



# St. Mark's

**PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN**  
**TUCSON, ARIZONA • SINCE 1966**

July 16, 2018

Dear Families,

Welcome to St. Mark's Preschool & Kindergarten for the 2018-19 school year! I look forward to continuing the strong tradition of education, community and excellence. I am proud to be the Director of this great school. Your children will be filled with learning, laughter, and wonder as they embark upon this adventure to prepare for the future.

The school year officially begins on Monday, August 6. There are two important events before that date. **Parent Orientation is Thursday evening, August 2**, beginning at 7pm in Geneva Hall. This evening is for adults only; no child care will be provided.

We will introduce our 2018-2019 staff, discuss updates, and go over items for the upcoming school year; then your child's teacher will give you important information regarding your child's experience at St. Mark's in the individual classrooms. We have a social component to the evening as well and hope you can join us for a **Parent Mixer** just before the Orientation starting at 6:30pm. This is a fun time to come and reconnect with other parents and meet new faces for the coming year. We hope to see you here.

The following morning, Friday, August 3, is the **Classroom Visitation** for families. Students and their families may visit their classroom and teachers between 9:30-11am. Please note: this visitation is for families—parents should stay with their children for the duration of the visit. The gates to the school will not be open until 9:25am so please arrive after 9:25. This is an excellent opportunity for your child to become acquainted with their new school environment.

I would like to take a moment to introduce our 2018-2019 St. Mark's teachers and staff! **Shyleigh Scott** and **April Gering** are getting ready for another great Kindergarten year in Room F.

**Corinne Lewis** and **Bobbie Monjaras** will be together once again in Room E. They are planning a great year with the four year olds and have many fun activities already in store.

**Anna Kolb** and **Lisa Depascal** are joining up to create a fun, learning environment together for four year olds in Rm. D with the Nature class.

**Sydney Lunsford** and **Carina Porcelli** will be working together this year for a delightful year filled with many learning adventures alongside the three-year-olds in the Giraffe class in Rm. C.

**Sarah Barber** will be helping our youngest children learn about school, friendships and making daily discoveries in Room B with the Monkeys.

**Shayna Smith** and **Veronica Hamm** are looking forward to working together for a year of student-led activities with the Wild Things in Room A.

**Ann Brewster** will be leading the Extended Day program once again. Ann will be working with **Breanna Trejo** and **Martha MacMaster** to create a fun, enriching program in the afternoon.

**Hilary Myli** and **Annie Tong** return this year to provide excellent quality and consistency in the office— keeping parents informed, costs down, and the school in running order. Hilary is our Office Manager/Bookkeeper and gymnastics coach. Annie Tong is our Office Assistant, Substitute Teacher, and Librarian.

St. Mark's is pleased to offer quality enrichment programs as part of our regular curriculum. **Annie Tong** will offer a check-out library day on Tuesdays, **Hilary Myli** and **Jennifer Davenport** will be bringing gymnastics lessons to the kids on Wednesdays, **Alicia Hagerman** will teach Music and Movement on Thursdays, and **Maribel Hernandez** will teach Spanish on Fridays. Please note enrichment classes will begin the week of September 3. If you would like your child to participate in an enrichment class which occurs on a day they are not enrolled, you may bring your child to school for the enrichment class time, at no additional charge. We simply ask that you stay the 30 minutes with your child in the class.

We have excellent substitute teachers, including **Ashley Cristofori**, **Delena Britnell**, **Gabby Hernandez**, **Kassandra Sandoval**, alumni parents **Jennifer Davenport** and **Melissa Hodges**, and alumni staff **Leslee Higginbottom** and **Kathy Meakins**.

We will continue to offer a **pizza lunch** option on Fridays. This will begin the first Friday, August 10, of the school year. The cost is \$5.00 per lunch and is billed to the following month's tuition. The sign-up for pizza is in the front of each class sign in book.

I want to thank everyone for all of their support of the Spring Fun!Raiser last year as well as other **fundraising events**. With your efforts we are able to offer some wonderful scholarships to families in need this year. We also were able to purchase new classroom materials and provide all staff with a raise. I hope many of you will get involved again this year to make our program great and a continuing success!

As the school year quickly approaches, I want to remind everyone to return all their paperwork and forms, including immunization records, to the office ASAP. Lastly, any important information, including schedules and keycards, will be presented in a folder at the Parent Orientation. The Family Handbook will be emailed to families. Take a moment to read through the material presented, especially the Family Handbook, as it explains many of our school policies. We look forward to seeing you in August and we hope you can come early for the Parent Mixer. Here's to a wonderful year!

Warm Regards,



Alicia Durbin, M.Ed.



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