



# ACADEMY HILL

Est. 1986

**PreK-8**

August 6, 2018

Dear Lower School Families,

Summertime is never too early to start thinking about Good Morning Show presentations. To get your child off to a good start, the lower school teachers wanted to send out new guidelines and expectations for the Good Morning Show. We recognize that preparing a quality Good Morning Show entails much time and work. Therefore, the teachers have created a new approach to help support you, the students, and this premier program.

## **Scheduling GMS Presentations**

- **Please sign up for all presentations by September 28th. You do not need to know the topics at this time.**
- You may call or stop by the school to schedule the dates for your child's presentations starting on **August 15th**.
- If you will have **more than one child presenting in the lower school**, and you would like to schedule them to present on the same day, you may begin to call or stop by for scheduling two days earlier, **starting on August 13th**. There will be a paper calendar at the front desk for sign ups from August 13th - September 28th. Then a Google calendar will be posted on the website for you to view.

Thank you,

The Lower School Teachers

# Class Guidelines

**Discoverers (Kindergarten) Good Morning Show:** The Discoverers will be presenting three times during the year. Mrs. Grenier will be talking more in depth about this during Back to School night. Please make sure that the first presentation is towards the end of October or November and the other two presentations during the second and third trimesters. This will give the children time to see other presentations and work on their own. **Please sign up for all GMS presentations by September 28th.**

**Travelers (Grade 1 and 2) Good Morning Show:** All Travelers will be presenting four times during the year. Ms. McNierney will go much more in depth during Back to School Night, however below are a few details to get you started.

- **Good Morning Show preparation will be assigned as weekly homework for the Travelers.** This will help your child to break his/her presentations into manageable chunks, and should help him/her from feeling overwhelmed. I understand your child may have after school activities some days, so the weekly approach allows them to work on it a few nights a week or weekend as is best for your family.
- Each week Ms. McNierney will go over the weekly assignments with each child, providing support and guidance for the next step. She will attach notes for parents to help guide the process at home.
- **Please sign up your child(ren) for all four presentations by September 28th. Please have the first date be six weeks into the year, and then have at least six weeks in between all the ones following.** This will allow plenty of time to research and prepare each topic.

**Pioneers (Grade 3 and 4) Good Morning Show:** All students will be presenting five times during the year. More information will be provided at Back to School Night, but to get started, please sign your child up for **all five presentations by September 28th.** Presentations should be scheduled at least 5 weeks apart with no more than 2 presentations per trimester. There will be weekly Good Morning Show homework which will be due at a weekly workshop time when students share their progress with peers to get feedback and suggestions, and check in with Ms. Amstutz for support.

**Trailblazer (Grade 5) Good Morning Show:** All returning Trailblazers will be doing a September presentation. This presentation should highlight a talent you have or an experience you had this summer.

- There are 12 returning Trailblazers, so there will be four Trailblazer presentations each of the three weeks in September.
- Your time requirement is from 3 to 6 minutes.
- Consider doing a demonstration of your talent or including a video of you showing your talent/experience. They are great ways to add creativity to a presentation!
- Even though you are highlighting a talent or an experience, you must still include research in your presentation.

All Trailblazers will be doing a Bloom's series this year. This involves selecting one overarching topic and researching it more in-depth throughout the year. There are six levels in the Bloom's taxonomy, but some are being combined for a total of four Bloom's presentations. Instruction as to what is expected at each level will be done in September, and information will be given to parents at Back to School Night. Information can also be found on the Trailblazer website: <https://sites.google.com/site/ahtrailblazers/home>

- Students should begin thinking about what they might like to use for their Bloom's topic as discussion about topics will be done early in September. Topics should be broad enough that multiple presentations can be created. Past topics have included: Lake George, the ISS, musicals, and chocolate.
- Trailblazer presentations are Forum-style, meaning they are four to six minutes long. These will all require **two** slots on the sign-up calendar.
- Returning Trailblazers will do a total of five presentations. Please sign up for 2 in trimester one, 2 in trimester 2, and 1 in trimester three. New Trailblazers will do only 1 presentation in the first trimester, and they should sign up for that presentation no earlier than October.