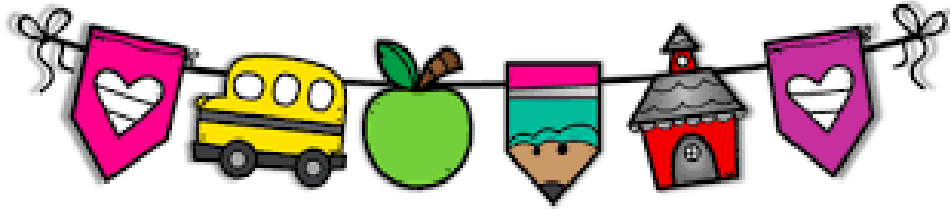




WELCOME TO
KINDERGARTEN!



Highcroft
Kindergarten Orientation
2023-2024





Welcome - Mrs. Shearin

Welcome to Highcroft Drive Elementary!! Home of the Huskies!

Vision: HDES is a **partnership** of students, staff, parents, and sponsors working **collaboratively** toward a **trusting** environment, which cultivates **a love of learning**, and shared sense of **success**.

Your Kindergartener will.....

- Be Safe!
- Have fun!
- Learn a lot!
- Make new friends!
- Love his/her teachers!

Burning Questions?

- COVID??
- Teacher Preference?
- Discipline?
- Communication?
- Volunteer?



kShearin@wcpss.net

Counselor - Mrs. Tew



- School Counselors partner with teachers and parents to ensure a successful year.
- They visit classrooms and teach social and emotional skills.
- They also work with students in small groups and individually when needed.
- Please reach out if you have concerns or questions. atew1@wcpss.net



ESL - Laura Keane

At Highcroft, we are very lucky to have families with so many different linguistic and cultural backgrounds included in our school community.

We have many students attending our school who speak a language other than English at home.



It is my job to help make sure those students have all of the support they need to communicate effectively in English (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) in and out of the classroom.



Email: lkeane@wcpss.net



PTA VALUE

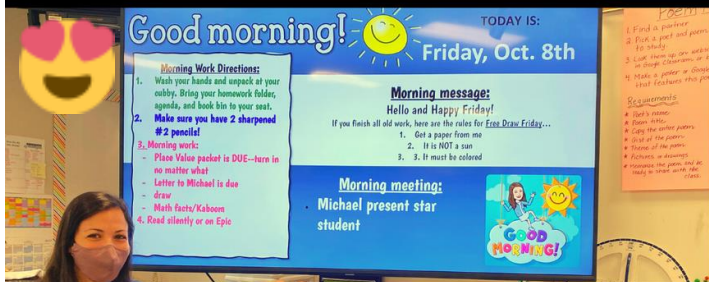
- Visiting artists, musicians, and authors
- Book Fair
- Student art contest (Reflections)
- Nutrition support program
- Kindergarten and New Family Breakfast
- Walk to School Day
- Spirit wear
- Staff scholarships
- Health room supplies
- Grounds maintenance and improvement
- Holiday service drive
- Spirit nights
- Field Day
- Classroom supplies
- Technology replacement and maintenance
- Memories from student art
- Staff appreciation
- Student running program
- ...and more!



JUST TWO OF OUR SUCCESS STORIES



The Difference is Clear
Support Our Students Today



Left: Replaced old display devices in grades 2-5
Above: before and after turf program



Highcroft Drive Elementary

PTA

everychild.onevoice.®

HOW YOU CAN HELP

<https://highcroftdrivepta.membershiptoolkit.com>

VOLUNTEER AND ATTEND EVENTS

Volunteering is never mandatory, but any time you can give makes a world of difference for your child.

Participating in our events is fun and directly funds essential resources and curriculum needs that improve our students' education and well-being.

JOIN

Watch for information starting in August on how to join.

Joining gives you the ability to vote and gives us strength in numbers for advocacy.

CONNECT

The PTA can be your hub for understanding things at school. Read our Friday email newsletters and follow us on social media.

Facebook: PTAHighcroft

Twitter: @PTAHighcroft

Instagram: HighcroftPTA



2022-2023 Kindergarten Team



**Mrs.
Ciampi**



Mrs. Leblanc



Mrs. Lupton



Ms. Powell



Ms. Rogers



Ms. Ticknor

Highcroft Drive Elementary School and Wake County Public Schools will provide a relevant and engaging education and will graduate students who are collaborative, creative, effective communicators and critical thinkers.

Welcome to Highcroft Drive ES!

