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From Head of Lower School
Lisa Surace

July 2014

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the teachers and staff, I hope that you and your family are enjoying a fun and restful summer. We are already busy in preparation for the upcoming school year. In this packet, you will find some important back-to-school information.

We begin the year by welcoming all students who are new to PDS in grades PreK-4 for an orientation on Thursday, August 28 from 8:00-9:30 a.m. School for all students begins on Tuesday, September 2 at 8:00 a.m. On August 15, we will mail home a letter with your child’s classroom teacher for the 2014-2015 school year.

I encourage you to refer to the PDS calendar (www.pds.org/calendar) regularly for upcoming events and important dates. We will update the school website regularly during the summer with important news and announcements. Please do not hesitate to call the Lower School office with any questions. Marie Shock and I will be available throughout the summer at 609-924-6700 x 1500. You may also reach me by email at lsurace@pds.org.

Summer Reading and Math
We hope and expect that your children will continue to read and practice math consistently throughout the summer. Continuing to read and practice math skills is incredibly important for students and their academic achievement. Students don’t just feel like they’ve forgotten some of what they’ve learned – they actually do forget some of it. Summer reading and math work can prevent this from happening.

We encourage children to read “just right” books over the summer. Even if your child is a strong reader, we hope that parents and children will continue reading books out loud together. This provides a special bonding time and a model for reading with expression and fluency.

It is our hope that children read every day to maintain skills and enjoy the magical world of the written (or digital) word. Read widely and wildly. Choose a variety of genres and formats. Go to the Lower School Reading page (www.pds.org/LS-Library) to find suggested reading lists, reading logs, and other resources. You may also get ideas of what to read from visiting your public library, bookstores, teachers, and friends.

All students entering grades 2-4 are expected to complete a log of the books they have read over the summer. Reading logs can be downloaded on the LS Reading Page. Students are simply asked to list each book they read and to bring their reading logs on the first day of school. More specific instructions for reading logs can be found on the forms.

Lower School librarian, Jenny Mischner has also introduced an optional Summer Reading sketchbook program. Instructions and writing prompts can be found on the LS Reading Page.

continued on the next page
ebooks:
All students entering grades 2-4 can log into the PDS Library catalog to read and check out ebooks. The user ID for each student is the first three letters of their first name followed by the first three letters of their last name and the two digit number of the year in which the student will graduate from PDS (i.e., lissur24). The password for students entering grades 2 and 3 is panther (all lower case). The password for children entering 4th grade is their student number.

Directions for accessing Follett ebooks from pds.org:
Click on the link to the LS Reading Page, and choose Library Catalog under Library Resources (under reading logs, reading lists, and summer sketchbooks). On the Library Catalog page, click on the link for Princeton Day School then click on the login button on the top right. Enter the user name and password, then click on Log In. The student's name will appear on the top right. Click on the Follett Shelf button on the left side of the screen. The list of titles will appear. You can click on the book to open it. To check the book out, click on the bookbag icon at the top of the screen. Ebooks will automatically check themselves back in after a week but you can return them early by clicking on the bookbag icon. Students can check out one ebook at a time.

Math
An ongoing goal for math in the Lower School is computational fluency, and that is best supported through ongoing exposure and practice. We strongly suggest that children engage in math activities regularly throughout the summer. There are multiple ways to do this. Stacey Walker, LS math resource teacher has a wiki with many wonderful activities and math apps. Each child in the LS has an IXL account—this includes students new to PDS—and these accounts remain active throughout the summer to continue math practice. (Parents may contact Marie Shock for IXL login information at mshock@pds.org.) Play family games that incorporate math (i.e. Monopoly, Yatzhee, Parcheesi). Sign up for Bedtime Math (www.bedtimemath.org) to work on real life problem solving. Bake with your child and practice measurement skills. Practicing several times a week will ensure that your child has a great start to school in the fall!

App-pealing Apps
Lower School Technology Coordinator Carol Olson has included a list of suggestions and recommendations of apps for your child to use at home on her wiki, which can be accessed here.

