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New School Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten - 6th Grade</th>
<th>Monday  8:10-12:20</th>
<th>Tues-Friday 8:10-2:50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preschool AM Session</td>
<td>Monday  9:15-11:15</td>
<td>Tues-Friday 9:15-12:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool PM Session</td>
<td>Monday 11:15-1:15</td>
<td>Tues-Friday 12:30-3:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC Class</td>
<td>Monday  9:15-1:15</td>
<td>T, TH, FR 9:15-3:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 9:15-12:30</td>
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</tbody>
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Open House

Open house will be held on Thursday August 30th from 2:00-3:00 pm. This is an opportunity for parents and students to tour and get comfortable with your child’s school. Student information packets with Emergency Care Forms, PTA Membership Forms, etc. will be available at this time for each student to take home. Parents are urged to complete all Emergency Care and Medical Forms and have your child bring them to their teacher on the first day of school. Consider that Open House is a good time to deposit funds into your child’s lunch account in the cafeteria and bring in medication to the clinic. The reassuring visit during Open House can mean a more restful weekend for your family and better night’s sleep for that exciting first day of school. We are looking forward to seeing you on Thursday!

First Day of School

The first day of school is Tuesday, September 4. Classes will begin at 8:10am and students will be dismissed at 2:50pm. On Mondays, school will begin at 8:10am and end at 12:20pm. Walkers and car riders should arrive to school no earlier than 7:50am. We ask that all students who are able to ride the bus or walk to school do so to avoid a back up in the Kiss-N-Ride loop.

Please remember that all students must have updated immunization information on file and a complete registration packet in order to start school on September 4. Parents of students who do not meet these requirements will be called to bring their student home until these requirements are met.

The following link will give you more information regarding extended hours/locations of the various Health Department offices offering immunizations for school entry:

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/immun/immunupdate.htm

Class Assignments

Class Assignments will be posted on the front doors of the school from Noon -7pm on Wednesday, August 29th.
Back to School Packet

Please make time during the Labor Day weekend or the evening of September 4th to review documents in the Back to School Packet. Please note that the forms should be filled out, signed and returned to school immediately. Emergency contact and medical update information are critical for the safety of your child. Parents should also look for the FCPS Student Rights and Responsibilities. In accordance with state regulation, parents are required to review the information and return the signed signature sheet to school by September 28, 2012.

Back to School Night

Mark your calendar now for September 10, 2012, from 7:00-8:40 pm. The evening will begin with a brief meeting. You will then have the opportunity to visit your child’s classroom, meet the teacher and learn classroom procedures and expectations. You will have an opportunity to preview the year’s curriculum and the variety of teaching strategies that will be used to ensure your child’s success. Two back to back sessions are scheduled to provide an option for parents with more than one student enrolled.

Back to School Night is a very important event and sets the tone for your child’s school year. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

School Lunch

This year the price for school lunch is $2.65, including milk. The price for unflavored milk or Juice is 60¢. Vanilla Soy Milk is available upon request @ 75¢. Breakfast will be available from 7:50-8:05 at a cost of $1.50. Applications for free and reduced lunch are available in the office. All students will receive a monthly lunch menu. The lunch menu is also available on the Fairfax County web-site at: www.fcps.edu

You may deposit money into your child’s lunch/snack account during the open house or by one of the following methods:

- ONLINE USING www.myLunchMoney.com The service is easy to use, convenient, private, and secure. There is a convenience fee. Once the account is open, parents may check the fund account at anytime.
- CHECK Make checks payable to Island Creek Elementary Food Services and bring the check to the food service manager’s office. Please include your child’s name on all checks. One check may be written for more than one student account, if indicated on the check.
- CASH Cash may be brought to the food service manager’s office for deposit on student’s account, or students may pay cash on a daily basis. (Please do not send large amounts of cash with your student).

Money can be added to the accounts at any time during the year. Accounts may be designated as “Lunch only,” or “open” which allows students to purchase a la carte items. Purchase of extra items adds up quickly and will impact the amount of money available for students to purchase regular meals.

Please call our cafeteria manager at 571-642-6321 with questions.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH

If your child is receiving free or reduced lunch based on last year’s application, please be sure to turn in your new application by 9/28/2012. For assistance please call Food Services at 703-813-4800. Applications are available in the school office.
**PTA SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS**

If you ordered a PTA School Supply Kit for the coming school year, it will be available in your child’s classroom at Open House or on the first day of school.

