

July 30, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians of the Class of 2021,

We are preparing for the Seventh Grade retreat at the Happy Valley Conference Center in Scotts Valley. This retreat is a unique opportunity for the Class of 2021 to continue to build camaraderie, cohesion, leadership skills, and get to know each other even better. The girls will have two days filled with high and low ropes activities, campfire, games, hikes, and other team building activities. The Seventh Grade advisors are looking forward to working with the girls on this retreat.

On **Monday, August 24th, from 8-9 am**, we ask all students and at least one parent per family to attend a mandatory Opening Meeting in the Dining Room to hear about retreat and a little about the year ahead. (Class ties and the Castilleja Planner will be distributed; we ask that you take them home so that they are ready for the start of school.) Immediately following this meeting, students will depart Castilleja via buses for their Retreat. Castilleja will provide bag lunches for Monday, and all other meals will be provided on site at Happy Valley. A detailed packing list is posted on the student and parent portals. Arrival back at school is planned for **3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25th**.

There is **one form**, from APEX Adventures, that needs to be completed and returned by Monday, August 17th. It applies to participation in the ropes activities. Please also be sure that your daughter's **on-line medical and dietary information is updated** as this provides vital information for the chaperones and food service staff at Happy Valley.

While the girls are on retreat, if you need to leave an urgent message, the daytime number for our program at Happy Valley is (831) 426-1756. This is a message machine that we will check once or twice during the day. The nighttime emergency number is (831) 426-1796. Please only use this number in an extreme situation as it goes directly to the on-site program director. Due to its location in the Santa Cruz Mountains, cell phone reception is spotty. If you need to reach the group, please use the numbers listed above.

If we are delayed upon return for any reason, we will call the reception desk at Castilleja.

This promises to be an exciting retreat for the seventh grade and a wonderful way to continue community building in the Class of 2021. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at epaick@castilleja.org.

Sincerely,

Eugenie Paick
Seventh Grade Dean