



Columbus School for Girls

Dear Incoming Middle School Families,

Welcome to CSG Middle School!

Middle School is an exciting phase of life, and we are so pleased you have chosen to join our community. As you have already discovered, the Middle School at CSG is full of fun challenges and opportunities. Between our engaging academic program and our numerous extracurricular activities, your student is in for a wonderful Middle School experience.

The infamous Middle School years can be full of laughter and frustrations as students grow and discover. We are here for you as well, working as partners as you support and guide your daughter through this time. I imagine you might have many questions about the transition, and we are happy to help in any way we can.

As we prepare a schedule for your student, she needs to make several choices about the curriculum.

Language

It is our hope that students will continue with the language they choose, either Mandarin or Spanish, for their entire time in Middle School. In the hopefully rare case that there are extenuating circumstances, we will work in partnership with the family to do what is in the student's best interest. As students enter Upper School, they will have the option to choose between Mandarin, Spanish, or Latin. Students have a Latin exploratory class in Form VIII to prepare them for that decision.

Music Ensemble

We are very excited about the continuing growth and level of excellence that the CSG Middle School Ensembles are exhibiting, and can assure you that your daughters will learn and have a joyful time in the process. The ensembles are structured so that your child has an experience underscored by excellence, and as such, this requires dedication, practice, and attendance at performances.

Each Form VI student will choose one ensemble: Choir, Strings, or Band. If your student would like to begin a new instrument, private lessons will be necessary.

In order to prepare for scheduling for next year, please discuss with your daughter the options for language (Mandarin or Spanish) and music ensemble (band, choir, strings) and complete the following [survey](#) by Friday, April 21.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Band: [Kristen Cook](#)

Choir: [Jennifer Sugerik](#)

Strings: [Agnes Becker](#)

Mandarin: [Ping Wu](#)

Spanish: [Sarah Cole](#) and [Rocio Knotts](#)

Though optional, if you are willing, I would love to meet with parents and students in early June for approximately a half-hour to get to know your family better and answer any questions you have. During this time, if your daughter needs a placement test, we can schedule that as well. I will be in touch again in mid-May to share more information about how to schedule those meetings.

I am looking forward to our partnership!

Pam Hartshorne

Director of Middle School

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