

## **Parent Connection needs YOU to help welcome a new family to RHPS!**

We are looking for parent volunteers who have had children at RHPS and will have a student there during the 2010-2011 school year. Parent Connection Volunteers will be matched with an incoming family to answer their questions via phone and or e-mail and meet them at specific schoolwide events, such as the back to school picnic. While this is an easy task for you, it will mean a lot to parents and their children who are new to our school.

Parent's Name:

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Child(ren)'s Name(s) and Grade(s) in 2010/11:

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Address:

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Preferred method of contact (circle one):    Phone    E-mail

Phone number:

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E-mail Address:

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Languages spoken:

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Ethnicity:

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Please return this form via backpack mail to Maureen Raines at RHPS.

### **Questions and Answers about Parent Connection**

#### **What is Parent Connection?**

Parent Connection is a new mentoring program for parents and guardians at Rosemary Hills Primary School that will begin this summer for the 2010-2011

school year. By matching parents/guardians familiar with RHPS with new families, we hope to better welcome families new to the school and give parents a mentor to ask questions about the school and how things work here. Our goal is to help all children thrive by helping their parents/guardians feel more comfortable at school.

### **Why do we need Parent Connection?**

RHPS is a big school and it can be difficult for families new to the school to find their way. Parent Connection will provide a point of contact to new families so that they may ask their questions as the school year begins, and have someone to meet at start of the school year events. We hope Parent Connection will make the school a more comfortable place for all of our families right from the start.

### **What does a Parent Connection mentor do?**

Parent Connection mentors will be matched with up to two new families over the summer. We will provide training materials via e-mail, and ask that Parent Connection mentors contact their families at a few key times during the first months of school—during the summer, before back to school night, and before parent teacher conferences. We'll also ask Parent Connection mentors to meet their assigned families at the Back to School picnic and be available to answer questions from their assigned families as they arise.

### **Who can volunteer to be a Parent Connection mentor?**

Any parent or guardian who has had a child at RHPS and is the parent/guardian of a current student may volunteer. Parents or guardians who have had a child at RHPS already know a lot about how our school works, and Parent Connection will provide training via e-mail and people to contact should additional questions arise. You will NOT need to attend special training to become a Parent Connection mentor.

### **How will you match Parent Connection families?**

We plan to match families according to the languages they speak, their geographic location and by ethnicity. Parents of incoming kindergarten students will let us know at the Kindergarten orientation if they would like to participate in the program (either as a mentor, if they have had older children at RHPS, or as a mentee). We will match families in late spring and over the summer.