, we will participate in our first IB PYP Evaluation sometime in March or April 2019. We will share details and updates about this process as we finalize each requirement and receive more information from the International Baccalaureate Organization.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

This is a great time to stop by and get a jumpstart on your volunteer paperwork. Remember that even with cleared fingerprints, an annual Level II Background Check is required for all school volunteers. Submitting this early will make it possible for you to volunteer in the classroom sooner. If you are hoping to go on field trips with your child this year, you also must have your fingerprints processed (only one time) which takes 6 to 8 weeks, so stop by soon to get the paperwork and information you need to make this happen. The office is open 8am-4pm, Monday through Friday.

FAMILY MENTOR PROGRAM

If you are a new family to Caleb Greenwood or just looking to get the lay of the land, PTSO has a program just for you! Contact PTSO President, Nicole Purcell at CalebGreenwoodPTSO@gmail.com to get matched up with another Caleb Greenwood family to help guide you through the new school year.

Lastly, please take a few more minutes to review the attached school year calendar and bell schedules, classroom supply lists and Wellness Policy.

Getting a full night's sleep each night, eating a nutritious breakfast daily, limiting screen time, arriving at school on time everyday and having needed supplies are critical factors in how your child is able to learn for the entire school day. Please do your best to begin the summer-to-school transition early so we have rested and prepared students on the first important days of school and throughout the year. I look forward to working with you all this year and am eager to see our students as we celebrate the beginning of a new school year!

Warmly,

Erin Hanson, Principal
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