San Diego Unified
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kristy Aragon, Principal
Hardy Elementary School
5420 Montezuma Road
San Diego, CA 92115
P- 619.860.5700

Dear TK & Kindergarten Families 2026-27,

Welcome aboard TK & Kinder Flight School at Hardy Elementary, home of the Owls! We are thrilled to launch this exciting journey with your child during their first official week of school, August 10–14, operating on a minimum day schedule from 7:45–11:55 AM.

This first week is intentionally structured to help your child transition smoothly into school while allowing our team to get to know each child as a learner, a friend, and a member of our school community. Throughout the week, your child will rotate through four joyful and enriching learning stations, guided by two credentialed teachers and two early childhood educators.

Why Flight School?
This model allows us to:

- Ease students into routines in a nurturing and playful environment
- Gather important data on each child's strengths in literacy, math, fine motor skills, and social-emotional learning
- Observe how students interact in groups and transition throughout the day
- See the TK/K group as a whole so we can thoughtfully create balanced, equitable classrooms based on student needs

At the end of the week, our team will reflect on observations and data to finalize class placements. Families will be notified of their child's assigned teacher by **Thursday, August 13, and official classrooms will begin Friday, August 14.**

Drop-Off Procedures & Transition to a Closed Campus
On Monday, August 10, families are welcome to walk their TK student to the auditorium, and Kinder students to the Kindergarten playground. This is their assigned Flight School drop-off location. This is a special opportunity to help your child feel confident and connected during this important transition.

Then, on Friday, August 14, once official classroom placements begin, you'll be invited to walk your child to their new classroom, see their desk and nameplate, snap a photo, and say goodbye.

San Diego Unified
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kristy Aragon, Principal
Hardy Elementary School
5420 Montezuma Road
San Diego, CA 92115
P- 619.860.5700

Beginning Monday, August 17, Hardy will shift to a closed campus for safety. Families will say goodbye at the gate, and our staff will be present each morning to greet and support students as they walk to class.

> *Helpful tip for drop-off success: The easiest way to help your child build independence is with a short, confident goodbye. Lingering can actually make the transition harder. A calm, loving farewell gives your child the reassurance they need to start their day strong.

Please note: Volunteers are still welcome on campus, but must check in at the front office and be a registered/cleared volunteer with SDUSD.

Minimum Day Reminder

- **TK/K students have a week of minimum days: August 10–14**
- **Dismissal is at 11:55 AM**

What to Bring Each Day

- A **labeled** backpack with a healthy snack and a l**abeled** water bottle
- A change of clothes in a **labeled** bag
- A big smile and readiness to learn through play!

Students will enjoy a structured day including learning station rotations, snack, recess, outdoor exploration, and lunch before dismissal. We can't wait to watch your little Owl soar! Thank you for trusting us with this special beginning.

Warmly,
TK Teachers (Mrs. Camara, Mrs. Rivas & Ms. Reilly, Ms. Shumate)
Kindergarten Teachers (Mrs. Youngblood, Ms. Mercurio, Mrs. Gibson)
Kristy Aragon
Principal, Hardy Elementary