**THE COUGAR NEWS**

Vol. 3 1/03/2020

JOHN A. CROOKSHANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**Principal’s Message**

Dear Cougar Families,

Welcome back Cougar Families. I hope everyone had a safe, restful and joyful holiday season. I look forward to the challenges and opportunities we have to learn together in this New Year.

Please check out the Important Date section of this newsletter for some very important dates that are coming up for the month of January.

Parents: Please help us keep your child’s address and/or phone numbers up to date. If you have moved or change your number, please contact the front office or Ms. Cogar. This is very important so that we are able to reach you in a time of need.

Reminder: School starts at 8:25 a.m. Please make sure your child is in their classroom at 8:25 a.m. so that they are not missing instructional time. If your child arrives after this time, the parents must come into the front office and officially sign your child in and your child will receive a late pass to give to their teacher.

**PARENTS:** PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF YOUR CHILD UNTIL 7:45 A.M. UNLESS THEY ARE IN EXTENDED DAY MORNING CARE OR A SAFETY PATROL ON DUTY.

We also wanted to remind parents that the cut off time for early check out is 2 p.m. every day except on Wednesday it is at 1 pm.

During Dismissal - We ask that all parents hang the parent pickup tag on your rear view mirror as this will expedite the parent pick up line. This is just a reminder of the new state law effective October 1, 2019 that prohibits drivers from holding their cell phone in their hands in a work or school zone.

**PARENTS:** When writing absence notes for your child’s, please put your child first and last name on the note. We have several student with same first and/or last names. We would like to make sure we are changing the correct student absences.

Sincerely

Marquez Jackson

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**January 3, 2020**

Teacher Planning Day / NO SCHOOL

**January 6, 2020**

Classes Resume for Students

**January 9, 2020**

Online Application OPENS for newly applying 5th grade students for Middle School Academies

**January 15, 2020**

All Pro Dad Breakfast - 7:00 a.m. till 7:40 a.m.

**January 16 – January 30, 2020**

Academy Nights

**January 17, 2020**

Report Cards Distributed

**January 20, 2020**

Martin Luther King Holiday / NO SCHOOL

**January 22, 2020**

Kid’s Heart Challenge Kickoff

**January 31, 2020**

Teacher Inservice Day / Student Holiday

Murray Middle School Arts Auditions

5th going to 6th grade

Bring your printed audition form

**Pre-K Parents Café**

**The Crookshank School Wednesday, January 8, 2020**

**8:30am to 9:30am**

Come enjoy time with other Pre-K Parents!!! This will be a time to connect, share ideas, make and take home an activity to do with your children.

Please bring your ID and sign in at the Main Office. We will meet on the Patio.

**NURSE CORNER**

**ILLNESS GUIDELINES**

**Health Services**

Deciding when to keep your child home from school can be difficult. When a child is sick and needs to stay at home, parents should contact the school and describe the illness and symptoms. If a medical provider makes a specific diagnosis (such as strep throat, conjunctivitis, chicken pox, etc.), let school staff know.

There are several reasons to keep (exclude) sick children from school:

1. The child does not feel well enough to participate comfortably in usual activities, such as with extreme signs of tiredness or fatigue, unexplained irritability or persistent crying.

2. The child requires more care than the school staff is able to provide without affecting the health and safety of the other children.

