

May 14, 2020

Dear Live Oak Families and Friends,

I am happy to announce the names of the teachers and the grades they will be teaching next year.

As previously mentioned in the Leaflet and in the May 11 community letter, back in January Live Oak teachers brought a proposal forth in order to change the looping cycle. At the March Board of Directors meeting, the proposal was unanimously approved.

Here are the new looping groups:

Kindergarten: Ms. Mary Alice and Ms. Rebecca

Grade 1-3 Loop: Ms. Amy, Ms. Leah, Ms. Lois

Grade 4+5 Loop: Ms. Julie, Ms. Mann

Grade 6-8 Loop: Ms. Osner, Ms. Riley, Ms. Shepherd

The Leadership team decided to support continuity of learning and the teachers' desires to move forward with a new looping cycle. Therefore, Ms. Mann will teach Grade 3 next year and then continue in the 4/5 loop with that third-grade class. Also, Ms. Leah will teach Grade 5 next year and then be the Grade 1 teacher for the 2021/22 school year.

Teaching Assignments for the 2020/21 academic school year:

Kindergarten:

Ms. Mary Alice, Ms. Rebecca

Grade 1-3 Loop

Grade 1: Ms. Lois
Grade 2: Ms. Amy
Grade 3: Ms. Mann

Grade 4+5 Loop

Grade 4: Ms. Julie
Grade 5: Ms. Leah

Grade 6-8 Loop

Grade 6: Ms. Riley
Grade 7: Ms. Osner
Grade 8: Ms. Shepherd

Also, I want to invite everyone to join in the welcome of our new classroom teacher, ***Emily Riley***. Emily Riley is thrilled to join the Live Oak Charter School community! Originally from Olympia, Washington, Emily is relocating to Petaluma this summer after living on the San Francisco and San Mateo coast for many years. She loves to surf, craft, and be outdoors. Emily was trained to be a teacher at the Bay Area Teacher Training Institute and received her Master's in Education from the University of the Pacific. She taught at the San Francisco Friends School, overseas in New Zealand, and most recently at the Charles Armstrong School teaching students with dyslexia. Emily's philosophy is deeply aligned with Waldorf education. She believes that

we learn best by doing and experiencing, and brings her creativity, love for children, and understanding of learning differences to us.

Thank you to the interview team: Katie Louderback, Krista Wigert, Stacy Ito, Blythe Osner, and Heather Shepherd for their efforts in this process.

Lastly, just in case you missed them. There are two recent emails you won't want to miss - a special "at home" uplifting issue of the Leaflet was sent on Friday 5/8 (thank you Gwynne Johnson, and all!) and I sent an email update on Monday 5/11/2020. Hopefully you saw both emails.

A quick reminder--there is a school board meeting tonight, Thursday 5/14/2020 at 6:00 pm and here is the link to join the meeting if you would like: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86408078835?pwd=OWp0NFc2RW1TNEZhYTJ0K0hOZWl2Zz09>

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Wishing you all well!

Best,
Justin Tomola
Director