



Dear Hawthorn Parents,

This was a week of Firsts! The first time we've had students in the school since March. The first live streamed all school assembly, with each cohort in their classroom and the Upper School physically distanced in the gym. The first time the mass was live streamed to the classrooms. And many others.

I hope that you enjoyed this week of firsts and having your daughters back with us in person! It was a memorable first week of school, not only because of the things I've already mentioned but also as the students learned and adjusted to new routines and procedures.

In the Junior School, the students are learning the new procedures and have really impressed their teachers with their dedication to keeping things clean and ensuring that they do things properly. The students have been super happy to be back in the classroom and to be with their friends.

In the Lower School students are excited to be back with their friends and are adapting very well to the new policies and procedures. They have been very patient with the extra time it takes to follow the new sanitation and distancing practices. To help the students adjust, teachers are prioritizing spending the time we need to ensure that everyone practices and learns well the new routines and procedures in place for cohorting, masking, distancing, and sanitizing. Today, the Lower School students had a great time at our modified camp day! They enjoyed spending time outside doing various activities in their cohorts.

In the Upper School students seem to really appreciate being back! Tuesday was spent getting familiarized with new policies (including how to sanitize one's hands according to the World Health Organization!), reviewing new schedules, and meeting teachers, with time in between for outdoor breaks. Wednesday and Thursday were 'camp' days at Hawthorn. Students were able to gradually get back into being at school while wearing masks, keeping social distancing, frequently sanitizing their hands... while enjoying lots of outdoor activities. Today was the first full day of classes. The general spirit was of excitement to be 'back', while looking forward to a weekend break before 'full-time' classes next week.

It's been a great week and we would like to thank you for your continued trust in the school and for everything that you are doing to keep our community safe. We would like to highlight that our first priority in this year of pandemic is the health and safety of your daughters as well as of all faculty and staff. All of us are grateful that we could return to conventional, in-person learning, and we would like to make sure that we all do our part so that we can keep it that way for the sake of the girls.

Wishing you a restful weekend and looking forward to connecting with you at Curriculum Information Day next Saturday!

Sincerely,

Irian Flores de Medina
School Head