

OCEAN CITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

550 West Avenue

Ocean City, New Jersey 08226 – 3891

Phone: (609) 399-3191

www.oceancityschools.org



Dr. Cathleen Smith, Principal

Dear Primary School Families,

August 2021

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! *“The start of something new, brings the hope of something great, anything is possible!”* (Author unknown) I am so excited for our **first day of school, Tuesday September 7, 2021.**

I hope you had a fun and exciting summer with friends and family. As we wind down the summer, we will be getting ready for the new school year with new friends, new faces and a new start. I can't wait to see your smiling faces in the hallways. However, with masks our smile will be hidden. Don't worry, keep smiling but throw a thumbs up sign to everyone you see to share your smile. Smiles, and now thumbs up signs are contagious!

For class placement you will need to log into your PowerSchool Account.

Included in this mailing is the following information:

- Lunch Menu/Info
- Letter from Joel Dougan, School Guidance Counselor
- District Calendar
- PK – Third Grade Supply Lists
- Pre-school and Kindergarten Classroom Visitation
- Dismissal Request Form
- Student Accident Insurance
- Name Tags (PK, Kindergarten & 1st grade only)
- PTA Membership Application



What follows is also information you need prior to the start of school:

Daily Home Screening for Students-

Parents are asked to conduct daily screenings for each child in your home. Parents are responsible for screening their child(ren) each morning before school. Daily screening reminders will be sent via our SwiftK12 alert system on a weekly basis. **If any of the answers change throughout the school year, please contact the school nurse immediately.**

Preschool and Kindergarten Classroom Visitation- Preschool and Kindergarten Visitation will be on Thursday, September 2nd. Your invitation notifying you of your visit time is included for all Pre-K and Kindergarten students. Staff will meet parents outside according to the teacher, which will be posted outside. Parents will enter the building with the student (**1parent only per student**). Parents and children must wear masks. The Visitation will last 15 minutes inside the building.

PowerSchool Instructions-The system is a secure and green process, which allows the district to verify all student demographics, emergency, and medical information for your child prior to the start of the new school year. The system will also allow you to electronically sign the annual permissions forms for school district policies and view class assignments & overview and bus assignments. Please make sure to login to PowerSchool to electronically sign forms and update emergency contact information as soon as you receive this information.



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School Arrival/Dismissal – Arrival and dismissal will be slightly staggered to ensure safe protocols entering the building and exiting the building. We are asking parents to remain in their cars until drop off times. We are also asking parents to leave as soon as their child is dropped off/picked up to ensure the next parent has a place to drop students off and pick-up. Parents, please wear a mask while picking up students. Also, please keep students and siblings with you and practice social distancing.

Grade	Drop-off Time	Pick-up Time	Location
Pre-K and Kindergarten	8:35 am	2:50 pm	6th Street Front Entrance
1st Grade	8:35 am	2:50 pm	5th Street Main Entrance
2nd Grade	8:45 am	3:00 pm	5th Street Main Entrance
3rd Grade	8:45 am	3:00 pm	6th Street Front Entrance

If your parents are driving you to and from school, you must cross West Avenue only at a corner where the school crossing guard is stationed. Please pull to the curb for drop off and pick-up for everyone's safety. **Double parking is not permitted.** Parents and guardians are not permitted in the building during drop off/dismissal.

*Important: Please make sure a note is sent into school if your dismissal routine will be different than the one established. We understand emergency situations arise but please let the office know **by 2:30 of any changes in the dismissal procedure for that day.** This way we can make sure all students are safe and accounted for at the end of the school day.*

Transportation – During the first two weeks of school, PK, Kindergarten and 1st grade students - please wear the name tag that is included with this packet - which contains your lunch number, bus number and teacher name. The first two weeks will be an adjustment period and times for arrival and departure will be established. The rules for bus safety can found in the Primary School Policy Booklet and Calendar will be available for review on our PowerSchool page in the “Forms” section. Please review these policies. Every student must wear a mask on school buses. The number of students on the bus limits social distancing practices.

Dismissal Requests From School – A Dismissal Requests from School form is being mailed to you. Please complete this form and return it to your teacher by **Monday, September 13.** This is very IMPORTANT so we know who can pick you up from school.

Student Accident Insurance - A letter from Mr. Timothy Kelley is included in the packet being mailed to you for more information on student accident insurance.

Lunches/Recess

Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria. We will use a mixture of desks and lunch tables to keep the students at least 3ft apart. Hand sanitizing stations are going to be used before and after students eat lunch. Students will have recess in four different locations outside.

Specials

Specials will travel to special area classrooms.



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Please use these last days of August to prepare for the start of school. Help eliminate anxiety in the morning by having clothes and school supplies ready the night before. **Remember to** establish a bedtime routine that will enable you to get a minimum of eight hours of sleep. **Also, it is very important to make sure you** have enough time for a good breakfast before leaving for school. Sleep is food for the brain and breakfast is food for the body. To have the energy to meet the demands of each school day, you need both. The ability to concentrate is important for success so make sure you eat a good breakfast and get enough sleep. Also, please make sure children are washing hands and wearing masks.

Members of the Ocean City Community have donated a limited amount of book bags and some supplies. If you are in need, or know of a family in need of a book bag or supplies, please email Lisa Hurff with the name of student at lhurff@ocsdnj.org as soon as possible. Supplies will be distributed on a first come first serve basis.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us. I cannot wait to see you on our first day of school Tuesday September, 7th.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cathleen M. Smith, Principal

Z:\FirstDay\OPENING DAY\Students\Welcome PK-3rd



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