

# WELCOME BACK!

## Arrival

School begins **Tuesday, September 6, 2011**

School is in session everyday from **8:15AM - 3:05PM**

After the first week of school, students will be considered late if they arrive at their classroom after 8:15AM

**Students will not be allowed in the building prior to 8:05AM unless they are attending an early morning program.**

On the first day of school, **first grade** teachers ONLY will meet their students in the gym, beginning at 8:05AM. First grade students will line up, by class, with their teacher. First grade teachers will display a sign to identify themselves. Parents of first grade students ONLY may bring their children into the building on the first day of school. We ask that they enter the building through the rear gym doors off the blacktop and playground. Please **DO NOT** park on Land Place in order to escort your child into the school, as it will block our valet drop off provided by PTA volunteers.

Bus students will be escorted through the main entrance of our building. Our younger students will be escorted to their classrooms.

**Beginning on Thursday, September 8** first grade students are to go directly to their classrooms from the front or side entrance. We will have staff available to assist all students to their rooms.

Students in **grades 2-6** should proceed directly to their classrooms beginning on the first day of school. School staff will be in the hallways to assist all students.

Students may enter school, on the first day and throughout the year, at the **front entrance (open 7:30AM - 4:15PM)** or the **Land Place entrance (open 8:05AM - 8:20AM)\***. Both entrances will be monitored by school staff the entire time they are open. All other building doors will be locked.

**PARENTS MAY NOT ACCOMPANY THEIR CHILDREN INTO THE BUILDING.** If parents have an appointment in the building they must follow the procedures outlined under "Parents/Visitors" and enter through the front entrance.

Please note that our PTA has a **SAFETY PATROL** that valets students into the building from Land Place everyday from 8:05AM - 8:20AM\*. We ask that you utilize this service if you are driving your child to school in the morning. **Please volunteer to be a part of this important service!**

Students attending early morning programs (i.e., Breakfast Program; extra help; clubs; performing music groups) should arrive at appropriate times and enter through the front entrance. Please note that you may drop your child off in front of the school until 8:00AM, for these early morning programs. **The "NO STOPPING" restriction is in effect from 8:00AM - 4:00PM.**

\*Please note that this time is a change from last year.

## Dismissal

Our regular dismissal procedures will begin the first day of school.

**At 3:02PM, Grades 1 and 2** will be dismissed through the **GYM**. Classroom teachers will only dismiss a student when they have seen the parent has arrived. Grade 1 students will go down the ramp. Grade 2 students will go down the stairs.

**Please notify the teacher in writing when someone else is picking up your child. We will not allow a child to go home with anyone other than the parent unless indicated in writing. The dates indicating a change in pickup must be accurate. If you are late picking up your child, you must come to the main office and sign him/her out at the front desk. This procedure is for your child's safety. Please be on time or call the office in case of an emergency 678-7581.**

**At 3:05PM, Grades 3 through 6** will be dismissed through the entrances closest to their classrooms.

Students attending the CARES program (at School #6) and those students using regular bus transportation will meet at an announced location and will be escorted to their buses.

## Attendance

Mrs. Randell, our school nurse, is responsible for attendance. If your child is going to be absent, please call the nurse directly at 678-7574 first thing in the morning. In the event that she does not hear from you, she will call home on the morning of your child's first day of absence. A note explaining the cause of the absence is required when your child returns to school and must be given to your child's teacher.

## Walkers

We encourage our students to walk to school together each day.

School Crossing Guards are placed at the following corners effective September 6:

- 1.) LAND PLACE and OCEANSIDE ROAD
- 2.) SECOND STREET and WAUKENA AVENUE
- 3.) WINDSOR PARKWAY and OCEANSIDE ROAD
- 4.) WAUKENA AVENUE and OCEANSIDE ROAD

Coverage at these locations will be from approximately 7:45AM - 8:30AM and 2:45PM - 3:30PM.

If your child walks or bikes to school, please review their route and discuss safety rules with them. Reinforce the importance of crossing major intersections where crossing guards are stationed. If they bike to school, your child must wear a bicycle helmet for his/her safety and in compliance with New York State law.