- Specials include Art, Music, PE, PE II., Media (library), STEM
- Learning Opportunities (in school and outside of school)
- Daily Morning Meetings for Social/Emotional Development
- Student Devices
- PTA Events
- Optional Clubs before/after school (Tennis, Chess, Huskies on the Run, Snapology))



Kindergarten's Community of Learners

- We help students learn and grow to their full potential and beyond
- We look at a child's development: cognitive, social, emotional, physical, and academic
- We learn character traits: responsibility, respect, courage, kindness, self-discipline, integrity, perseverance, and good judgement
- We celebrate all the unique, and wonderful attributes each child brings to our classrooms!



Kindergarten Here We Come!!

Social Readiness Skills



- Listens without interrupting
- Follows directions the first time given
- Carries out daily responsibilities independently
- Follows school rules
- Shows respect for others and their work
- Takes care of classroom materials
- Cleans up after self
- Good manners: polite words, waits turn, etc.
- Self care: opens lunch containers; personal care in the bathroom

The First Week of School: Staggered Entry

Dates: August 28th-August 31st (Monday-Thursday)

- Your child will attend only one day this week.
- Small group setting-allows for more gradual adjustment to kindergarten
- Initial assessments will be completed
- Classes will be created and completed by the end of the day on September 1st
- Only bring supplies on Friday the 1st



Staggered Entry: what does it look like?

- Morning Meeting/Story Time
- Quiet Centers (puzzles, play-dough, coloring, etc.)
- One-on-One assessments
- Lunch
- Quiet Time-bring a large towel
- Social ASSESSMENTS through play (housekeeping, blocks, cars, etc.)
- Recess (gross motor and social assessments)
- School Tour
- Snack
- Dismissal Procedures- how we go home
- Students will rotate between classrooms to complete assessment



Kindergarten Initial Assessments

We meet students wherever they are!

Social-Emotional and Development

- Fine Motor Skills-pencil grip, and Scissor usage, etc.
- Following multi-step directions
- Social Readiness



Academic

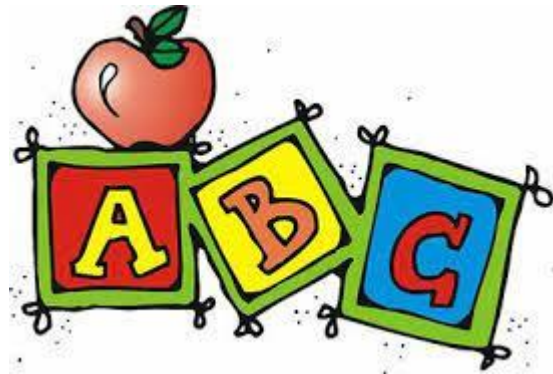
- Letters and Sounds
- Numbers and Counting
- Shapes and Colors
- Book Knowledge
- Phonemic Awareness



Open House: Friday, September 1, 2023

12:00pm-2:00pm

- Your teacher will email you prior to 12:00
- Stop by the room any time between 12 and 2 for a brief introduction
- Bring your school supplies this day
- Student's transportation- how will they be getting to school and home for the rest of the school year, sign up to volunteer in the classroom, room parent, etc.



Our Day In Kindergarten



- Arrival
- Morning Meeting
- Reading and Writing with EL
- Phonics with Letterland and Heggerty
- Small Groups and Centers
- Lunch
- Math
- Recess
- Snack
- Science and Social Studies
- Specials
- Dismissal

Let's Eat: How Lunch Works

General Information

- Your child can pack or buy lunch
- Students use student ID number to buy lunch
- Lunch is 25 minutes
- **Tip:** Allow your child to practice opening and closing their own containers at home!

School Meal Benefits

<https://www.mySchoolapps.com/>
If applicable, please complete the following application.



Arrival and Dismissal

School Day Hours

- Students may begin entering the building at 8:45am.
- Late bell rings at 9:10am
- Final bell rings at 9:15am
- School is over at 3:45pm.



Entering and Leaving

- walkers-use the playground doors in the 200 Hallway(tag)
- Car Riders- use the doors at the front of the school (tag)
★Carpool tags are utilized and can be picked up at "Meet the Teacher" day in the office.
- YMCA-before and after school program available.
- Bus Riders- escorted to class the first few weeks of school.

Helpful Information



- Be positive about school-children will follow your lead!
- Have your child dress for the season- wear clothing/shoes they can care for independently
- Label personal items- water bottles, lunch box, containers, etc.
- Backpacks- each child will need one large enough to hold a folder and other materials (no wheels)

Helpful Information



- **School Supplies**-Bring on "Meet the Teacher Day" No labels needed on Supplies.
- **Absences**- Send the teacher a note or email if your child will be out of School
- **Sickness**-Your child must be "fever-free" for 24 hours without medication before returning to school
- **Transportation Changes**- Notify your child's teacher of any afternoon transportation changes in writing in the morning!