3. The illness is on the list of symptoms or illness for which exclusion is recommended.

4. The child is not vaccinated due to medical or religious reasons and there is an outbreak in the school.

The following list gives guidelines and recommendations for exclusion from school due to illness. Children with minor illness need not be excluded unless one or more of the following exists.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ILLNESS OR SYMPTOMS** | **EXCLUSION IS NECESSARY** |
|  |  |
| **Chicken Pox** | **Yes –** Until blisters have dried and crusted (usually 6 days). |
| **Conjunctivitis (pink eye)**  (pink or red eyes with thick mucus or pus draining from the eye) | **Yes –** May return 24 hours after treatment begins. If your help provider decides not to treat your child, a note is needed. |
| **Coughing**  (severe, uncontrolled coughing or wheezing, rapid or difficulty in breathing) | **Yes –** Medical attention may be necessary.  **NOTE:** Children with asthma may be cared for in school with a written health care plan and authorization for medication/treatment. |
| **Coxsackie Virus**  **(Hand, foot and mouth disease)** | **No –** May attend if able to participate in school activities, unless the child has mouth sores and is drooling. |
| **Diarrhea**  (frequent, loose or watery stools not caused by diet or medication) | **Yes –** if child looks or acts ill; diarrhea with vomiting; diarrhea that is not contained in the toilet. |
| **Fever with behavior changes or illness**  Fever is an elevation of body temperature above normal. | **Yes –** when fever is elevated above 100° and is accompanied by behavior changes or other symptoms of illness, such as fatigue, rash, sore throat, upper respiratory symptoms, vomiting, diarrhea, etc. Mustremain at homefor at least 24 hours or until all symptoms subside medication free. |
| **Fifth Disease** | **No –** child is no longer contagious once rash illness appears. |
| **Head Lice** | **Yes –** May return after treatment and removal of all live lice and nits from hair. |
| **Hepatitis A** | **Yes -** Until 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice and when able to participate in school activities. |
| **Herpes** | **Yes –** if area is oozing and cannot be covered, e.g., mouth sores. Otherwise, may return to school. |
| **Impetigo/Staph/MRSA** | **Yes –** May return 24 hours after treatment starts. Wound must be covered with dressing taped on all 4 sides. |
| **Body Rash with fever** | **Yes –** Seek medical advice. Any rash that spreads quickly, has open, weeping wounds and/or is not healing should be evaluated. May return to school when medical provider determines that illness is not communicable. |
| **Mild Cold Symptoms**  (stuffy nose with clear drainage, sneezing, mild cough) | **No –** May attend if well enough to participate in school activities. |
| **Upper Respiratory Complications**  - large amount of thick nasal discharge  - extreme sleepiness  - ear pain  - fever (above 100° orally) | **Yes –** Seek medical advice. May return when symptoms are improved. |
| **Ringworm** | **Yes –** May return after treatment begins. Area should be covered while in school for the first 48 hours of treatment. |
| **Roseola** | **No –** Unless child cannot participate in usual activities and has fever. |
| **Scabies** | **Yes –** May return after treatment is started with note from medical provider. |
| **Strep Throat** | **Yes –** May return after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment and no fever for 24 hours. |
| **Vaccine Preventable Diseases**  (mumps, measles, whooping cough) | **Yes –** Until judged not infectious by a medical provider. Report all cases to Health Services Coordinator. |
| **Vomiting**  (2 or more episodes in the past 24 hrs.) | **Yes –** until vomiting resolves or health care provider determines that cause is not communicable.  ***Note:*** Observe for other signs of illness and for dehydration. |

Handout developed by The Children’s Hospital School Health Program, Denver, CO (303) 281-2790, 1995, revised 1999, 2001, and 2003. Revised 2012, for use by St. Johns County School Health Services, St. Johns County, FL.

References

- American Academy of Pediatrics, American Public Health Association, National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care, Caring for our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards, Second Edition, Elk Grove, IL 2002

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ABC’s for Safe and Health Child Care. A Handbook for Child Care Providers. Atlanta, GA.

- U.S. Department of Commerce; 1996 - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program, Infectious Disease in Child Care Settings; Guidelines for Child Care Providers, Denver, CO., December 2002

- Kendrick AS, Kaufman R., Messenger KP, Eds. Healthy Young Children: A Manual for Programs. Washington, D.C. National Association for the Education of Young Children; 2002



**MEDICATION POLICY**

Florida Statute 1006.062 authorizes school personnel to assist students in the administration of prescription medications. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to administer medications at home prior to or after school hours. The schools do not keep stock medicine in the clinic.

If your child needs medication during school hours, please note the following:

• All medications (prescription and over-the-counter) must have a medication form signed by both the parent/guardian and the physician ordering the medication. EXCEPTION: A student at the middle and high school level may carry a non-prescription; non-emergency medication on his/her person while in school with written permission from the parent/guardian. A copy of the signed permission form must accompany the stated medication at all times.

• All medications must be received in the original container with current Rx label including student’s name, dosage, frequency of administration, physician’s name, and expiration date of medication (the expiration date on the pharmacy label, not on the medication box, will be the expiration date). Over-the-counter medications must be in the original, unopened container. No medication will be given if presented at school in a plastic bag.

• Medications must be brought to school by parent/guardian. Please do not send any medications with your child in their backpack. Medications may not be brought to school by the student.

• Medication brought to school by a student will be kept in the clinic until a parent/guardian comes to the school with the required paper work. Without the required authorization, the student will not be given the medication during school hours.

• Medications should not be transported between home and school on a daily basis. Separate containers should be kept at home and at school.

• At the end of the school year, parents are responsible for picking up their child’s medication. Arrangements for medication retrieval must be made with school staff. Medication left on campus will be disposed of in accordance with federal guidelines.

The St. Johns County School nurses provide a vital service for our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Health Services at 904-547-7693.

KID’S HEART CHALLENGE

Get ready! Kids Heart Challenge is kicking off Wednesday, January 22nd! We’re excited to learn about heart health, have FUN, and SAVE lives! Sign up today so you don’t miss out! [www.heart.org/kidsheartchallenge](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.heart.org%2Fkidsheartchallenge&data=02%7C01%7CLisa.Cogar%40stjohns.k12.fl.us%7C13eabce8e81845e5ad3e08d77a61d3c2%7Cb3b3d057fc124f3f92f472be6e844351%7C0%7C0%7C637112432897362758&sdata=84nSQM2nrKgGOETlxh5y9NyiWxm0Zy6vigv2sqTVJQU%3D&reserved=0)