Additional PTA School Supply Kits are not available.

For this year’s supply lists, please refer to the school website at: www.fcps.edu/islandcreekes

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**Keep In Touch**

The FCPS Keep in Touch (KIT) Basic is the automatic enrollment service of KIT for parents of FCPS students and employees of the system. It draws contact information from the student information system and the employee databases. FCPS central offices and schools use KIT Basic for three types of messages: emergency, attendance, and outreach. It is important that parents keep their child’s emergency contact information up to date with the school. Contact information may also be updated online through weCare@School, a feature of FCPS 24-7 Learning (Blackboard).

If you have any questions, please send them to fcpskit@fcps.edu

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**Attendance**

When your student is absent, please let the school know by either email at: IslandCreekES.Attendance@fcps.edu, or by calling the attendance line at: **571-642-6363**. Both options are available 24 hours. This is a critical safety precaution for your child. If we do not hear from you, you will be contacted from an automated system using the information from your child’s emergency care sheet.

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**SCHOOL SECURITY**

Safety continues as an overriding priority at Island Creek Elementary. We regularly review our security procedures in order to ensure a safe learning environment for our students. We appreciate your assistance in helping us keep our students safe by following these procedures.

- We require all visitors and volunteers to sign in at the school office, and to leave photo identification which can be picked up as the visitor signs out at the office. Visitor badges should be removed before you exit the school.
- Once a visitor or volunteer signs in and indicates their destination within the building, they are expected to remain in that location for the duration of their visit. This will assist us in accounting for all the people who are in the building at any time in case of an emergency.
- Visitors can expect to be challenged by school personnel if they are not displaying the visitor’s badge issued at the office.
- We are also asking parents who walk to pick up their children at dismissal to remain in the lobby area visible from the office windows and not go past the security sign posted at the fish pond.

These recommended procedures have been adopted to protect the safety of our students. We appreciate your support in ensuring a caring, happy and most importantly safe, learning environment.
School Drop-off Times
To ensure safety for our children, we ask parents to remember that students should arrive no earlier than 7:50 A.M. everyday. The school does not provide before or after school student supervision. For the first days of school, staff members are assigned to assist children in finding their classrooms. As a safety measure, we ask that all Kiss–N-Ride students be dropped off in the designated area only.

Transportation
Those students eligible to ride the school bus to school should pay particular attention to the attached bus schedule. Please report to the bus stop five minutes prior to the listed time. Students are required to board and depart the bus at the stop nearest to their homes to prevent over-crowding on buses. Any changes require permission from the school office. Please be patient with any changes or delays in the transportation schedule as some needed adjustments are made during the first week of school. Kindergarten students will not be let off the bus unless an adult is present. The bus driver may not accept responsibility for another person picking up your child. For this reason, if someone else will pick up your kindergarten student there must be a note sent to school.

Please remember the time difference for Monday’s early closing.

6th Grade Immunization Update
A booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) vaccine is required for all students entering the 6th grade, if at least five years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine. The Fairfax County Health Department has scheduled clinics to administer these vaccines at no charge. More information is available at http://www.fcps.edu/news/vaccine.htm.

Students who have not provided documentation of having obtained the Tdap vaccine must be excluded from school.

Medical Permission Form
The school is not permitted to administer any medication unless a parent has completed a Medical Permission Form that requires a doctor’s signature. All Fairfax County Public Schools are required to count medications prior to dispensing and provide parents a receipt for the amount received.

Students are not permitted to transport medication! Parents must bring any medicine to school and check it in with the clinic aide or one of the secretaries. If this is an issue for your child, the clinic aide is available to assist you.

The school Health Nurse will be available during the open house to accept medications and discuss any concerns you may have.

If you have any questions, please contact Debra Jackson, School Public Health Nurse at 571-642-6310. Thank you for your cooperation.

Island Creek Elementary School
PTA 2012-2013
Officers

President: Terri Maben

Vice President: Lorie Kappeler

Treasurer: Vanessa Russell

Secretary: Lee Milan

Contact information is available on the PTA Website at: www.islandcreekpta.org

Take-Home Thursday
Thursday has been designated as our “take home” day. Parents are encouraged to look for communication from school each day, but we will try to limit most correspondence to Thursdays.

