



HERONFIELD ACADEMY

March 30, 2021

Dear Heronfield Families,

I sat down to write last week with two topics in mind before writing a lighter piece about the start of spring and the many ways that we are coming out of our hibernation, so to speak, as a school community. I'm excited for the weeks ahead, and I encourage you to take notice of the many announcements in this newsletter - further evidence of a vibrant spring to come.

To be honest, the other topic of last week is a bit more challenging and yet it, too, needs a bit of exploration. Last week, we had just learned of the events in my home state of Colorado, in a town and at a grocery store chain that are both very familiar from my childhood. And the events in Boulder followed another awful tragedy in Atlanta, one made all the more difficult by the clear racial elements and the recognition of the rising hostility toward Asian-Americans in our country over the last year. As I write, I add my voice to the many that have spoken out against this hate. I join others in expressing sadness for the ways that we as human beings consistently see those we don't know as categories, labels, and targets of blame for whatever might challenge us as individuals and as a society. I think of friends, of students and colleagues at three schools. I wonder what they have been going through and how to be part of the solution.

When times like these come into our consciousness, it's possible to be saddened and remain so. But the human spirit is remarkably strong, and it has been equally important to see the memorial built by strangers at the King Soopers in Boulder, and to see the outpouring of solidarity for Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders, to see so many step forward and share resources and spread compassion and just take the time to know someone's name and hear her story.

Times like these are undoubtedly hard, but times like these also provide reminders to hold people close and value a community such as ours. The emerging spring offers clear evidence that things change on a school campus, and as a school we will continue to consider how we can keep moving forward and helping our students grow. At the same time, we will always build on the foundation of our values, the shared commitment to find unity in our differences, to celebrate every individual for who they are, and to lead with respect and kindness in all that we do. We cannot change what happens, but we can learn from it and grow from it. We can honor those lost by bringing light to the world in our own ways and by teaching our young people all we can so that they will join us in creating a better world.

There is indeed much to reflect upon, but also so much to be grateful for. As we look ahead to a warming spring here at Heronfield, let's build on the opportunities that we have already shared this year and allow the joy, laughter, and sunshine to fill our souls at a time when we really need it.

Warmly, John

CONFERENCES:

Heronfield will be holding student-led conferences via Zoom on Friday, April 16. Classes will not be held that day and students should participate from home. Later this week, a SignUp Genius email will be sent for you to select a time slot to conference with one of your student's teachers. Contact Amy Green at frontoffice@heronfield.org if you don't receive an email or if you have any questions or need an alternative date. (Check your junk folder first, sometimes email providers or your settings don't like SignUp Genius!)

SPRING FUNDRAISER:

New Date Announcement! Our Spring Fundraiser, **A Night on the Farm**, will be an in-person event held at Heronfield's campus on **Friday, May 14th from 5:30-9:00pm!** Tickets will be on sale in mid April. Thank you to all who have donated and sponsored this fun evening. Please see our [website](#) for more information. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Gray at jgraay@marketstreettalent.com.

COMMUNITY MEETING and SANCTUARY SPEAKERS

Seventh grade parent Keith O'Brien shared his experiences as a writer at today's Community Meeting. Ms. Donovan will speak about Easter at tomorrow's Sanctuary meeting. Up next week: Mr. Clark presents the finals of the geography bee, and Mr. Turner talks about connecting with the land in our National Parks.

MR. DEMERS HOSTS "AFTERNOON TEA"

Beginning tomorrow, Mr. Demers will be opening the TEA Studio after school on Wednesdays and Thursdays this spring from 2:15-3:15 to provide additional guidance and time to work on curriculum projects. Seventh and eighth grade parents should look for an email with additional information from Mr. Demers.

HERONFIELD GEAR

The online store is now open for all your HA gear. Click [here](#) to see our Spring collection. To ensure that all orders arrive prior to summer break, the deadline will be **Tuesday, April 6** so get your orders in now, as we will not be able to extend the deadline!

SPEEDING CARS

As Spring arrives, we need to remind all our parents to please drive slowly up our driveway and on our neighboring streets, specifically Ashbrook Road. We have received a call from a resident on Ashbrook with information on cars (make, model, license plate numbers) that are exceeding the 25mph limit. Our neighborhood is passionate about the safety of our walkers, bikers, dogs and children so please slow it down and enjoy the sunny weather! The police will begin monitoring.

Important Dates:

Thurs, April 1: Q3 ends

Game Time 2:15-3:15pm

Fri, April 2: **NO SCHOOL**-Good Friday

Thurs, April 8: Game Time 2:15-3:15pm

Fri, April 9: Game Time 2:15-3:15pm

Mon, April 12: 6th Grade Arts Night 5:30pm