

# Carpenter's Chatter



Principal's Newsletter for Carpenter Elementary

July 12, 2018

**\*Welcome Back** It is indeed a pleasure to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year at Carpenter Elementary. The CES staff accept into our outstretched arms the most precious commodity anyone can receive, our community's children. We accept this awesome responsibility with humility, vigor, compassion and courage. We pledge to you our passion for the individual security, safety and success of each child. We offer our unfailing desire to serve our students, our community and to give them the necessary skills to become competent leaders! What parents value defines what is important to their children. When you value education and believe it is important, so will your children. Our partnership with you in this shared value is critical. Your child's education is our top priority!

**\*Bell Schedule:** Students may be dropped off as early as 8:45 am. Please do not drop your children off earlier unless they are in the before school YMCA program. Our staff have meetings before school and therefore supervision is not available. Our instructional bell rings at 9:15 am so we need all our chameleons in their classrooms ready to start the day at this time. Students that arrive after 9:15 am must be escorted into the office and signed in by a parent to receive a tardy slip. **Do not drop children off after 9:15 am as the front doors will be locked.** School is dismissed at 3:45 pm and carpool students need to be picked up by 4:00 pm daily.

**\*Transportation:** Being consistent with your child's mode of transportation is very important for safety reasons. Children respond well to structure and routine. We understand that changes need to be made for appointments or after school commitments from time to time. In these unusual circumstances, it is best to provide 24 hours notice to your child's teacher in writing. If an emergency happens that necessitates a change within the same day, please call the front office before 3:00 pm. Office staff will call your child's teacher over the intercom with changes since teachers are teaching and cannot always access email. The more you can send in advanced changes in writing, the less the instructional environment is disrupted. We ask for your cooperation to protect our learning environment from these constant disruptions.

**\*3rd Grade BOG:** Third graders will take a Beginning of Grade Reading Test (BOG). This is a multiple choice test mandated by the state. As part of the Read to Achieve program, this pretest is designed to give an indication of students who may need additional reading instruction to be proficient on the End of Grade Reading Test (EOG). The BOG will be given during the first couple weeks of school. Your child's teacher will inform you of the dates when they are arranged. In North Carolina,

## Important Dates

### July 16<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Day for All Kindergarten Students  
Tracks 1-3  
Kindergarten Parent Breakfast  
9:15 – 10:00 am

### July 21<sup>st</sup>

Camp Chameleon Workday  
9:00 – 11:00 am

### July 24<sup>th</sup>

Parent Curriculum Night  
Tracks 1 & 2  
5:00 – 5:45 pm = 1<sup>st</sup> Session  
5:50 – 6:35 pm = 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

### July 26<sup>th</sup>

Track 3 Tracks Out  
Picture Day – Tracks 1 & 2

### July 27<sup>th</sup>

Track 4 Tracks In  
Kindergarten Staggered Entry  
Track 4

### July 27<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>

Kindergarten Staggered Entry  
Track 4

### August 3<sup>rd</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Day for All Kindergarten Students  
Track 4  
Kindergarten Parent Breakfast  
9:15 – 10:00 am

### August 14<sup>th</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Explorers' Parent  
Meeting 6:00 pm

### August 17<sup>th</sup>

Track 2 Tracks Out  
Early Release Day 1:15 pm

### August 20<sup>th</sup>

Track 3 Tracks In

### August 21<sup>st</sup>

Parent Curriculum Night  
Tracks 3 & 4  
5:00 – 5:45 pm = 1<sup>st</sup> Session  
5:50 – 6:35 pm = 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

students must be proficient in reading by the end of the third grade year to be promoted to the next grade level. A Reading Camp is available during several track outs to provide third grade students with more remediation.

**\*Early Release Days:** There are eight times throughout the year that school is released early at 1:15 pm for staff development reasons. We have a myriad of workshops that are provided to train teachers on new student achievement strategies and programs. These dates are;

	Early Release	Early Release	Early Release	Early Release	Early Release	Early Release	Early Release	Early Release
<b>Track 1</b>	Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>		Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup>		Jan. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup>	March 8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Track 2</b>	Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>		Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Jan. 18 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup>	
<b>Track 3</b>		Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Jan. 18 <sup>th</sup>		March 8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Track 4</b>	Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Sept. 28 <sup>th</sup>		Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Dec. 21 <sup>st</sup>		Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup>	March 8 <sup>th</sup>

**\*Volunteers:** Register to volunteer at school and attend field trips. Reactivation is necessary every year. Volunteers may go to any WCPSS site and register through the intranet. Access to the volunteer system is: WCPSS Intranet – Business Applications – Volunteer Registration. When registering on our secure online system, you will need to provide your name, social security number, address, date of birth, driver’s license number, employer and previous state(s) of residence.

**\*Carpool Procedures:** We love your children and we want to deliver them safely to your car each afternoon. Come to the front office if you do not have a carpool tag. Parents should wait in their cars and pull up to the front circle area to load and unload children. Please do not pass other vehicles, stay in line as cars exit as a cluster. In the afternoons, our staff will call your children out from the lobby and load them into the passenger side of the car. This is the safest procedure. Due to our double lanes, we do not load children on the driver’s side of cars. If you have a doctor’s appointment or other after school appointments, you may check your children out by 3:15 pm. A few years ago, one of our teachers was bit by a dog that jumped out of a car at carpool. Medical attention was sought as she needed stitches in several places on her leg. Therefore, we ask all families to help us maintain a **pet free** campus during the school day hours. Thank you for your understanding and compliance with our safety regulations.

**\*Birthday Snacks:** To honor our instructional time, we do not allow birthday parties here at school. However, we do allow parents to bring a special store bought or commercially prepared snack to share with the class. The snack can be shared during snack time. Birthday snacks are not allowed in the cafeteria. All birthday snacks will be enjoyed in the classroom setting and cannot absorb more than the normal 10 minutes for snack time. Leadership made this decision due to growing student allergies and because students do not eat their regular lunch when sweet items are delivered to the cafeteria. Clean up with birthday snacks also requires more time than our teacher assistants can provide with the transition of classes in the cafeteria. Thank you for understanding.

**\*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Parent Explorers’ Meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents that are interested in learning about the Academically Gifted Program and identification are invited to attend one of two meetings that are offered; **August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm or August 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am.**

**\*Parent Curriculum Night:** Our teachers will be hosting a Parent Curriculum night on **July 24<sup>th</sup> for Tracks 1 & 2 and August 21<sup>st</sup> for Tracks 3 & 4.** The first session begins at 5:00 pm and the session will be repeated at 5:50 pm. **This is the one night of the year that we ask parents to not bring their children to school.** Teachers are planning and working hard to impart curriculum specific information for parents. When children are talking and playing in the back of the classroom, it is difficult for parents to hear the information that is being disseminated. Thanks for your cooperation with this.

With Chameleon Pride and Spirit,

*Fay Jones*