Sincerely,

Lisa Surace, Ph.D.
Head of Lower School
General Information

- All PreK, K, and new students in grades 1-4 and their parents are invited to visit classrooms on Thursday, August 28 at 8:00 a.m. There will be an information session for parents at this time. For more information about orientation, please visit: www.pds.org/2014-orientation-schedule
- School begins for students in grades PreK–4 at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 2.
- The school day begins at 8:00 a.m. Classroom doors open at 7:45 a.m. so work can begin at 8:00. For those who need to drop children off before 7:45, care is available in the library from 7:15–7:45 a.m. at no charge.
- Students will be dismissed at 3:00 p.m. every day except Wednesday when dismissal is 1:30 p.m.
- Buses DO NOT provide service for the 1:30 dismissal on Wednesdays, but will transport children at 3:00. There will be Stay and Play available beginning at 1:30 on Wednesdays for those who travel by bus or need to leave later than 1:30 p.m.
- Back-to-School Night will be on Tuesday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m. for parents of students in grade PreK–2.
- Back-to-School Night will be Thursday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. for parents of students in grades 3 and 4.
- It is very important that every child be aware of his/her arrangements for transportation. If there is any change in your child’s usual carpool or busing, please send a note of explanation to the classroom teacher in advance or call Marie Shock at extension 1500.
- Please phone the school before 8:30 a.m. if your child will not be in school due to illness or for any other reason. Marie Shock will take your call at extension 1500.
- Every student must bring sneakers for use in gym. All clothing (especially shoes, boots, and jackets) should be clearly and indelibly marked with the student’s name.
- Parents will be notified before school begins about any required supplies.
- Please note that backpacks must be able to fit into your child’s locker.
- We discourage possession and use of cell phones by LS students.
- Students may bring lunch from home, purchase a subscription lunch in advance or purchase food and/or beverages on a daily basis. For meal plan information, visit: www.pds.org/file/documents/Meal-Plan-2013.pdf
- The Stay and Play Program begins at the end of each child’s academic day and ends promptly at 6:00 p.m. On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday the program runs from 3:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. On Wednesday, the program runs from 1:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m. The fee for the program will be $8.00 per hour for all students enrolled in grades PreK-4. It is most important that you arrive by 6:00, as pick-up after 6:00 p.m. will be charged at the rate of $2.00 per minute. Please advise the Director of the Program, Heidi Spillane, at 924-6700 ext. 1502 or hspillane@pds.org, if your child will be attending. Families may participate in the program at any time during the year and on the days of their choice. The emergency cell phone number for Stay and Play is 609-915-0145.
- Exterior doors lock at 8:10 a.m. and remain locked for the remainder of the day. Parents may access the school when doors are locked by purchasing an ID/access card, which is programmed to open exterior doors. Each card costs $10 and may be obtained at orientation and back-to-school nights. Please note that parents are still required to sign in upon entering the school.
- Car Line Procedures and Safety: The area directly in front of the Lower School is for drop off/pick up of students. Each Lower School family will receive a Car Line Visor Tag to be kept in the car and used for pick up. The tag should be on the passenger side visor and be clearly visible. Drivers are to form a line and follow the directions of traffic personnel. The children will be escorted to the appropriate vehicle in the line. Parents who would like to walk their child into the school must park in designated spaces.
## PRINCETON DAY SCHOOL
### Calendar 2014-2015

For a complete calendar visit [www.pds.org](http://www.pds.org)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Wed., Pre-Season Athletics Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-22</td>
<td>Thurs. &amp; Fri., New Faculty Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-26</td>
<td>Mon. &amp; Tues., Opening Faculty Meetings/In-Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Wed., US Orientation for New 9th Grade Students MS Orientation for New 6th-8th Grade Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Thurs., US Orientation for New &amp; Returning 9th Grade Students and New 10th &amp; 11th Grade Students MS Orientation for All 5th Grade Students (&amp; Parents) LS Orientation for All PreK &amp; K Students &amp; New 1st-4th Grade Students</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tues., PreK-12 Classes Begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tues., LS Back-to-School Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Thurs., LS Back-to-School Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Wed., MS Back-to-School Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Thurs., US Back-to-School Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Tues., New Parent Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Thursday, No School, Rosh Hashanah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mon., No School, Columbus Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Thurs., No Classes, Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Fri., No Classes, Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Wed., 9:30 a.m. start time: Students in grades 5-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Tues., Thanksgiving Break begins after dismissal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mon., No Classes, Faculty In-Service Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tues., PreK-12 Classes Resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Fri., Winter Break begins after dismissal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mon., PreK-12 Classes Resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Mon., No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Mon., 9:30 a.m. start time: Students in grades 5-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Fri., No School, Presidents' Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Mon., No School, Presidents' Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Thurs., No Lower School Classes, Parent/Teacher Conferences</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Fri., Spring Break begins after dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Mon., PreK-12 Classes resume</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fri., No School, Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Thurs., 9:30 a.m. start time: Students in grades 5-12</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Mon., No School, Memorial Day</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tues., LS Final Assembly: Early Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wed., MS Closing Ceremony: Early Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Thurs., US Classes: Early Dismissal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fri., US Commencement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the Health Office

