CLERMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2022-2023



Clermont Community Connections

5720 CLERMONT DRIVE ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22310 https://clermontes.fcps.edu/

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Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Visits to the office are welcome, and please call ahead so we avoid large crowds in the office and lobby.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Grades K-6 Doors Open at 8:50 am School Hours 9:05 am - 3:50 pm

Students are considered Tardy after 9:05 am

The 2022-2023 School Calendar <u>Calendar</u>

PARENT - STUDENT HANDBOOK NEWSLETTER

The information contained in this newsletter should answer many of your questions regarding school policies. Parents and guardians will receive school communication via email using News You Choose every Friday. Please be sure to check your email for any information sent home on a weekly basis, as we are no longer sending home paper Thursday Folders.

Attendance

Student daily attendance is MANDATORY as per the code of Virginia. All classes will begin with a Morning Meeting at 9:05 AM. If your child is going to miss school for any reason, please inform the school by using our attendance email, including the reason for the absence, @ ClermontESAttendance@fcps.edu. A message can also be left on the "attendance line" by calling 703-921-2424. Please call before 9:05 a.m. In addition to notifying the front office, it would be helpful if you email your child's teacher if your child is going to be absent from school for illness or any other reason. Parents of students with excessive absences will receive notice of their child's Record of Attendance through notification from the principal or Clermont's Attendance Team. It is our goal to have 100% of our students engaged in learning every day.

The <u>Standards for Accrediting Schools in Virginia</u>, specifies that schools provide 180 days of instruction for elementary students. In accordance with FCPS School Board *Policy #2232.4*, reasons for <u>Approved Absences</u> for elementary students are the same as for secondary school students. These include: illness of the student, death in the family, medical or dental appointment, observance of a religious holiday, or any reasons for which the principal considers that exemption from attendance is in the best interest of the student. <u>Reasons for Unexcused Absences include</u>: family and/or student vacations, childcare situations, non-school related activities, missed school bus, or other reasons unacceptable to the principal.

Visitors

Security is an essential part of student safety, and safety is our number one priority at Clermont ES. Upon ringing the bell outside the front door, office personnel will ask you to identify the purpose of your visit. ALL VISITORS, including parent volunteers, are required to report to the main office to sign in with a valid state issued ID, and the date and time of their arrival and departure. A sticker/badge, identifying that you have checked in on our Visitor Response System MUST BE WORN in the building at all times. Visitors who are not wearing an approved ID badge will be considered "trespassers" as per FCPS School Board Policy #1360.2. The doors throughout the building are locked. The building is facilitated by a keyless entry system monitored by the office staff. Those enrolled in SACC should use the buzzer designated for SACC.

New Information Regarding Cell Phones and Smart Watches with Dual Purpose

As per new guidelines from FCPS, for students in grades K - 6, cell phones are only allowed to be used before and after school. During the school day cell phones will be turned off and left in the student's backpack. Watches that serve a dual purpose, and may have a phone or text feature, may be worn however the phone features (phone, text, internet) must be disabled or off during the school day. If this is not possible, the dual purpose watch should not be worn to school.

<u>Positive School Behavior through our</u> <u>C.A.R.E. Program</u>

At Clermont, we encourage children to develop and exercise self-control during all activities in a positive and caring environment. Our C.A.R.E. Character Ed Program emphasizes Clermont's 4 core values: COOPERATION, ACCEPTANCE, RESPONSIBILITY and EFFORT. Positive school behavior is manifested in the manner in which children pursue their daily tasks. The school and home are partners in encouraging students to work toward higher levels of self-discipline. We strive for students to be responsible, contributing members of their school community, and promote respectful and kind interactions with peers and teachers.

<u>Technology</u>

FCPS provides all students with laptops to use for online learning.

- Students will have access to FCPS gmail accounts.
- The school's computer will already have shortcuts on the desktop to the frequently used programs.
- Please contact your child's teacher first for guidance if there is an issue with a school-issued computer.
- FCPS personnel are not permitted to help fix personal computers.
- Kindergarten students will be assigned an iPad.
- Students in grades K-2 will leave laptops at school overnight.
- Students in grades 3 6 will be allowed to take laptops home overnight.

Students will be encouraged to contribute to a positive and caring environment. We will work together to help enforce appropriate Digital Citizenship.

PTA

The PTA actively supports the school through many activities. Each parent can find many ways to contribute to our school, whether it is for one special activity or on a regular basis. Please join our PTA and plan to attend any meetings. Check out the PTA website at http://www.clermontpta.org.

Breakfast and Lunch Meals

Breakfast can be purchased before school, between 8:50 am and 9:05 am. Breakfast is \$1.75. Students may bring lunch from home or purchase in the cafeteria during their designated lunch time. Lunch is \$3.25. You can upload money directly onto your child's MySchoolBucks.com account. MySchoolBucks Link

If your family qualifies for free and/or reduced price meals, please complete this form so that your benefit may continue. Free and Reduced Meals Link

Communications/Emergency Messages

FCPS wants to keep you well informed. Fairfax County Public Schools use five different communication systems to reach parents with accurate and timely information. These systems are:

Radio and TV

When appropriate, FCPS will notify all radio and television stations in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area to encourage the publication of emergency information through media channels, such as snow days and school closures.

The Internet - www.fcps.edu

In an emergency, the words Emergency Announcement appear in red at the top of the home page. Click on those words to see the latest announcements and schedule changes as well as messages from the Superintendent, and links to helpful parent resources.

News You Choose and eNotify E-mail Message Systems

When you provide us with your email address during registration you are automatically signed up for all school News You Choose and eNotify messages from Clermont ES.

Red Apple 21

Emergency messages are scrolled across the screen on the school division's cable channel 21. (Only available to Cox Cable customers.)

Connecting with Staff

Email is the best way to reach out to your child's teacher. At the start of the school year, your child's teacher will call you to introduce himself or herself. Weekly newsletters will be emailed home on Fridays from your child's teacher, and from Clermont ES. Thursday Folders will be discontinued this year, therefore please take note of the announcements included in the Friday emails.