

October 2, 2020

Dear Atholton Family,



Lately the temperature is dipping to sweater weather and the sunny days are shortening. Autumn has announced its arrival through letters printed on harvest colored leaves scattered on the ground. There are still some summer tomatoes slowly ripening in the school garden but the amount is diminishing. The winter crop of lettuce, spinach, and other greens that the fourth grade students recently planted are responding positively to the cooler weather. Around the noon hour, different classes can be seen spreading out blankets for an alfresco lunch.

There is something about crisp fall weather that compels me to hoard books like a squirrel hordes acorns for the approaching winter. If you have not discovered it, there is a great app, [Libby](#) that allows you to check out digital and audio books from the library. I have already reserved several books to add to my fall queue.

As we settle into a new season, I hope you are adjusting well to this school year whether learning is completely at home, or whether on campus. I have appreciated hearing from you about how things are going. Your feedback has been very helpful in letting us know what is working, and in letting us know how we can better assist you. I love how Paul writes in Galatians 6:9-10 MSG about this important work we are united in, "So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith."



In His service together,  
Miya Kim



**With Appreciation –** Part of preparing the school for reopening meant making some physical changes. We are grateful that Mark Collett could install window screens, and paper towel dispensers to replace our hand blow dryers. Berge Kiraz constructed a wonderful shade system for our school garden. Tod Wolfe replaced two drinking fountains with automatic hand washing stations. Students and teachers are utilizing these stations frequently. These changes are another key to help our school to be a safer place.

**IPad Donations –** If you are looking to upgrade your iPad, there are some classes that could use one outside. We realize that iPads make it easier to travel outside with our distance learners.

**Box Tops-** Even though you no longer have to clip Box Top coupon points, you can still earn money for the school. Now you can use your phone to scan the receipts to record your points automatically. Use the QR code to download the app.



**Parent/Teacher Conferences** – Our conferences will be held through Zoom on Thursday, November 5 and Friday, November 6. Due to the conference there will not be any instruction on those days. The office will be sending a link for you to sign up for your conference through SignUpGenius.



**Thank You** – Recently we have had two separate videos being produced for our school. [One video](#), led by Tesa Reynolds, Brian Liu, Melvin Donadelle and Pastor John highlights the difference Atholton has made, told by students. The [other video](#) was produced by Mark Comberiate, an Emmy winning alum, which not only highlights the Atholton Advantage, but it provides a description and rationale for the educational models that Atholton is offering this year. Michael Martell was the main point person in coordinating that effort. We appreciate Douraine Donaldson, Stephen Bralley, and Pastor Franke for being a part of the production. Not only will these videos be instrumental in promoting the school, but it visually reminds us of how God has led and serves as a promise of what God will do for us in the future.

**Virtual Book Festival** – The Library of Congress holds a book festival each fall, highlighting various genres for all ages. This is an amazing event that you can attend from the comfort of your home. Register at <https://www.loc.gov/events/2020-national-book-festival/about-this-event/>



## *AAA Parent Night*



**Save the Date** – You are cordially invited on **Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 pm**. We will highlight some Atholton news and one classroom teacher will share with you about some of the wonderful learning taking place in the classroom, and then our special feature will be by one of our parents, Joseph Warren, II LCSW-C, BCD, Psychotherapist, Kaiser Permanente. His presentation based on the life of Joseph is entitled, **“We are Overcomers: How to be Comfortable when life is Uncomfortable”**

Synopsis: COVID-19 impact has been life-changing, especially concerning parenting and educating our children. This workshop will focus on examining and strengthening our connection with our spiritual faith and how it impacts our relationship with our children.

### Learning Objectives:

- Parents will learn how stress affects the body.
- Parents will learn evidenced-based techniques to deal with stress, anxiety, and depression
- Parents will participate in breathing exercises that offer physical and psychological relief to stressful situations.
- Parents will be reminded of how biblical examples can be infused in daily activities that can bring a sense of peace during hectic times

<https://zoom.us/j/96641066662?pwd=N1M3YmF3S2V5MmRONFB4S3NRZWZWRMz09>

Meeting ID: 966 4106 6662

Passcode: Team