Helpful Information



- Join the PTA, get involved, volunteer
<https://highcroftdrivepta.membershiptoolkit.com/home>
- Sign up for "Ready4K" texts at
<https://ready4k.parentpowered.com>
- Share the joy of reading with your child by reading to your child every day!!!
- Send your child with an extra change of clothing that is season appropriate.

Bus Rider Registration

- Transportation requests were submitted at time of enrollment if you indicated need on your registration forms.
- Please check your [Parent Portal](#) account for your bus information
- Click on the following link: [Bus Information](#)
- To register click "Bus Rider Registration - 2023 -2024 School Year".
- There is also a link for Bus Routes (Bus Stop Locations).
- Follow us on Twitter to see up to date information on when your child's bus leaves campus each afternoon @Highcroftbuses.

YMCA Before and After Care

- Before School program starts at 7:00 AM. Students can get breakfast from the cafe, work on homework, play games. They are dismissed at the 8:45 AM bell.
- After School program ends at 6:00 PM. This program supports learning through active play with a focus on character development and social/emotional learning. Quiet space is provided for students to complete homework.
- Parents can register at <https://www.ymcatriangle.org/schools/highcroft-elementary-after-school> or in person at the NW Cary YMCA.
- Courtney Crowl is our site director and her email is Courtney.Crowl@YMCATriangle.org

Student Health

- <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/85> (student health overview)
- Wake County Schools are not nut-free.
- If your child needs to take medicine at school, has a severe allergy, or any other health need, please contact the front office so that a Health Care Plan can be set up before school starts. Daily medicine will need a form filled out by a doctor. What is considered a medicine? Form 1702 <https://www.wcpss.net/Page/167>
- School nurses are not at school every day, but our staff have been trained in appropriate procedures.

Immunizations and Health Assessment



NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LIFETIME IMMUNIZATION RECORD

Name _____
First Middle Last

Birthdate _____ Sex _____ SS# _____
Month/Day/Year

Parent/Guardian _____

Address _____

- Required written proof of immunizations is due 30 calendar days from the first day of attendance. Students CAN be excluded from school until proof is provided.
- Health Assessment from the doctor is due 30 calendar days from the first day of attendance. Students CAN be excluded from school until form is submitted
- If you have any questions about your child's immunizations please contact the school prior to the start date.

When Should I Keep My Child Home from School?

Children should be kept home from School with:

- Fever of 100 or higher (Should be fever free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school).
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Severe headache
- Red, watery eyes with yellow drainage
- Undiagnosed rash
- Symptoms of Covid



Dates to Remember

- **"Meet Your Teacher Day"**-September 1st 12:00-2:00pm
- **Staggered Entry**- Aug. 28th, 29th, 30th, or 31st
Your child will attend for **ONE** full day this week!
- **Tuesday, September 5**- First full day for all kindergarten students
- **Kindergarten Kick-off Parent Breakfast**- Tuesday September 5th at 9:00am in the school cafeteria
- **Curriculum Night**-will occur in September

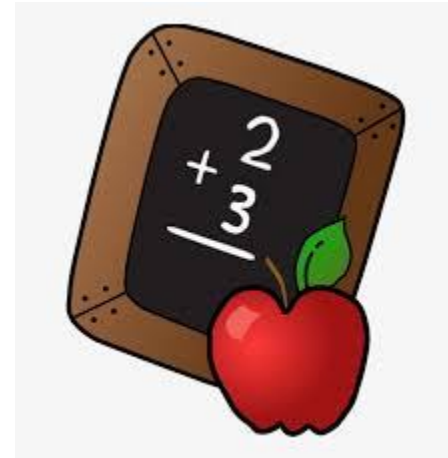


Questions and Answers

- If you have any questions about registration:
Contact Jeanette Acker at 919-460-3527 or
jacker@wcpss.net

★Please be sure to turn in the Health Assessment form and immunizations record by your assessment date if you have not already done so!!!

- If you have questions about the kindergarten program:
-please contact the kindergarten grade chair:
Johanna Roy-Leblanc- jroy-leblanc@wcpss.net
Catherine Shearin, Principal kShearin@wcpss.net



Thank you for joining us this this evening!!

We are looking forward to a wonderful kindergarten year!!