

## August 8, 2024

Elementary Families,

We look forward to welcoming you to CAC for our 2024-2025 school year. The school year commences on **Monday, August 19** for Kindergarten to Grade 5 including PreK 3 & 4 family visits. We are busy preparing our learning spaces and we will be ready with open arms to welcome our families.

Thank you in advance for reading the following detailed information to support your child's transition to our 2024-2025 school year.

### PreK 3 & 4 Family Visit Day

**When:** Monday, August 19th. Sign up now for your 15-minute time slot.

**Who:** Returning and new PreK3 & 4 families

**What you will do:** meet the teacher and aides, tour the classroom, and review your child's school routines. Please note: you will have an opportunity on Parent Day, September 2nd to talk more in-depth about your child. Thank you for respecting our brief family visit time.

**How to sign up:** Find your child's name in the class list below, and sign up using the relevant class link.

Submit the form only once.

|                                         |                                               |                                             |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">PK3 Sign-Up - Ms. Jenny</a> | PK4A - Ms. Virpi's <a href="#">Class List</a> | PK4H - Ms. Kim's <a href="#">Class List</a> |
|                                         | PK4A - Ms. Virpi's <a href="#">Sign-Up</a>    | PK4H - Ms. Kim's <a href="#">Sign-Up</a>    |

**School Begins:** the first day of school for PreK3 and PreK4 students: Tuesday, August 20th

[PreK 24-25 Welcome Letter Link](#)

### Sunday, August 18

**New ES Family Orientation:**

[New Families Orientation - August 2024 Link](#)

**Class Assignments:** This will be available via Skyward on Sunday, August 18 to prepare for meeting with the teacher on the first day of school, August 19.

**Welcome Video:** Our teachers will share a welcome video via the Grade Level Blog, on August 18 by 3 pm, featuring introductions, and essential information for a successful start to the year.

**Monday, August 19**

**PreK3 & 4 Family Visit Day by scheduled sign-up (see above).**

**FIRST DAY FOR K-5 STUDENTS**

- **7:30 AM Front Gate opens**
  - Children are welcome to play in play spaces.
  - Parents are welcome on campus to drop off their child/children to their teacher at the designated meeting place between **7:30 AM - 7:45 AM.**
  - Pick up, parents are welcome to enter campus **from 2:30 PM.**
  - The division is not open to parents unless a scheduled appointment has been made. Please note, we will have Parent Day on **September 2nd** which is a 15-minute time for each family to meet with their child's teachers.
  
- **7:45 AM Music**
  - Students meet their teacher at their designated locations (see table below) and walk to class
  
- **7:55 AM Classes begin**
  
- **3:05 PM Dismissal for KG-Grade 5**

**ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL**

Teachers welcome and dismiss students from a designated area. Grade 1-5 teachers will decide when they are ready to walk to class independently.

**Bus students** will arrive and depart Gate 2. They will make their way to their designated locations to meet their teacher and aides will escort bus students for dismissal.

**Students arriving from the front or back gate** will make their way to their designated locations to meet their teacher.

**Parents escorting their child/children** to school, please make your way at 7:45 AM to the designated location to meet their teacher.

Students dismissing from the front or back gate will be supervised using our Dismissal Card System.

**DESIGNATED LOCATIONS - [📄 Designated Locations Photos](#)**

| PreK          | KG                        | GR. 1                    | GR. 2                                     | GR. 3                                  | GR. 4               | Gr. 5             |
|---------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| PreK Hallways | Hippo Play Space Entrance | Donkey Cafe Blue Benches | Camel Play Space by the ES Tree Lawn Area | Camel Playspace near the Health Office | Trackside Bleachers | Well-Being Garden |
| All year      | All year                  | Aug 19-27                | Aug 19-20                                 | Aug 19-20                              | Aug 19              | Aug 19            |

**WHAT TO BRING TO SCHOOL**

General school supplies are provided by CAC. Please ensure the following items are labeled with your child's name.

