SFA Families,

Welcome back SFA Chess Club!

As we bid a very grateful farewell to Sergio and John, let us introduce the new Co-Chairs of the Chess Club. Justin/Nicole Williams and Bob/Juli Egeland. We are adding a Facebook group to share fun pictures and all important information. Please join! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/5246486905439746>

The club is for students in Kindergarten through 8th grade, from beginners to young grand masters. For those just learning the game, adult volunteers will work with them in small groups or older students can play practice matches with them. Most days are open play to move up/down our leaderboard, but throughout the year we'll also have special challenges and tournaments...with trophies! Once per month we will have Coach Jim lead an official class, to help all students grow in their game. Jim and his wife Katie are the founders of the Des Moines Chess Academy. They run various Chess Clubs in local schools, host tournaments and offer camps as well as private lessons. They are a real asset to our team and we are lucky to have the financial support of Home of School to make this possible.

As in previous years, Chess Club will start at 7:15am and meet every Friday the kids have school beginning on 9/16. We'll be in the Serra Room again which is across the hall from the preschool classrooms.

Kids can be dropped off in the circle drive on the south side of the church (by the pond) & enter through the doors to the right.  Please do NOT drop-off earlier than 7:15am so our adult volunteers have time to set up the room. When Chess Club is finished (no later than 8:15am), the kids will be guided down the hallway to their classrooms.

No response is needed to officially join Chess Club, but please review the following items:

To help out our core group of volunteers, parents of Chess Club kids are encouraged to help out with 2-3 sessions during the school year (7:05am to 8:20am).  Please signup here <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0C49ACA72BABF85-parent>

We are looking for parents to volunteer to provide treats to the kids on the first school Friday of every month. Please sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0C49ACA72BABF85-treats>. For now, we estimate having 40-60 kids in Chess Club.  Most people bring donuts or donut holes, but you're welcome to bring anything on the school's approved treat list. We have plates/napkins/cups on hand so you don't need to bring those items.

We'll send out more details regarding special events and tournaments once those have been scheduled. Thanks in advance for your help and we look forward to another fun year of Chess Club!

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