

50

EST. 1960



JACKSONVILLE
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Nurturing Minds. Building Character.

Frequently Asked Questions for New Families

Presented by the JCDS
Parents' Association

Dear Parents,

We have compiled some frequently asked questions and answers that new parents ask as the school year begins. We hope these help to ease your transition into the JCDS community. The Parent Ambassador Committee is here to inform, assist and support parents, thus if you have a question or need not addressed here, we will be happy to find the answer for you and/or direct you to the person(s) that will provide you with the assistance you need. We welcome you to JCDS and look forward to meeting you and your family!

Parents' Association

Parent Ambassadors Committee Cochairs

Katie Kight	H: 239-2246	C: 591-8460
Jan Cheek	H: 993-7643	C: 294-1782
Theresa Bergeron	H: 253-3458	C: 303-7553

Things you want to know, but didn't know who to ask...

What is the Student/Parent Handbook and what information does it cover?

The Student/Parent Handbook is the manual that outlines the policies and procedures of the school, a full listing of faculty and administrators, and will generally answer most questions parents have about the school. This handbook is on the web site (student tab)

What are the Arrival Procedures?

School begins promptly at 8:20 AM and children are expected to be in their classes between 8:00 and 8:15. Drop-off for PJK students is in the north circle, for JK/K students in the front circle. Parking is not permitted in these areas at any time. If your child is a PJK, JK or K student, they are escorted to class by a staff member or Psi Corps member (sixth grade student patrols) during the first few weeks of school. Children in grades 1-3 are encouraged to walk to class after drop-off in the front circle. Children in grades 4-6 are dropped off in front of the 4th grade wing.

What are the procedures for picking up my child during dismissal time?

Children will be escorted to the front circle, Extended Care, 4th grade wing, the Deerwood Path, or an after school activity as directed by the parent.

Parents of PJK students should drive into the North Circle.

Parents of JK or K students should drive into the front circle. Children in grades 1-3 will be dismissed at the front circle. Children in 4th-6th grade will be dismissed in front of the fourth grade wing.

For safety purposes, we strongly encourage parents to drive into the dismissal areas for loading rather than park and walk up to escort children.

What are the car window cards and decals?

All vehicles picking up students must have a static cling decal displayed in the lower corner of the front passenger side windshield. These are available from the Main Office if you need additional decals.

When you are picking up your child, you must also have a colored window name card with your child's name. The cards are color coded by grade. Please use a black broad tipped marking pen to print first and last name in large letters, on the card. These will be available in your child's classroom on orientation/book day. Cards are to be displayed in the front passenger side window during dismissal. They enable staff to load cars quickly and reduce waiting time. Additional cards are available in the Main Office.

What if I have children in different grades?

The older child will wait with the younger child at the area you choose, front circle or 4th grade wing. We suggest using the front circle if any of the children are younger than 4th grade.

What are the procedures for picking my child up early?

If you need to pick your child up early, you must send a written note with your child to notify the school ahead of time. At the designated dismissal time your child will be brought to the Main Office. You must have identification with you to sign out your child.

Are there procedures for visitors/parents on campus?

Yes, the school has developed specific procedures to ensure the safety and security of the students. The Student/Parent Handbook outlines these procedures. Basic procedures require everyone entering the campus to sign in at the Main Office and obtain the appropriate badge for your visit to campus. The badge must be visible at all times and returned to the office when you sign out. Parents/visitors are never allowed to go directly to classrooms.

What after-school activities are available and how do I register my child?

JCDS offers dance (ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop and cheer leading,) music lessons, piano, violin, band, chess club, Art After School, cooking classes, Playball, tennis, and more. An e-mail regarding offerings and the designated time and place to register is sent to families. Registration takes place on orientation/book day.

Is Extended Care available? What are the hours of operation and how do I enroll my child?

Enrollment information was included in your contract packet. If you did not receive a registration form, they are available in the Main Office and on the school website. Registration takes place on book/orientation day, in the Fine Arts Center beginning at 12:00.

Extended Care is available before and after school.

Early Care 7:15 AM-8:00 AM.

Regular Extended Care 1:30-6:00 PM

Occasional Extended Care is available with prior notice.

What is the purpose of Presentation of Program?

The purpose of the Presentation of Program is to familiarize parents with the school, grade level programs and the teachers and assistants. It is an excellent opportunity to get first hand knowledge of your child's classroom. The daily schedule, curriculum and classroom procedures are fully explained. We strongly encourage you to attend the program, scheduled by departments.

Preprimary PJK-K, Aug. 31, 6:30 PM

Primary Grades 1-3, Sept. 2, 6:30 PM

Intermediate Grades 4-6, Sept. 7, 6:30 PM

Dates and times are also on the school calendar and the website.

Does JCDS have a listing of other families attending JCDS?

Yes, early in the school year every JCDS family receives a Family Directory that lists families, phone numbers and addresses. The directory also lists each class by grade,

How and where do I set up a lunch account?

On Orientation Day, August 24, you will need to go to the cafeteria to set up a lunch account for your child.

Where do I purchase school uniforms?

RC Uniforms & Embroidery is the source for JCDS uniforms. There are a variety of items available. Only apparel from the uniform store is acceptable. Refer to the Parent Handbook, page 18, for specifics.

RC Uniforms & Embroidery 646-0493
11645 Beach Boulevard, Suite 103
Jacksonville, FL 32246

What documents does the school need for my child to start school?

The Student Information Form
The Florida Student Health Form
The Summer Reading Contract (grades 2-6)

What is the Parents' Association and who are the members?

As JCDS parents, YOU ARE, by definition, members of the Parents Association! JCDS is proud of its Parents' Association, and well known for the broad participation of many parents (and grandparents!) who graciously volunteer their time and talents each school year. As an organization we work to promote a strong sense of community on campus while supporting the amazing learning environment fostered by a staff of dedicated educators and administrators. Please visit www.jcdis.com and go to the Parents' Association button to learn about all the opportunities to volunteer and become involved!

Tell me about the JCDS website: www.jcdis.com

The JCDS website is an integral way to keep updated about programs, events, news, individual classroom information meetings, the school calendar and more.

How do I stay informed about current events at JCDS?

The Thursday Reminder is emailed to families each week. You will find information about field trips, current and upcoming programs, and important information from the administration and staff. Check the school website regularly as well. (www.jcads.com)

JCDS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION BOARD 2010-2011

Executive Board

President
President-Elect
Secretary
Treasurer
Asst. Treasurer
Past President

Pamela Steitz
Kristen Seay
Debbie Park
Susan Chiang
Jan Cheek
Rebecca Schwam