- A full water bottle

- Healthy snacks and lunch
  - **"Anytime"** food is something we can eat every day, such as fruits and vegetables in all colors, whole grains, lean meats, low-fat yogurt, and water or low-fat milk to drink.
  - **"Sometimes"** foods are high in sugar, fat, or salt – that's why we should only eat them once in a while. They're foods such as cookies, candy, chips, and sodas. We ask that sometimes foods be kept for special occasions and not for regular school days including our family picnics.
  - Parents will be able to order healthy snacks/lunches online via their SPARE app. New Families will be sent the details of how to download the SPARE App, create their accounts using their codes, and recharge their balance.
- For Physical Education (P.E.) - swimsuit, goggles, towel, appropriate clothing, and footwear that is easy to take off and put on independently.
- Grade 4 & 5 students are required to purchase their own personal Yamaha Soprano Recorder. Yamaha Soprano Recorders can be purchased at the CAC Spirit Store at the beginning of September. For consistency in sound, the Soprano Recorder brand that needs to be purchased is the "Yamaha" brand. The type of soprano recorders we use are the Baroque Soprano Recorders. They have a "B" on them. Please reach out to our new music teacher Mr. Peck with any questions at [tpeck@cacegypt.org](mailto:tpeck@cacegypt.org).
- PreK - Grade 1 change of clothes.
- P.E. uniforms & Library bags are available at the Spirit Store.
- House shirts, more information will be provided by our House Team Coordinator, Mr. Greene and House shirts are available from the CAC Spirit Store.
- Library bags are available at the CAC Spirit Store or students can bring a similar bag from home. These will be used to carry library books and they will be needed for the first week of school.
- A hat for sun protection (optional)

## Tuesday, August 20

**First day for PreK students:** 7:55 AM - 3:05 PM

## Food Service

Fresh & Co is our Elementary lunch vendor. Parents will be able to order online via their SPARE app. **New Families will be sent the details of how to download SPARE App, create their accounts using their own codes and how to recharge their balance.**

Click here for [SPARE at CAC Parents' Guide Link](#)

Lunch will commence on the first day of school, August 19 and the menu for the week can be found on the SPARE App. Parents can request a daily order **by 12:00 am** on the day of their order. The deadline to cancel via email to ([support@paywithspare.com](mailto:support@paywithspare.com)) is 7:00 am on the day of the request.

On Monday, September 9th Pizza will be served by our wonderful PTO.

After school snacks are available to purchase from Fresh & Co in the cafeteria.

If you run into any technical issues, or if you have forgotten your code, you can send an email to [support@paywithspare.com](mailto:support@paywithspare.com) and they will get in touch to assist you.

## Booster Club Spirit Store

Come and get your "back to school" supplies, Water Bottles, P.E. uniforms, house shirts and spirit wear at the Booster Club Spirit Store!

### Back to school opening hours:

**Weekdays starting Sunday, August 11 until August 18**

**8:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**1:30 pm - 3:30 pm**

**CASH ONLY in L.E. or US \$**

### Opening hours starting August 19th:

**7:45 am - 10:00 am**

**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**2:30 pm - 4:00 pm**

## Cafe Greco

Will be open to parents at drop off and pick up. It is not open to Elementary students during the school day.

## Dismissal

- Parents can arrive on campus from **2:30 pm** to pick up their child from the ES lawn.
- Students dismiss at 3:05 pm.
- Bus students will depart at 3:05 for a 3:20 PM departure from Gate 2.
- Student pick-up cards are to be used by the authorized adult. By the parent giving the card to the designated pick-up person **you are authorizing that adult to pick up your child**. The card needs to be shown to security in order for your child to be dismissed with this adult, including nannies, drivers, older siblings. The card allows for pick-up at the front or back gate only, not campus access.
- **Students will not be released without this card.**

### Change in Dismissal Plans

If your child will not be riding the bus home on any particular day, please send an email to the Transportation Department ([motorpool@cacegypt.org](mailto:motorpool@cacegypt.org)), ES Office ([esoffice@cacegypt.org](mailto:esoffice@cacegypt.org)), and the classroom teacher **no later than 12:00 pm on the requested date**.

If you need to pick up your child early on a particular day, please send an email to ([esattendance@cacegypt.org](mailto:esattendance@cacegypt.org)) and the classroom teacher **no later than 12:00 pm on the requested date**. The teacher will send the student to the ES Office at the requested time to pick up the permission slip and will then be dismissed from the CAC Main Gate.

