



Dear TCS Families,

On the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre, it is important that we stop, reflect, and remember the history that has molded and shaped the systemic racism in our country which we must continue to attempt to dismantle. We are standing at a threshold moment, at the end of our school year and the beginning of summer. In May, we celebrated Jewish American Heritage Month, Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and Haitian Heritage Month, and now we are moving into Pride Month. While we celebrate the beautifully diverse backgrounds, cultures, countries of origin, religions, family structures, and worldviews that make up our community every day, in everything we do, our celebration months allow us to take the time to spotlight and celebrate the specific jewels that make up the mosaic of our TCS community.

As we pause to acknowledge this moment of transition, we should also look back and forward at where we've been and where we're going. We have had a hard year, wrestling with a global pandemic, racial reckoning, and natural disasters. Many have been hurt, and all of us have watched people we love suffer. I, like many of you, have also borne painful witness to the visible rise in hate speech and hate crimes, specifically and most recently against Jewish persons, both here in Los Angeles and around the world. As Head of School, I want to reiterate that The Country School condemns all forms of hate speech and hate crime, and supports our Jewish families.

The core values that form the bedrock of the Country School Way require that we be a community that possesses the moral courage to take a stand against all hate and hate-fueled actions against our Jewish, Muslim, Black, AAPI, or LGBTQ+ friends, family, and neighbors, as well as all underrepresented, marginalized, and oppressed people.

As a school community, we have been tested, and we've come through with our customary grit and compassion. We know how to sit with children and talk about the hard truths that the world sometimes hands us. Even when the hows and whys of world events are sometimes hard to grasp, when we see someone hurting, we can say, and teach our children to say, "I see you. I am here for you."

As we move into our summer months and beyond, I want you to know that we are committed to cultivating and sustaining a culture of inclusivity and safety. We must instill these values in our children, so they may use their voices to build a community, and a world, where love, not hate, moves us forward.

We see you. We are here for you. Wishing you all peace and comfort as this unprecedented school year comes to a close.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Holly".