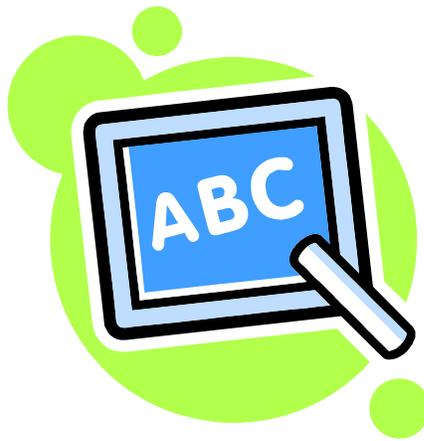


**Welcome  
To  
Pre-K**



**Pierce Terrace Elementary School  
5715 Adams Court  
Columbia, SC 29206  
(803) 782-1772**

**Principal:  
Teacher: Mrs. H-C  
Paraprofessional: Mrs. L**

## Reminders for Parents

AM (Morning) Class attends - 8:00am until 10:30am

PM (Afternoon) Class attends - 12:00pm until 2:30pm

- Your child needs to bring his/her bookbag every day.
- Your child needs to bring his/her folder every day.
- Please return the homework assignment sheet and reading log in your child's folder daily.

Please check your child's folder for notes from teachers DAILY - It is very important to keep good communication between us. Some notes require parent signatures, as well as, changes in schedules and/or notices.

We ask that your child not bring the following things to school:

- \*play weapons
- \*toys
- \*valuables (\$ and jewelry)
- \*fragile items
- \*books (unless requested by teachers)

Each child should be at school every day ON TIME unless he/she is sick. If your child must miss school, please call the school office (782-1772) to notify your child's teachers. A doctor's statement or a parent note explaining the absence is required when your child returns to school.

It is very important during the first few weeks that you reassure your child that he/she will have fun and will be taken care of while at school. To better help with this new adjustment, it is usually best to give your child a quick good-bye at the classroom door. After a few weeks, when all of the children have settled into our "school routine", we welcome parents. Our school has an "open door" policy. We will gladly put you to work!

If you need to talk with us about a particular situation/problem, please call to make arrangements for a conference.

## Classroom Visits

Our school has an open door policy. We encourage you to visit our class at any time. In Pre K, we ask that you give your child time to get to know us, as well as, adjust to the school environment. This is a new experience for your children. So, we request that parents give us about 2 to 3 weeks to set our routine and class schedule with the children in our classes. When you come to visit, please know that we will put you to work. Be prepared to interact with all children in our class, not just your child. If you do not feel comfortable doing this, then we will have "projects" for you to do for us that might include gluing, cutting, laminating, copying, etc. We, respectfully, request that you refrain from bringing younger siblings to school when you are volunteering in our classroom. Thank you in advance for your cooperation concerning this matter.

## Field Trips

We have several Field Trips planned for this school year and will need parents to act as chaperones. As a chaperone, you are responsible for the safety and supervision of several children from our classes when we travel either walking or by bus. We ask that you not bring younger siblings with you so that all of your attention can be focused on the Pre K children from our classes.

## Homework

We do have homework in Pre-K. One assignment that will be a constant each day is to read to your child daily. Your child will have a folder and inside the folder will be a **Reading Log**, as well as, a **Homework Sheet**. Please look for these sheets daily in your child's folder and sign the sheets when you have completed assignments. You, as the parent, need to work with your child on his/her homework assignments. The homework will consist of skills that we are working on at school. Your interactions and reinforcement of these skills at home will benefit your child's progress this year in Pre-K.

## **Celebrating Birthdays**

For birthdays, we do not have birthday parties in our class. However, if you would like to send a special snack for your child's birthday, we will serve your child's special snack as a group. We suggest cupcakes but have had parents to bring in special cookies to mark the occasion. If you wish to supply juice, please remember to provide cups. Please be sure to inform us in writing of the day you wish to send in the special birthday snack so that we can be sure that there are no conflicts in our regularly planned activities. This notification also gives us time so that we can prepare alternative snacks for children with food allergies.

## **Perfumes and Colognes**

Due to health reasons, please, please refrain from putting perfumes and colognes on your child prior to school. Both Mrs. H-C and Mrs. L suffer from sinus problems that can be aggravated by the many different smells of perfumes, colognes and hair sprays. Mrs. L is also prone to scent induced migraine headaches from heavy smelling perfumes, colognes and hair sprays/gels. Thank you for your cooperation and help concerning this matter.