Each week you can look for “Weekly Words on the Island” which gives you an update of school activities and brief reminders.

Our monthly school newsletter, the “Crocodile Courier”, contains an array of interesting and pertinent information.

Medical Permission Form
The school is not permitted to administer any medication unless a parent has completed a Medical Permission Form that requires a doctor’s signature. All Fairfax County Public Schools are required to count medications prior to dispensing and provide parents a receipt for the amount received.

Students are not permitted to transport medication! Parents must bring any medicine to school and check it in with the clinic aide or one of the secretaries. If this is an issue for your child, the clinic aide is available to assist you.

The school Health Nurse will be available during the open house to accept medications and discuss any concerns you may have.

If you have any questions, please contact Debra Jackson, School Public Health Nurse at 571-642-6310. Thank you for your cooperation.
Island Creek Elementary School
Vision and Mission Statement

Island Creek Elementary School Community is committed to academic achievement by building a cooperative, safe, and challenging learning environment, continuing professional staff development, establishing a strong parental involvement and partnership, and fostering a strong home/school connection.

Through high expectations, the students will be: Respectful, Responsible, Cooperative, Safe, Honest and Kind

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

8/29, Noon Classroom assignments posted
8/30, 2-3pm Open House (School-Wide) for parents and students
9/4 First Day of School (PAC, PS & K-6)
9/10, 7-8:40pm Back to School Night
9/11, 7-8:30pm PTA Meeting
9/18 Fall Pictures (PS & 4-6)
9/19 Fall Pictures (K-3)
10/2, 8:45-10am New Parent Coffee
10/8 Columbus Day Holiday
11/5-11/6 Student Holidays - Teacher Workdays

CROCS CREED:
Valued Character Qualities

Island Creek Elementary School considers character education as a fundamental dimension of good teaching. We view parents as the primary moral educators of their children and believe schools build a partnership with parents. We actively foster in our students personal and civic virtues as an integral part of our school life. Our goal is to develop good habits and dispositions that will lead our students to responsible and mature adulthood. As an Island Creek Elementary School community, involving parents, educators and students we adopted responsibility, respect, cooperation, honesty, kindness and safety as our sustaining virtues. These qualities are modeled, taught, expected, celebrated and continually practiced throughout our school.
Island Creek Dismissal
Options & Locations

School Bus/Child Care Bus Riders

Kindergartners walked to buses by teachers/ instructional assistants/safety patrols

First graders walked to buses by safety patrols

Grade 2-6 students participate in silent dismissal

Kiss-N-Ride

Participating students dismissed to Kiss-N-Ride area. Kindergarten is walked out by Kindergarten assistants.

Parents enter loop, stay in car and display car tag with student name(s) in window.

School Bus/Child Care

Bus Riders Walkers / SACC

Kindergartners escorted to front lobby/door by teachers/ instructional assistants/safety patrols

First graders walked to buses by safety patrols
KISS AND RIDE

As always, the safety of our students is a top priority. We are continually reviewing and assessing procedures and policies to ensure safety at Kiss and Ride. Please remember the following:

**Morning Drop-Off**

- Kiss and Ride starts at 7:50 and ends at 8:10. If you arrive toward the latter part of the Kiss and Ride line, there is a good chance that your child will be late. Students are not allowed to be dropped off prior to 7:50. The school does not provide before or after school student supervision. Please make sure there is an adult outside before you drop your students off in the morning.
- Students can only be dropped between the two orange cones placed at either end of the Kiss and Ride area. Do not drop children off until you have reached the designated area.
- Although every effort is made by patrols and teachers to open the car door for your child, children are allowed to get out of cars themselves—as long as a teacher is present in the Kiss and Ride area.
- Please do not pass cars in the Kiss and Ride line or get out of the car.
- If you need to have a discussion with an adult, the Kiss and Ride is not the place. Please park your car and come to the office. Discussions at Kiss and Ride hold up the Kiss and Ride line.
- You will notice red cones guiding a right hand only exit from the “Kiss and Ride” lot. The purpose of the cones is to restrict vehicles from making left hand turns from the “Kiss and Ride” driveway onto southbound Morning View Lane.
- After 8:10, if Kiss and ride is closed, parents must sign their student(s) in at the office.

