

# Welcome to OGES!



*Welcome to a new year! We have been busy preparing for the arrival of the 2017-2018 school year. As we begin a new year, it is with great anticipation that we work and learn together in order to create strong thinkers, caring hearts and healthy bodies. Please note the information below related to a variety of topics.*

**CAR RIDERS:** Our OGES staff works hard to ensure a safe, orderly and heart powered arrival. Routines have been established for dropping and picking up children in order to expedite the traffic and to create a safe departure. If arrival by car occurs prior to 8:30, it will be necessary for the driver to park until doors open. At no time can cars park in the drop off lane that serves as a fire lane. During dismissal, a double lane forms and 5 cars at a time will move to the pickup area. Please place the sign (which you will receive the morning of the first day you drive) with children's names on the dash of your car. Take special note of the restricted parking on Hannover Drive as the street is routinely monitored by the Sheriff's Department which means that you can be ticketed. Bus routes will be posted online on or around August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**SECURITY VESTIBULE:** All schools in FCPS have been equipped with a security vestibule. You will see another set of doors that will remain locked during the school day. All visitors will need to enter the front office and sign in before entering other areas of the building. Thank you for your attention and understanding of routines that provide for a more secure learning environment.

**ARRIVAL:** In order to maintain a secure and orderly environment, parents will be able to escort their children to their classroom for the first week of school. Additionally, during morning arrival, teachers are most busy welcoming children and preparing for their day. Beginning on Monday, September 11, parents of children in grades 1 through 5 may kiss and drop their children at the front door. Due to the staggered opening, on Tuesday, September 5, parents of prekindergarten and kindergarten students will need to kiss and drop at the front door.

**WEEKLY BULLETIN/NEWSLETTERS:** Weekly bulletins will be sent via Find Out First, as well as through the Smore Website via our school email distribution list; these will also be posted on our website at [www.FCPS.org](http://www.FCPS.org) under the school tab. Grade or class newsletters and other classroom communications will be sent via email as well. Copies for families not having access will be available in the foyer. It is imperative that your email address is current and on record here at school. Email addresses will be collected at Open House via a computer that will be available to you for input.

**DAILY FOLDER:** PTA has kindly supported our communication efforts once again this year as they have purchased daily folders for our use at school. These folders will arrive on a daily basis and may contain information pertaining the following types of information: PTA correspondence, permission slips, completed homework, fundraising information, etc. Because of the random, sporadic and sometimes immediate need to communicate via hard copy, these folders will be sent daily. We appreciate your attention to this folder each day.

**VISITATION:** Parents and other family members are most welcomed to arrange a visitation or conference with your child's classroom teacher by contacting your child's teacher or the front office. We welcome families to have lunch with their student(s) as well.

**LATE ARRIVALS:** The front doors of the school will be closed at 9:00. Students arriving later than 9:00 will not be "buzzed" into the school without a parent. Parents must come into the office to complete a late slip.

**LUNCH DROPS:** If you are dropping a lunch for your child, it will be placed on a table in the cafeteria. Staff on lunch duty will assist in getting the lunch to your child. Please label the lunch container with your student's name.

**LABEL, LABEL, LABEL:** Throughout the school year, items such as lunchboxes, outerwear, etc. are misplaced. PLEASE, PLEASE label your child's belongings so that we can easily identify the owner. Thank you so much.

