

ABCs of Pre-K

A

Arrival: Students arrive at school at 7:30. Students will begin the day at 8:05. Please keep in mind when your children arrive they will also need time to eat breakfast. Promptness is essential in beginning a positive day.

Attendance: Please send in a note explaining your child's absence within a day of his/her absence. Student attendance is very important to your child!

B

Birthdays: We would LOVE to celebrate your child's birthday at school with simple refreshments. Please let me know ahead of time and also we request to have their celebration during our Snack Time at 1:45. (If your child's birthday is during the summer months, we are more than happy to celebrate at the end of the year.)

C

Calendar: Our calendar is located on the school website. www.thomas.k12.ga.us.

Changes in Transportation: For safety reasons, you ***must send a note or call*** the school in order for us to send your child home in a different method than usual. We cannot accept your child's word in these circumstances or by e-mail.

Conferences: We will have at least 2 scheduled conferences in December & May. However, you may request a time to meet with me whenever you feel the need to discuss your child's progress.

D

Dismissal: Please send your child to school EVERY DAY with their CORRECT bus or pick up tag on them or tied to their book bag. You may purchase a lanyard for the tag or tie a shoestring/yarn to it so that it's easier to keep up with. You must have your child's pick up sign in your dash to pick them up each day. Once again, if transportation changes, please notify us in writing or by calling the office.

E

Email: I can be reached through my school email account jbutler@tcjackets.net. I try to check my email daily; however, please do not send an email about a change of transportation/any urgent matters because I may not check my e-mail before your child is gone for the day.

Envelopes: Please, please, please place all money in a labeled envelope.

F

Field Trips: We will be taking 2 planned field trips this year: Healthy Habits day (YMCA and Harvey's) and YMCA Pool Day during the last week of school. There will also be one field trip to the Center for the Arts, where the children will see a play. We will let you know details and any new field trips.

G

Growing Up: Your babies will grow up so much this year. We encourage you to promote independence and individuality from the start of the year so that your child can be successful.

H

Handbooks: Hand-in-Hand's Handbooks have been sent home. Any general information about Hand-in-Hand or Thomas County System is included.

Healthy Habits: HNH promotes healthy habits such as daily physical activity, healthy eating, and handwashing frequently. Please join us by promoting these at home also.

I

Involvement: Hand-in-Hand offers many ways for parents to get involved! In my weekly newsletter, I will let you know about upcoming events.

Illnesses: Please remember to wait 24 hours after your child has been free of fever, vomiting, lice or diarrhea before allowing them to return to school. We encourage attendance, but children can't stay at school if they have a fever. Don't forget to send an excuse for absences.

J

Jungle Gym: We have scheduled outside time daily. Your child will get plenty of exercise at Hand-In-Hand!

K

Keep it Simple: Pre-k is messy, so please keep that in mind when you dress your child. Paint, sand, shaving cream, markers, glue, dirt – all of these are daily materials available to the children. Expensive or dressy outfits run the risk of getting dirty. Also – tennis shoes or sneakers are best for the playground.

L

Label: Please label all jackets, book bags, lunch boxes, trike helmets, or anything sent to school.

Lunch: You are more than welcome to join your child for lunch. If you send your child to school with a lunch box there are nutrition requirements the lunch box must meet. Students with lunch boxes may still be asked to get a tray, but have the option of eating their lunch, school lunch or some of each. School lunches are free.

M

Meals: THEY ARE FREE! Breakfast and lunch are absolutely free at Thomas County schools for grades PK-12. Please take advantage of this opportunity by getting your child to school in plenty of time to eat breakfast.

N

Newsletters: You will receive a weekly newsletter notifying you of upcoming events, topics of curriculum, and highlights. If you ever have any concerns or questions though about our classroom or events that aren't made clear in the newsletter contact me through note, phone or email: jbutler@tcjackets.net

O

Open House: We were so very happy with the Open House turn out! You have no idea how much it means to us that we have excited and supportive parents. For those of you that couldn't make it, we missed you!

P

Potty: Potty accidents do happen from time to time. Check book bags daily. Dirty clothes will always be sent home in a plastic grocery bag. Send clean clothes the following day if your child has a potty accident.

Q

Questions: Don't hesitate to ask if you have any! Parent/teacher communication is vital to your child's success.
jbutler@tcjackets.net
Hand-In-Hand: 229-225-3908
Remind 101

R

Remind 101: *Please, please, please sign up for Remind!! I will send class announcements, as well as personal information through text using the Remind app. You will see a separate letter about Remind in the Welcome To School packet.*
Recess: We will have recess outside every day. We also have free centers in which we will open our door during appropriate weather and allow your children to play outside. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather. (During these HOT Georgia months, we may reduce outside time while keeping them active inside.)

S

Snacks: We try to have snack time every afternoon. Therefore, we need for you to send snacks whenever possible. We encourage healthy snacks such as pretzels, goldfish, fruit gummies, fresh fruit, string cheese, crackers, etc. Without parent participation in bringing snacks, we will not have snack time.

T

Towels: I will be sending home towels and nap blankets every other week on Friday to be washed (make sure you return them on Mondays). Please don't send large stuffed animals and pillows for naptime due to storage space.
Toys: Do not send your child to school with toys or any accessories that may be potentially a distraction. We are not accountable for any toys lost at school.

U

Understanding: Your child will need a few weeks to get used to a new schedule and set of procedures. Give them lots of hugs and support and insist that they get a good night's rest.

V

Visitors: All visitors to our campus must check in at the front office WITH A PHOTO ID and receive a visitor's pass. This is for the safety of all of our students.

W

Website: Each teacher has their own website. If you will go to the school website: www.thomas.k12.ga.us. Click on Hand in Hand Teacher Websites, and then Jami Butler. You will find our website which I will do my very best to keep updated. 😊

X

"Xtra" help: Please let me know if you would like to volunteer during one of our events at Hand in Hand! We have an event almost every month which are listed in your handbook and will be updated in the newsletter.

Y

YAHOO! You almost made it to the end of this long list of things to know about pre-k! I'm proud of you!

Z

ZZZ: Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest, especially during those first few weeks of school. We are very busy learning and playing (which can be exhausting for all of us, parents and teachers included!)