



ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOLS

THE PRIORY ♦ THE PREP ♦ THE PRESCHOOL

July 13, 2018

Dear Lower School Families,

Aloha and welcome to a new year in the Priory Lower School! I hope you and your family had a fun and relaxing summer! We are thrilled that you are part of our school 'ohana and we look forward to sharing this wonderful journey together with your daughter. I am incredibly blessed to be part of a community that continues to honor our founder, Queen Emma Kaleleonālani, and guides our students in a personalized learning environment, grounded firmly in our Hawaiian heritage and Episcopal traditions. We are proud to be fulfilling our mission to help children learn and grow to be courageous and empowered to *Strive for the Highest*.

As we look forward to a new year, we bid farewell to two of our beloved faculty members: **Ms. Eleanor Guerrero** and **Ms. Kaitlin Kalm**. We are grateful for their contributions to The Priory Lower School program and the talents, special gifts, and the dedication they have shown to our students' learning during their time with us.

We are excited to welcome excellent faculty members with diverse professional and personal experiences to our Lower School team. Our second grade teacher, **Ms. Madeline Griggs**, earned a Bachelor's in Elementary Education from Central Methodist University and an Associate's in Elementary Education from Moberly Area Community College. In addition to being trained in Orton Gillingham and multi-sensory learning teaching methods, Ms. Griggs holds an elementary education teaching certificate from Missouri, and a Hawai'i state teaching license. Her teaching experience includes Rock Bridge Elementary in Missouri, and most recently Mililani 'Ike Elementary. Ms. Griggs is excited for the opportunity to bring a highly personalized, engaging, and caring learning environment to her students.

Ms. Elizabeth Pualani Armstrong, third grade teacher, has a Bachelor's in Elementary and Special Education, and a Bachelor's in Political Science from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Her teaching experiences at Ma'ili Elementary, Ali'iolani Elementary, Punahou School, and Hanahau'oli School give her a unique and diversified perspective to support all learners. Her interests include hula, theater, and native Hawaiian culture. She's a graduate of 'Iolani, Hanahau'oli Schools, and alaka'i of Hula Hālau Nā Mamo O Pu'uanahulu. Ms. Armstrong was Miss Hula Oni E in 2014, a Merrie Monarch Miss Aloha Hula contestant in 2015, and Miss Hawai'i USA 3rd Runner Up in 2018. She looks forward to leading her students to an appreciation of their 'āina, actively caring for the global community, and guiding her students toward personal success.

Our new Lower School/Prep P.E. and SEL teacher is **Ms. Mary Reeds Crowley**. She earned her Bachelor's in Studio Art from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, her Associate's in Art from Santa Barbara City College, and completed education coursework at University of San Diego. Ms. Crowley was a Division I Track and Field letter winner (2 years) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She also competed on the Women's Track and Field team and was an MVP at Santa Barbara City College. In addition to teaching P.E., Ms. Crowley will continue our K-5 SEL program and work with our students and faculty to integrate the RULER approach, mindfulness, and yoga to promote self-awareness, self-care, and self-efficacy. Ms. Crowley has earned her teaching certifications in education and yoga (teacher and trainer). Her most recent teaching experience was at 'Aikahi Elementary, where she taught Art to

grades 3-6, and served as Director and Lead Teacher of the Mindfulness Program. She also developed the school's mindfulness curriculum to meet national and state P.E. and health standards.

Kumu Hula Allison Kailihiwa Kahaipiilani Vaughan of Hālau Hula Ka Lehua Tuahine will be joining us as Kumu Hula of The Priory K-12 and The Prep. Kumu Hiwa and her hālau are well-known for their firm foundation in hula traditions stemming from well-known and respected masters of hula. Her hālau has competed in the world famous annual Merrie Monarch Festival in Hilo since 2012. Kumu Hiwa, 1995 Merrie Monarch Miss Aloha Hula and 1985 Miss Keiki Hula, will bring her wealth of Hawaiian culture, knowledge, and hula to our haumāna (students) and our community. Kumu Hiwa comes from a musical family and has traveled throughout Europe, China, and Japan sharing Hawai'i's rich cultural traditions and aloha through song and dance.

We have an exciting and enriching year ahead of us. We have our 'Ohana BBQ, Back to School Night, Nā Kūpuna Day, Lower School Student Council and Spirit Weeks, Field Day at Queen Emma Summer Palace, Fourth and Fifth Grade Camp – and annual favorites like our Talent Show and Christmas and May Day programs – to look forward to! The Upper School Student Council will host the All School Picnic. It's a time of fun, games, and fellowship among our students. Our Lower School opportunities for academic enrichment and competition will be available through our Scripps Spelling Bee and National Geographic Bee. Our faculty will begin its two-year comprehensive review of our Language Arts curriculum. Our learning-by-doing approach to science and technology using the Engineering Design Process, robotics, digital media, and STEAM will continue to encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration, and creativity.

Nature treks and learning trips encourage students to explore their community and the natural wonders around them to enrich their physical, spiritual, and social-emotional well-being. The P.E. department will continue to offer basketball and volleyball through our intramural sports program for fourth and fifth graders in The Priory and The Prep. Opportunities for service learning are integrated throughout each grade level including our school-wide partnership with the Hawaiian Humane Society. Our Farm to Table initiative will be taught through sustainability efforts with gardening, aquaponics, vermiculture, and our chicken coop.

RULER – an evidence-based approach to social and emotional learning – will continue to be part of our health and wellness program along with mindfulness, yoga, and physical education. Weekly religious studies are integrated into our chapel services with Chaplain Annalise. Our Hawaiian values will be affirmed throughout the Lower School with language, mele, and hula. Our students will continue to explore their interests, exercise their creativity, and communicate their learning to others during our Explorations time.

We'd like to share some important dates and events with you to usher in the new school year:

- Fifth grade students must register their computers during **Computer Registration** period (**August 9-10, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., in Queen Emma Library**). Please have your daughter drop off her computer to our Technology Department staff. Students who drop off their computers in the morning may pick up their computers in the afternoon. Students who drop off their computers in the afternoon may pick up their computer the following morning. Please contact technology@standrewsschools.org or call 808-524-3234 for assistance.
- Your child may bring school supplies to class on the first day of school. As an option, you are more than welcome to drop off school supplies in the Lower School Office (Kennedy Hall 105) during the following times: **Wednesday, August 15 (7-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.) and Thursday, August 16 (7-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.)** Please **label** the secured bundle with your child's name and grade.

- We hope to see you at **'Ohana BBQ** (standrewsschools.org/18-bbq), our first big community gathering which will take place on **Friday, August 24, at 5 p.m.**
- Save some money and stock up on your children's uniforms for the year at the **Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) Gently Used Uniforms Pop-Up Shop!** Gently-used uniforms will be on sale at the **'Ohana BBQ**, in **Sellon Hall 104**. Get there early for the best selection! PTF will be accepting cash or check only.
- The High School Student Council Spirit Committee is proud to present this year's **All-School Picnic on Friday, August 31**. There will be games, movies and a water slide! Please refer to the enclosed All-School Picnic flyer for information on attire, what to bring, and bento lunch order information, which may be ordered at the cafeteria window by **Wednesday, August 29**.

Please visit standrewsschools.org/18-19 for back to school information and forms. We have enclosed a **checklist** for you so that your child will be ready for our new school year.

In the interim, please feel free to contact the Lower School Office at 532-2444 with your questions or comments. Thank you for your continued commitment to your child's education and unwavering dedication to St. Andrew's Schools.

Mahalo nui loa,



Ka'ipolani Bailey-Walsh
The Priory Lower School Principal