**Afternoon Pick-Up**

- Please write your child’s FIRST and LAST NAME in big letters on a Kiss and Ride car tag and place it on the dashboard of your car. Kiss and Ride Car Tags are available in the office.
- You will be motioned to pull all the way to the end of the line for pickup. Your child will be called over to stand behind the patrol. After the patrol sees you have come to a complete stop, he/she will open the door and assist your child into the car.
- If your child is not outside when you arrive, you will need to drive around and re-enter the Kiss and Ride line.
- Please do not get out of your car.
- Remember, if your child is a walker, they should be coming out the front door (Door #1). Please remind your student(s) to stay on the sidewalk and to go straight home.

Please refer to the diagram below for additional guidance:

**Special Note:** The bus parking lot will be closed from 7:50-8:10 am and from 2:45-3:05 pm. Cars will not be allowed to enter or exit the lot during these times. We recommend that you utilize “Kiss and Ride” to pick up your student or that you park on Morning View Lane if you need to come into the school during these times.

We appreciate your support of our efforts to ensure the safety of all our students.

P.S. Thank you for always maintaining a slow and safe speed in the “Kiss and Ride” lane and parking lot.

P.P.S. Thank you for always making sure your child’s seat belt is fastened.
WALKERS

- Walkers can report to school between 7:50-8:10am. There is no supervision before this time. Students should not arrive at school prior to 7:50. Students must enter through the main doors of the building (Door #1) and go directly to the gym.
- Remember, if your child is a walker, they should be coming out the front door. Please remind your student(s) to stay on the sidewalk and to go straight home.

Special Note: The bus parking lot will be closed from 7:50-8:10 am and from 2:45-3:05 pm. Cars will not be allowed to enter or exit the lot during these times. We recommend that you utilize “Kiss and Ride” to pick up your student or that you park on Morning View Lane if you need to come into the school during these times.

Thank you so much for the support to keep our children safe. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to give us a call.

BLACKBOARD PARENT VIEW (FCPS 24-7 Learning)

Your child’s teacher uses FCPS 24-7 Learning*, an Internet-based learning system, to post homework, assignments and other communications with your child. Each student is given their own FCPS 24-7 Learning account. Parents also have the opportunity to create an FCPS 24-7 Learning account of their own. The parent’s access into FCPS 24-7 Learning is called Parent View. The Parent View account gives parents the opportunity to view their children’s assignments and other information online. Parent accounts will also give parents access to other important features like weCare@schools. weCare@schools is the online system that allows parents to submit emergency care information for their children online.

The following is a brief summary of the features and benefits of FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View:

- Parents are able to access their children’s courses using a single login. Parents need only register once and add all of their children to their account, even if their children are in different FCPS schools.
- Parents no longer need to share their student’s login and ID.
- To keep information secure, the Parent View registration process has two separate checkpoints: Online Registration and Onsite Verification process.
- Using their Parent View account, parents can enter and update children’s emergency care and parent contact information online.

To get your own FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View account, please follow these steps:

1. Online Registration
   - Using your Internet browser, go to http://fcps.blackboard.com
   - Log on using username: parentreg and password: newuser
   - Under the Parent Portal Registration heading, click on Click here.
   - Fill out the online form and follow the prompts (information should match that already in FCPS databases, i.e. no nicknames).

At the end of the process, print or write down your unique registration key.

2. Onsite Verification
   - Bring a photo ID and the unique registration key to the front office your child’s school. Do not send this with your child. You must do this in person.
   - Validation is done during regular office hours between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm, Mon. – Fri.

The school will give you your FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View username and your password will be emailed to you.

3. Log in to the FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View (Blackboard) Portal
   - Using your new username and password, you can log in to the FCPS 24-7 Learning Parent View and have access to all of your children’s Blackboard accounts. If you need assistance contact the FCPS 24-7 Help Desk at 1-866-434-8880.

Thank you for participating. We hope you will make use of this new opportunity to be involved in your child(ren)’s academic life in Fairfax County Public Schools.

*FCPS 24-7 Learning is also referred to as “Blackboard”.
SPECIAL NOTE: Pre-school Bus Schedules will be sent out separately. This bus schedule refers only to grades K-6 students who are eligible for transportation. Please arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes prior to the scheduled time and allow 5 minutes leeway for return times. Please be patient with any changes or delays in the transportation schedule as some needed adjustments are made during the first week of school.