Four times throughout the year a Healthy Bus Ride (a walk to school initiative) will be organized. On a Healthy Bus Ride day, your child should stand at the assigned pick up point and join the teachers, parents and students who are walking to school together that day. More information will follow after the start of the school year. We hope you will join us as we work to promote walking to school as a way to build community, improve student health and reduce pollution in our environment.

## Parking

Due to the limited parking spots on school grounds, the parking lot in the rear of the school is to be used exclusively by the School #4 staff. Staff cars will both enter and exit on Oceanside Road. Under no circumstances should parents enter or park their vehicle on the driveway or in the parking lot. A rope and cones are used at dismissal time to maintain safe visibility for staff exiting the driveway.

Stopping (to drop off or pick up) or parking on Oceanside Road, in front of the school, is strictly prohibited from 8:00AM - 4:00PM, with the exception of our school buses.

The Nassau County Traffic Safety Unit Commanding Officer has suggested that parents and visitors use School #4 surrounding streets for parking arrival and dismissal, as well as throughout the day. It is important to look beyond any personal convenience and act with concern for all. With your cooperation, patience, courtesy and adherence to these rules, it will allow us to create and maintain a safe and secure environment for our students outside of our school.

## Parents/Visitors

All parents/visitors to School #4 must enter **ONLY** through our main front entrance. The front door is locked; however, a buzzer system is in place. After ringing the buzzer, our front door monitor will see the visitor in a video screen and buzz in the visitor. **All parents/visitors must sign in and leave identification** with the monitor in the lobby upon arrival. Each visitor will receive a security sticker. Upon completion of business in school, parent/visitor must sign out, **retrieve his/her identification and leave through the front door only.**

Parents signing out their child(ren) during the school day must do so at the front desk. Parents are asked to produce identification. **Unless we have been specifically directed by the parent to release child(ren) to some other designated person, children will only be released to parents/guardians or immediate family members.**

## Lunch

**Free or reduced price meals:** Children from households that meet federal income guidelines are eligible for free and reduced price meals. To apply for free or reduced price meals, you must complete an application. These applications will be distributed on the first day of school and they are also available in the main office of our school building. Completed, signed applications are to be returned to the main office.

**Prepaid lunch** is available for purchase in the school building. It is a convenient and effective way to insure that your child participates in the school lunch program. Prepaid lunches are good until used. They are not lost due to absence. You can arrange to purchase prepaid lunches from the food service person in charge of the school's cafeteria. If you should have any questions, please speak to Mrs. Desano in our main office.

The cost of hot lunch this year is \$2.50. The monthly menu will be brought home by your child the first day of school.

## Breakfast

The Breakfast Program will begin on the first day of school. The cost is \$2.25 and breakfast will be available in the cafeteria from 7:30AM - 8:15AM. All breakfast must be prepaid. A separate notice will go home on the first day of school.

As the cafeteria will not be supervised before 7:30AM, children will not be permitted to enter prior to that time. Any child riding a bus to school may go to the cafeteria and purchase breakfast at the time of arrival.

## Delayed Opening

Oceanside will be implementing a delayed opening plan again for the 2010/11 school year. Delaying the opening of school by two hours during severe early morning inclement weather enables us to provide instruction to our students for most of the day rather than closing school for the entire day. The decision to have a two-hour delayed opening will be made before 6:00AM. A Connect Ed message will be sent via telephone and the district website will display a message regarding the delayed opening ([www.oceansideschools.org](http://www.oceansideschools.org)). \* Additionally, it will be announced over radio and television stations. If we have a delayed opening, school will begin at 10:15AM with dismissal at the regular time (3:05PM).

Students taking the bus to school will have the first pick up on their route at 9:40AM. The afternoon bus schedule will remain unchanged.

**Radio:** FM WBLI 106.1, WBAB 102.3

AM WOR 710, WCBS 880, WINS 1010, WHLI 1100, WGSM 740

**Television:** Cablevision Channel 12

\*School closings will be communicated in the same manner.

*Thank you for taking the time to review this important information! Please keep it as a reference and call us with any questions you may have! 678-7581*