

FRIENDS SELECT

May 30, 2019

Dear friends and families,

This will be the final Notes from the Director for the year.

2018-19 was a wonderful year for the upper school. Energy was high, kindness reigned, and we reaffirmed ourselves to our mission. Walking through the hallway the past few weeks, I can say confidently that I have seen personal and academic growth in every one of the students I pass.

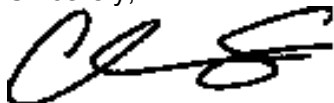
As you get ready for summer, I want to share one of my favorite poems with you. I've always enjoyed this poem, but especially have loved the last two lines and how they connect with our *Whole of Life* motto. As you and your children enter into summertime, hopefully there will be reflective moments and times to commit to what matters most in life.

"The Summer Day"

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean-
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?
—Mary Oliver

Have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,



Chris Singler
Upper School Director