July 2014

Dear Princeton Day School Families,

We would like to help familiarize you with the services and requirements of the Health Office.

For New Families: We must receive a copy of the New Jersey State A-45 Health Card from your child’s last school in New Jersey by August 1, 2014. If your child is transferring from a New Jersey school, please instruct the school to forward the A-45 cards to our attention. In addition, you should now have received an email from the Magnus Health System with a username and password so that you can access, complete, and upload all required health forms for Princeton Day School. We use Magnus to process and store our student health forms.

For All Families: All students must provide Magnus Health with their annual physical exam report, updated immunization record, and complete all other School requirements by August 1, 2014. In addition, athletes competing in the fall season MUST submit the Fall Health History Update prior to Pre-Season Athletics, which begin on August 20.

Regarding Medications at the School: We require written parental consent and a doctor’s order to dispense medications other than those listed on our “Permission for Over the Counter Medication” form. (You can find this form on your child’s Magnus profile.)

Guidelines regarding medications at school are as follows:

• Prescription medication and all medications not included in the “Permission for Over the Counter Medication” form requires the “Request for Medication Administration by School Nurse” form.
• Inhalers/Nebulizer Treatments require an “Asthma Treatment Plan” form.
• Epi-pens/ Benedryl require an “Allergy Action Plan” form.

* In all of the above: Please hand in forms with the medication in its original labeled bottle to the Health Office.

For more information, please review the “Health & Student Services” page on the School website, found under “Student Life.” In addition, please make a note of the Magnus Help Desk phone number: 1-877-461-6831. The Magnus staff will assist you with any questions you have, as well as guide you with faxing, uploading or mailing the required health forms.

Thank you, and enjoy your summer,

Nina Keller RN, MSN
Holly Goldberg RN
Dawn Thompson MD
From the Communications Office

July 2014

Dear Parents,

I hope you are enjoying your summer! My goal throughout the year is to keep you informed of important school news and announcements. Please look to the official school website (www.pds.org), in the Division Newsletters (weekly LS News, weekly MS Focus Notes, and monthly US News), on our social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube), and in your email inbox for communications from Princeton Day School. If you have trouble finding any information, please don’t hesitate to contact me directly at krosko@pds.org.

Here is some information to help guide you in the coming year:

The School Website and “Inside PDS”:
Please check the school website, www.pds.org, regularly for news, events, and announcements. “Inside PDS” is the password-protected part of the website, where you will:
• Access your child’s grades and comments
• Complete the reenrollment process
• Update your contact information on “My Profile” (Note that this information will be used in the online directory, printed directory, for the school’s emergency notification system, and to distribute school email, so please make sure the preferred information is accurate for each parent.)
• Find announcements specific to your child’s division, a link to your child’s athletic team page with a calendar of games and practices (grades 6-12), Parents Association updates, events, lunch menus, and a wealth of information about daily life at PDS

Please note that each parent/guardian has a unique username and password to access “Inside PDS.” If you have forgotten your login information, please click on “Retrieve Login Information” and type in your email address. You will receive your username and a link to change your password. If you need assistance, please email communications@pds.org.

