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Dear parents,

How was your week? Here at school it was a great week that culminated in a beautiful day at Carpinteria State Beach. I want to thank all the parents that went to our yearly family beach day. And a special thanks goes to our own Pastors Phil and Jan White for driving to the beach and staying with our youngsters all day. I was unable to attend due to a family medical situation but as usual, Pastors Phil and Jan were there to save the day.

Our new room is looking great. Cabinets are being put in as I write, and I am excited about September 11 at 2:00 pm. We are having a special dedication program for both our Kindergarten, and grades 1 and 2 classrooms. These rooms exemplify what SVAS is and will stand for in the next 50 years of service. Creating new exciting environments that give teachers flexibility, technology a more integrated home, greater mobility for students (some really need more room to move!), and a light filled environment.. Studies have shown that student learning rates have improved between 7 and 26 percent in classrooms that are exposed to adequate natural lighting . We have 16 LED flat-paneled lights that really make the room feel wonderful. Every room should help foster creativity and inspire collaborative, independent, and reflective thinking.

These new rooms make better use of our resources and are designed and arranged for the convenience of all learners. After all, we're not catering to just one type of learner. We must be mindful of our introverts, extroverts, collaborators, solo thinkers, writers, dreamers, and fidgeters -- and design a flexible environment that meets everyone's needs.

I will paraphrase one of my favorite writers, Mrs. Ellen White , "Great blessings are in store for us as we wisely handle these precious resources given us for the advancement of the cause of present truth. " We are a safe harbor for students to ready themselves for the next academic adventure while being trained with the great moral truths of Christ and the love of God. If you know of someone who has been blessed financially and has a love for education at this ground floor and most important level, please see me. We have a new program to engage people who want to donate to an amazing vision.

God Bless as we enter week 2~

In Gratitude,

Stephen Stokes
Principal



FIRST WEEK BACK IN SCHOOL

