



April 4, 2024

Dear Families,

As we prepare for the exciting solar eclipse that will take place on Monday, April 8, 2024, I wanted to take a moment to remind everyone about the important safety precautions. The eclipse is scheduled to begin shortly after 2:00 PM, coinciding with our afternoon dismissal time.

While the eclipse will be an exciting and memorable experience, it is crucial to remember that looking directly at the sun during an eclipse can cause permanent damage to your eyes. To ensure the safety and well-being of our students, please take the time to discuss the following safety measures from the New York State Center for School Health with your children, especially since they will be dismissed as the eclipse is starting:

- 1. Never Look Directly at the Sun:** Remind your child never to look directly at the sun during a solar eclipse.
- 2. Use Proper Eye Protection:** If you plan on observing the eclipse with your child, ensure you have expert-approved solar eclipse glasses that meet the ISO 12312-2 standard. Look for ISO standard labeling when looking for solar eclipse glasses and be sure that you are purchasing them from a trusted source. Wear these glasses at all times during a solar eclipse, and use them cautiously.
- 3. Consider Alternative Viewing Methods:** Pinhole projection is a safe and inexpensive way to watch the eclipse without looking directly at the sun. Avoid using smartphones or camera viewfinders, as they can pose risks to both your eyes and the device.
- 4. Avoid Unsafe Filters:** Do not use any unsafe filters, such as sunglasses, regular camera filters, or unapproved eclipse glasses. These can increase the risk of eye damage.

If you or your child experience any changes in vision or eye discomfort after viewing the eclipse, please seek immediate treatment from an eye care professional.

For more information on the solar eclipse and eye safety, you can refer to the following links:

- [New York State Parks - Experience the Total Solar Eclipse](#)
- [New York State Center for School Health: Solar Eclipses Eye Safety: Protect Your Eyes from the Sun!](#)
- [NYS Education Department Solar Eclipse: New York State Total Solar Eclipse - April 2024](#)

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We hope you will enjoy this historical event safely with your families!

Sincerely,

Grace Lee-Sim  
Principal