Printed and Online Directories:
At the beginning of the school year, in early September, each family will receive a printed PDS directory with contact information for faculty, staff, and families. Please update your information on “My Profile” by August 1 to be included in the printed directory. Your information will also always be available in the online directory on “Inside PDS” (www.pds.org/directory).

continued on the next page

Useful Links:
Orientation schedule:  www.pds.org/2014-orientation-schedule

Student Handbooks (Lower School, Middle School, Upper School): Read through these guides for information on everything from school hours to traffic etiquette to dress code.
 www.pds.org/handbook

Calendars:
At-a-Glance Calendar: www.pds.org/calendar-at-a-glance
Events Calendar: www.pds.org/calendar
Athletics Calendar: www.pds.org/Athletics-Calendar

Stay and Play: After-school program for LS students

Homework Club: After-school program for MS students
 www.pds.org/MS-Student-Life


Parents Association page: www.pds.org/pdspa

A to Z Guide to Princeton Day School: A guide to the culture and places at PDS
 www.pds.org/atoz

Have a wonderful summer, and we all look forward to seeing you in the fall!

With best wishes,

Kathryn Rosko
Director of Communications
Dear Princeton Day School Families,

Welcome to the PDS Sustainability Initiative 2014-15. It was an exciting year and we are becoming a more environmentally sustainable school in the areas of facilities, curriculum and behavior.

Some Highlights from 2013-14:
We initiated industrial composting for the snack bar containers. The garden program blossomed and began to move into the Middle School. We had a successful barn week, harvest dinner, seedling and seed sale. Not all of our changes are visible when you walk on campus, so check out last year’s highlights and what we’ve accomplished overall at: www.pds.org/Sustainability.

Please support our sustainability program by participating in the activities below.

PDS Harvest Dinner: Save the Date, October 18
The Upper School Environmental Action (EnAct) and Garden Clubs will unite again to cook and serve a sustainable dinner feast using veggies from our own PDS garden and from other local farms as a fundraiser for the PDS garden. Families of all ages are welcome. There will be garden tours and beehive visits. Students will be speaking about environmental issues and there will be terrific music. We sell out early!

Carpool:
Carpooling is another great way to practice sustainability. To make it easier for families to search for other families in their area with whom they can carpool to Princeton Day School, we have now added a “city” search function to our online parent directory. You can find the online parent directory with a carpool map by logging into Inside PDS and clicking on Directory (www.pds.org/directory). We hope you will email families in your area to see who might like to carpool. A parent ambassador from the Parents Association is also happy to be a liaison to help connect families to carpool (check the Parents Association page on the website for more information: www.pds.org/PDSPA). Save time, save gas, reduce carbon emissions.

PDSeeds: PDSeeds is the Parents Association committee for sustainability at our school. We meet once a month and plan many activities. You don’t have to be an expert to enjoy our meetings or the many events we sponsor. For more information contact Carol Mills at bradcarolmills@msn.com or Beth Sparandera at nantucketbeth@aol.com.

Our Car Idling Policy: For the health of our children, we have a NO IDLING policy. Please reduce the amount of pollution your children inhale by not idling your car while you wait for your child. Experts advise that if you are waiting for more than 10 seconds, you should turn off your car. You will also seriously reduce your environmental impact and save gas money. Check out an article here www.slate.com/id/2192187/ for more specifics about car idling. This is good for your pocketbook, for the environment, and for your kids.

Zero Waste Campus: Help us move closer to a ZERO-waste campus. If you send your child with lunch or a snack, please package it in a reusable lunchbox/bag. Consider reusable plastic containers (of the Tupperware type) of a variety of sizes, a reusable bottle, and a cloth napkin. Taking care of the lunchbox is a good way to help your child learn responsibility. Our composting program has put 65 tons of food waste and nutrients back into the soil rather than sending it to the landfill. You can be a part of the solution!

Athletics: Your athlete needs his/her own reusable water bottle and a snack!
A REUSABLE water bottle is a required piece of athletic equipment. Please make sure your child has one in his or her after school athletic gear bag everyday. Even if we recycle disposable water bottles, imagine how much plastic is used in making them and how much gas is used in transporting them to your store! Save your money and our environment. Consider a reusable water bottle part of your athlete’s essential gear. Please send your athlete with an after school snack. We are also trying to cut down on single serving snack bags and discourage parents from bringing in cases of bottled beverages or multipacks of disposable snack bags. The snack bar stays open after school for your child to buy a snack if you don’t wish to send one.

