

PRINCIPAL'S BYLINE

Robert C. Fuqua, Principal



Upcoming Events:

September 10: *Sally Foster Sale Begins*

September 15: *PTA Meeting at 7:30 p.m.*

September 17: *Cultural Arts K-3 at 8:45, 4-6 at 9:45*

September 21: *Naglieri Testing Gr. 2*

September 22: *Back to School Night 6:30 p.m. Meet the Specialists; 7:00 General Meeting and Classroom Visitation*

September 24: *Distribution of Nonschool Based Flyers*

September 25: *Chronicle*

October 2: *Sally Foster Deadline for Traditional Orders*

October 8: *Byline*

October 9: *Fall Picture Day*

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Chesterbrook Parent and Guardian Community,

I am very pleased to welcome all of you to another promising and exciting school year at Chesterbrook Elementary School. Our first week of school began very smoothly. It is wonderful to have the building full of life once again. I believe that I am correct in saying that we have the largest student body this year in our 103 years of being a school. We now have over 600 students.

As we begin our year I would like to point out some new and continuing school procedures. **Our school day will begin at 8:40 a.m.** which is five minutes later than last year. However, our doors will **open again this year at 8:20 a.m.** Let me remind everyone that we do not have supervision for children before the doors open. **Please do not bring your children and leave them at school before 8:20 a.m.** We will also begin dismissal at 3:15 p.m.

Another important procedure that remains in place concerns children using alternate transportation to return home. **If your child is not riding the bus home from school, there needs to be prior notification from the child's home.** This notification is communicated by a green slip which is provided by the school and is easily accessible in the school office. A permanent green slip can also be filed through the office to designate the alternative transportation for the entire year. **All Chesterbrook students are assigned a bus, and if you wish your child to use alternative transportation, then a green slip is needed for our records.**

The policy of not bringing toys or play items to school is also still in existence. This includes skateboards or other recreational equipment. **Phones and walkmans can be brought to school, but not removed from the backpack during the school day. Unauthorized use can result in the equipment being stored here at school until parents are notified.**

Fairfax County Public Schools now has a county-wide phone and e-mail attendance notification system. When students are absent without prior notification to the school there will be an automated e-mail and phone message sent to the student's home. An e-mail and a phone message will also occur if the child's absence is unexcused. A definition for "Excused versus Unexcused Absences" can be found in Regulation 2234.6, on the FCPS school web site: <http://www.fcps.edu/index.shtml> Look at the right hand corner of the page for a drop down screen in the area marked "What do you want to do" and select "Find a policy or a regulation."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Kiss & Ride 3

Bus Changes for Runs 3 & 5 4

Parent Institute News

We are excited about continuing our **GT Level IV services with the 3rd -6th grades.** With this service model, we are able to not only service identified children and expose them to advanced academics curriculum, it also allows us to expand the curriculum to benefit our entire school population.

Our Chinese language and culture classes will continue in the first and second grades this year and expand to the third grade. We are continuing and expanding our very successful **school-wide Positive Behavior Program.**

I am looking forward to a wonderful year, **and I hope to see all of you at our Back-To- School Night (Parents Only) on September 22, 2009, at 7 p.m.** in the gym for our general meeting followed by classroom sessions. **At 6:30 p.m., you are invited to come and meet with specialists, such as our Music, Band, PE, G/T, Speech, and Special Education Teachers.** I look forward to working with you this year and I feel very honored once again to serve you as your child's school principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Bob

Kiss and Ride-Drive Right!

When car transportation is necessary, Chesterbrook has a kiss and ride loop located next to the parking lot near the gym close to Old Chesterbrook Road and Kirby Road. Parents may drop off and pick up their children at this location. Please note that there are not kiss and ride services in the middle of the day. Parents are asked to follow staff directions when dropping off and picking up their children. There are signs along the kiss and ride loop that designate the drop off point. We ask that cars pull through the circle as much as possible to keep the flow of traffic moving.

Navigating Our

Kiss & Ride

Please enter the parking lot closest to Old Chesterbrook Rd. Pull to the **right** and begin to proceed around the circle. Cars must stay in single formation in the **right** hand lane and pull up to the drop off point to drop off their child. All children must exit on the **right** on the sidewalk side. Staff members will assist any children as needed in the morning from 8:20-8:40 daily and in the afternoon from 3:15-3:25 on Tuesday through Friday. On Monday afternoon, an adult will be at the kiss and ride from 12:45-1:05. School safety patrols are also on duty at the kiss and ride on a daily basis.

Drop Off

If you need to stop to speak to one of the staff, please pull into the parking lot to the left of the KISS & RIDE area to park your car and walk over. Please do not park your car in the kiss and ride loop. Here are a few further guidelines to keep our children safe during drop off and pickup times:

- Please wait in line to unload/pick up your child. Follow the flow of traffic without passing other vehicles at anytime.
- Have your child ready to unload. Ask them to gather his/her belongings ahead of time.
- Your child must exit your vehicle on the **right** onto the sidewalk. This is extremely important for student safety.

Please remain in your vehicle while unloading/picking up your child. Do not leave your vehicle, as this will impede the flow of traffic.

Pick Up

Pick up procedures are the same. Use a Chesterbrook "green slip" if this is an afternoon transportation change for your child.

Your cooperation will help us keep the children safe and keep our lines moving. Thank you for your support and remember...think **right**!