Kindergarten Back to School News

Dear Kindergarten Families,

Welcome to Arco Iris Spanish Immersion Charter School! We know that you and your kindergartener are eagerly awaiting the start of the school in a few weeks and we have lots of information to share about our plans for getting the year off to a good start. For some of you, this may be your first experience with a formal school setting, so do not hesitate to reach out if you need extra support or guidance. We want this to be an excellent experience for both you and your child. We are excited to meet you!

Warmly,
Michelle Herron
Executive Director

Supply Drop, Fees and Picnic

Drop off your school supplies and meet your teacher on Friday, Aug. 30. Please follow the drop off times listed.

LAST NAME:  A - I  3:00 PM to 4:00 PM
LAST NAME:  J - Z  4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

After you drop off your supplies, we invite you to join us across the creek in the THPRD Fanno Creek Greenway for an information meet and greet with other families. Feel free to bring a blanket and some food if you want to help create a community picnic. The school will provide some sweet treats to welcome you to the new school year.

Class lists will be available on the day of the supply drop. The school supply list can be accessed on our website at Supply List

Staggered Start

In order to give our youngest students a chance to settle in to their new school routine, we are having students start the year in small groups so that the teachers can get to know them and help them become comfortable with the classroom routines without getting overwhelmed. The staggered start days are Sept. 4-6, and the office will reach out to every family directly to let you know what day your child will attend.
Your child will attend one staggered start day prior to the first day for the full class. They will not come to school on the staggered start days that are scheduled for other students. The full kindergarten classes will attend together for the first time on Monday, September 9.

Please note that we do our best to balance classes when we create class lists over the summer, but we do occasionally need to make adjustments once we get to know the students during these staggered start days. If we find that we need to place your child in a different class after his/her initial visit, the director will contact you personally to discuss the reasons for the change.

**Daily Schedule**

We feel very fortunate to be in our new building, but it does pose traffic challenges, particularly at the end of the day. In order to provide for a safe and orderly pick up, we are releasing kindergarten students 15 minutes early so they can avoid the crowded general pick up at 3:15. That means the kindergarten day will go from 8:30 - 3:00 each day. Kindergarten students with older siblings will be dismissed at 3:15 PM.

**Morning Drop Off Begins at 8:10**

- If you need an earlier drop off, please contact our Buenos Dias program to make arrangements. Note that there is a fee for the Buenos Dias program. [Buenos Dias / Buenas Tardes](#)
- When you pull into the drop off area it is expected that the student(s) in your car are ready to jump out. This means that you will need to take care of having them gather their items, share goodbye wishes and kisses, unbuckle, and be ready to go starting when you pull into our parking lot.
- Cars will enter the parking lot off of Creekside Place, coming from either direction.
- Drive into the parking lot, past the main door, and into the circular turnaround marked with striping and yellow traffic buttons, then return along the front of the building until you reach the drop off area.
- All drivers pulling into the drop off area will let their kids out as soon as they stop (we try to move cars into loading zone in batches of eight). The drop off zone is the space along the sidewalk at the front of the school. Your child needs to exit and enter the car from the right side only.
- Students will enter the school through the main entry at the front of the building.
- When you leave you must turn right, per city regulation, onto Creekside Place.

**Afternoon Pick Up: Kindergarten cars will be allowed in the car queue at 2:45.**

- We use an app to manage pick up and each family will be assigned an ID number. Kindergarten families with no siblings in other grades will receive a special pink ID card to allow them into the queue before the general pick-up line forms at 3:00.
- Your ID number card must be clearly visible at all times on your rear view mirror (not lying flat on dashboard).
- If you choose to park in the neighborhood and walk to pick up your child, please gather under the covered area at the back of the school near the gym. You will need to show your ID card to a staff member in order to have your child released.
- **Do not park in any of the neighboring business’ parking lots.** Street parking is available on SW Stratus Street.
- Please do not arrive early for pick up and park in the center divide along SW Creekside Place. This causes problems for our neighboring businesses.
- **Please do not call the office** to ask staff to deliver messages about last-minute carpool changes. This is a very hectic time in the office and we do not want to make a mistake that could impact student safety.
- Make sure your child knows their ID# and how they are being picked up/released from school.

If you have children in grades 1-8, your kindergartener will be released at the regular 3:15 dismissal time.

**Uniforms**

We have a uniform exchange table at school if you’d like to come before school starts to see if there is anything that will work for your child. Our uniform policy is as follows:

**Student dress code**

Note - Please send a change of clothes to school in a sealed gallon-size ziploc in case your child has a bathroom accident. The bag should be labeled with your child’s name. In the case of an accident, we will send the wet/soiled clothes home in the bag and you can send them back fresh and clean the next day. :-)

**Back to School Night**

Back to School Night for **grades K and 1st is Sept. 12 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**. Because of our parking and meeting space limitations, we are splitting up our Back to School Nights based on grade level. You will be getting more information from your homeroom teachers after school nights.