Best regards,
Liz Cutler
Sustainability Coordinator, US English Teacher
July 2014

Dear Parents,

The Princeton Day School Parents Association warmly welcomes all PDS families for the 2014-2015 Academic Year. The Parents Association (PA) is an integral part of the PDS community and helps support a wide range of school activities, including music, visual and performing arts, athletics, PDS libraries, faculty appreciation, sustainability, social events for parents and students, multicultural development, and educational lectures for parents.

Everyone is encouraged to get involved, as each division needs volunteers throughout the year. It can be helping in the Lower School Library, making hot chocolate for a Middle School skating party, or volunteering for Post-Prom in Upper School. There are volunteer opportunities to fit everyone’s schedule. Please see the complete list of volunteer opportunities in this packet and check off the items that interest you. If you have any questions, you can contact the PA Division Chair listed on top of the form or me at vgoldberg64@comcast.net. Please mail or bring the forms to the reception desk to be placed in the PA mailbox.

Join us for our first PA meeting on Wednesday, September 17 at 8:15 a.m. in the McAneny Theater. PA meetings are held every 4-6 weeks and are open to all PDS parents. It is a chance to meet other parents and hear updates from our Head of School, Paul Stellato. We schedule speakers for these meetings with topics of interest in raising children and teenagers. The dates for these meetings will be posted on the Parents Association page of the PDS website (www.pds.org/pdspa).

The New Parent Dinner is scheduled for September 23 at 6:30 p.m. PA Committee Chairs will be available to answer any questions about what volunteering in their committee entails. You will also hear from Head of School Paul Stellato and Chair of the Board of Trustees Barbie Cole. I would highly recommend that all new parents attend this truly special event.

Remember that using the PDS website (www.pds.org) regularly is the best way to stay updated on important school information and events. Click on “Inside PDS” and log in with your username and password. If you have any problems logging in, email communications@pds.org for assistance.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you this fall. Enjoy your time with your families for the rest of the summer!

Best Regards,

Gina Goldberg
President, PDS Parents Association
Parents Association
Lower School Volunteer Opportunities

Lower School Chair: Sejal Doshi. . . . . . . 609 466-1025/sddoshi@gmail.com
Lower School Assistant Chair: Wendy Roitburg 908-874-4760/wlgertner@yahoo.com

Parent’s Name______________________________________________________

COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

Annual Fund
- Class Representative  Grade: _____
- Phonathon Caller

Art Action (Visual Arts)
- General Support
- Arts Events
- Anne Reid Art Gallery

Bindery
- Assemble, Bind and Decorate Books/Covers

Book Fair 2015
- Display/Set-up/Clean-up
- Publicity/Staffing

Booster Club (Petite Panthers)
- Fall Weekend

Community and Multicultural Development
- Plan and Coordinate Events

Friends of the PDS Libraries
- Volunteer in the LS Library
- Special Events/Publicity/Hospitality

Ovations (Music Department)
- LS Strings Parent Liaisons
- Chamber Music Ensemble Parent Liaisons

Parent Ambassador
- Meet and Greet/Tour Guide

PDSEEDS (Sustainability)
- Plan and Coordinate Events
- Help in the Garden
- Walks—Publicity/Staffing

HOSPITALITY

Faculty and Staff Appreciation Lunch
- Plan and Coordinate Event
- Set-up/Greet/Serve/Clean-up

Parent Socials
(Circle grade: PreK, K, 1, 2, 3, 4)
- Host event
- Provide food/drink/supplies
- Invitations

Please return to the Parents Association
Princeton Day School, P.O. Box 75, Princeton, NJ 08542
PRINCETON DAY SCHOOL
Mission Statement

Princeton Day School nurtures the mind, the body, and the character of each student. In academics, athletics, the arts, and service, we celebrate the pursuit of individual excellence and the spirit of collaboration that binds us together as a community. We seek diversity of cultures, views, and talents to promote the intellectual growth and moral development of our students.

Our rigorous and broad PreK-12 program is designed for motivated and academically talented students. We emphasize both creative and critical thought and their clear expression. Supported by an exceptional faculty and a cooperative partnership of school and home, our students discover the joy of learning. They explore their interests, cultivate enduring relationships with teachers and peers, take risks, and thrive.

Integrity, respect, and compassion are essential to the school’s mission. Our students leave Princeton Day School well equipped for college and beyond: prepared to act knowledgeably, to lead thoughtfully, to share generously, and to contribute meaningfully.