



Dear Students,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year at Plato Academy. I am very excited to start a great new school year at Plato and have been very busy setting up our classroom and getting it ready for your arrival. I look forward to seeing you on the first day of school! I hope you are having an awesome summer and that you are excited for the new school year!

We have many new and interesting things to learn this year and we are going to have tons of fun together! Please remember to read *The Thieves of Ostia* novel by the first day of school. We will begin the school year with learning explorations that connect to *The Thieves of Ostia* novel and Ancient Rome. I have planned many fun and engaging learning explorations for the upcoming school year! Did you know? At its height, the Roman Empire's landmass was as large as the United States today! The Empire stretched from Britain in the north to northern Africa in the south, and reached as far east as present-day Iraq. (Try this!! How many modern-day countries can you count where the Roman Empire once existed? Check out a map or globe to identify the countries!) I can't wait to start exploring and learning about Ancient Rome with you!!

As we start the new school year together, please think about what are your hopes and dreams for this school year? I will share some of my hopes and dreams with you on the first day of school. I can't wait to hear some of your hopes and dreams as well. On the first day of school we will create a Time Capsule with our hopes and dreams! We will explore a good place to conceal our Time Capsule around the school and will open it up on the last day of school!! Also, on the first day of school we will be attending a Solar Eclipse viewing event at Triton Cernan Space Center!!! The space center will host safe observation of the solar eclipse and other eclipse activities!! I will email your parents with all the details. I can't wait to experience the Eclipse of 2017 with you!!!

Enjoy the last days of summer and see you soon!!! ☺

Sincerely,

Ms. Dionysia

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