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June 23, 2015

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

It is with mixed emotions that I write you on this, the final day of the 2014-2015 school year. On the one hand, we have so much to celebrate -- individual and collective student successes, the completion of final exams, roundtable presentations, and the arrival of summer. On the other hand, as the year comes to an end and we prepare for the coming one, we say goodbyes that feel sad -- to graduating seniors, to departing faculty, administrators and staff. I am always struck by how much happens during each school year. It is an amount that is impossible to capture -- in stories or in numbers. We have collectively worked and worked and worked to move ourselves and others forward. All of us have had ups and downs, encouraging moments and disappointing ones. I have no doubt that we have made great strides. Culminating events like our Senior Internship Exhibition at Google, our graduation at MIT, and the roundtables we host here at school all confirm and showcase these advances. And we end the year firmly believing that our best days are ahead.

The coming summer break is an important one. I hope students find time to truly relax, to unwind, to reflect on the year behind them and think about goals for the coming one. That can sometimes only be achieved with some distance from school. The coming summer is also the time to make sure skills and habits stay sharp, that students continue to practice and work hard. Otherwise, the transition in September will be more difficult than it needs to be. I hope you have wonderful plans and get a deserved break. After the winter we had and a year full of challenges -- important ones that push us out of our comfort zones and forward as thoughtful learners and citizens -- we are all deserving of some rest.

Enclosed is your child's final report card for the year. As always, take some time to review it and talk it over with your child. Ask tough questions and give high praise. These grades are earned, not given. Some students will need to recover credits by completing summer school courses. Most classes will be held at the Cambridge Harvard Summer Academy. If your child has been signed up for classes at CHSA, you will hear from CCSC *and* from those that lead that program. We are also holding a middle school science class and a middle school math class here at CCSC. Mr. Dineen will again serve as the Summer Academy Principal.

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We are busy around here, making plans for the coming school year. We are focusing on continuing to do all that has been successful, while making the changes necessary in order to ensure we keep improving and strengthening our program. Should you need anything, do not hesitate to reach out and contact us. Enjoy the summer months and we'll see you in the fall!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Hurst-Hiller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Caleb Hurst-Hiller
Head of School