## **Clothes, Socks & Shoes**

We will spend a great deal of time outside on the playground. Please send your child to school with socks and shoes. We will engage in activities that require your child to kick (a ball), run, skip, hop and climb equipment. Shoes give your child the stability necessary to perform large motor activities.

In Pre-K, we actively engage your child in activities that promote their cognitive, social and physical development & experiences. Sometimes activities will be messy and accidents occur as children learn to use glue and paint, etc. Due to this, we suggest that you send your child to school in comfortable play clothes.

# SNACK

Parents provide snacks (on a rational schedule) for our children attending Pre-K. You will find the following list of snacks only suggestions from the Pre-K staff. Some of you have had previous experiences with supplying snacks at other Pre-K locations and we welcome any suggestions you may have from your past experience.

**Fruits**: variety of fruits such as whole apples, bananas, oranges, grapes, applesauce, canned pineapple, etc.

**Vegetables**: carrots, celery, grape tomatoes, cucumbers, etc. Along with Ranch Dressing ;-)

**Crackers**: Cheez Nips, Goldfish, Wheat Thins, Ritz, saltines, etc.

**Cookies**: vanilla wafers, animal crackers, graham crackers, etc.

**Beverages**: milk, juice (gallon, quart, or individual servings)

**Cereal**: cheerios, froot loops, chex, etc

**Breads**: bagels, cinnamon raisin bread, muffins, etc.

**Milk Products**: Cheese sticks, sliced cheese, yogurt, pudding, etc.

**Miscellaneous**: cereal bars, pretzels, cheese toast (we will make these at school), pigs in a blanket (make at school) bagel chips, popcorn, etc.

At this time, please plan for **16 children**. As our enrollment changes, we will notify you of these changes.

Again, thank you so much for helping provide snack for our Pre K students.

Sincerely,  
The Pre K Teachers

## Letter Jar Activities

We will begin using the "Letter Jar" very soon. Every Monday will be "letter jar" presentation day. Each week the letter jar will go home with a student on the Thursday prior to their presentation day. Please fill the can with magazine pictures, small toys, food, or anything that will fit into the jar that begins with the letter we are studying that week. Then return the filled jar to school with your child on the following Monday. Your child will show us and tell us about the contents of the jar on that Monday. . On occasions, if Monday is a holiday or an in-service day, we may assign the letter jar on a later day in that week.

SKILLS we will be working with while using the letter jar:

### **I Auditory Skills**

1. Hearing and pronouncing isolated sounds (not associated with words or letter).
2. Listening for the sound (not the letter) that begins a word.
3. Learning that a letter has a name and makes 1 or 2 sounds. (The name of the letter and its sound(s) may be different).
4. Beginning to learn that sounds that are associated with each letter.

### **II Visual Skills**

1. Beginning recognition of capital and lower case letters
2. Introducing how to correctly write capital and lower case letters
3. Learning if the letter for the week is in their name.
4. Learning that their names begin with capitals and the other letters are lower case.
5. Learning to write and spell their names correctly using capital and lower case letters (no lines).

Our goals for using the letter jar and working with phonics is to expose the children to many skills that they will later need to master in a more formal reading program. Some children have very good auditory discrimination skills and are able to pick up on "learning sounds" quickly, while others need more time. At this age, it would be counter productive to expect the children to master all the sounds that go with the letters. So while working with your child on the letter jar, here are a few tips to guide you:

1. Keep in mind that we are simply trying to listen for and identify a sound, and that this is not a spelling program.
2. Don't push your child beyond what he/she is interested in or able to do.
3. Take it slow and easy, remembering not to lump all of the sounds together.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Your Pre-K Teachers

PIERCE TERRACE SCHOOL

# PLAYGROUND

# SAFETY GUIDELINES

The following safety guidelines are in place to protect the children who attend Pierce Terrace School. For consistency and safety, it is imperative that these safety guidelines be used by all students who enjoy our playground.

- Play in designated grass areas and on playground equipment areas during recess.
- The playground equipment is to be used in the correct manner. Hanging upside down on any of the equipment is not allowed.
- Real or pretend **Fighting is not Allowed.**
- **Running & Chasing** should take place in open areas away from playground equipment.
- **SWINGS** are for **SITTING** and **SWINGING** only.
- **SLIDES** are for **SLIDING DOWN**  only.

It is important that all adults supervising our students at play be familiar with these safety guidelines in order to gently remind students if they are not complying. Safety has to be our #1 priority on the playground.