## Arts

### Choir

The ES Choir is open to students in 2nd Grade through 5th Grade. We will meet every Monday before school at 7:25 am beginning in September 2024. Students in 4th and 5th Grade can audition for the AMIS Junior Honor Choir Festival which will be in Madrid November 20 - 24 with travel dates on either side. More information will be shared when we return to school.

Mr. Peck  
ES Music Teacher  
[tpeck@cacegypt.org](mailto:tpeck@cacegypt.org)

### Musical

Our musical is an experience that our young performers treasure. It is a Co-Curricular Activity for students in Grades 3 to 5. This year, we will have two shows for our community to enjoy; on May 15 and 16, 2025, at the school Theater. Our musical team embraces and supports each other, fostering teamwork, perseverance, confidence, focus, and lasting friendships. In August, we will announce our ES Musical to the school community.

We invite parents of all grades to actively participate and work as crew members in the musical's production.

We plan to stage the show during the second and third seasons. The second season will be for students interested in participating in the play, calibrating their skills for the auditions and possibly portraying one of the main characters. We will have a detailed rehearsal schedule to present the show to our community.

Grades 3-5 students who wish to participate in the musical must prepare and perform at the auditions at the end of the second season. The Arts Blog will release all the details and material for the auditions at the beginning of the second season.

Apart from the musical, the students will have the chance to participate in another important performance:

### The Variety Show

This event is for our KG – Gr. 5 students to share performances based on talents they are developing outside of CAC. Each act must rehearse and prepare for an audition. We choose acts that offer unique performances, embody CAC's core values, and are performance-ready. This year, we will release the Variety Show on September 25th at the school Theater, and the Arts Blog will display all of the information at the beginning of the next year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Franklin, our drama teacher.

Mr. Franklin Gutierrez  
ES Drama Teacher and Musical Artistic Director  
[fgutierrezmora@cacegypt.org](mailto:fgutierrezmora@cacegypt.org)

## Co-Curricular Activities

Activities will be after-school Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 3:15 PM - 4:00 PM, Sign-up will begin on **August 25 and end on August 28th**. Activities commence **September 8th** with a late bus running.

## Aquatics

Fall Age Group Swim Team season extends from September 8th - November 7th, 2024.

On November 8th and 9th, we will hold the Fall Age Group Invitational with guest schools (TBC).

### REQUIREMENTS TO JOIN THE CAC AGE GROUP SWIM TEAM

1. Be Gr. 1 or older for the current school year.
2. Practices will be on Sunday/Wednesday or on Monday/Thursday from 3:15 PM to 4:05 PM.
3. **Gr. 4 and Gr. 5** can sign for 4 days of practice (notice you will have to pay for 4 days)
4. Attend tryouts (**August 28th**) - **All KG students** and if you are **new** to CAC or our Aquatic program. (All new swimmers!)
5. KG students are welcome to join our Tuesday swimming program. They are also welcome to join the Age Group Swim Team on Sunday/Wednesday.
6. **Pre-K** and **non-swimmers/beginners** are welcome to join our Tuesday swimming program (send an email to Aquatics)
7. All payments must be completed within the **first 2 weeks** of the program through the school cashier.

\*\*\*If a swimmer did not pass the tryouts requirements (25 m front and 25 m back independent swimming using arms and legs), we recommend that they join the Tuesday Learn to Swim program to improve their skills.

All further information will be communicated through the Activities and Aquatics Blog.

## EAGLE TUESDAY



Talon is our Elementary Eagle Mascot. On Eagle Tuesdays, Talon welcomes our students to school.

Students are welcome to wear CAC Spirit wear on a Tuesday.

## Parenting Together

### Parenting Together with Positive Discipline Courses Reserve your spot today!

These parenting classes are designed especially for CAC parents looking to create more positive and joyful



relationships with their children while connecting with other parents at CAC.

We meet weekly to...

- address real issues for parents of today's children;
- learn over 50 take-away tools for parenting during the primary years; and to
- create a support network for parents of the CAC community.



SPACE IS LIMITED!

Sign up for either the evening series or daytime course today:

**Option 1:**

Primary Ages (3-10) 8- Week Daytime Course **Mondays 8-11 am - Oct. 14**

Comprehensive course on Positive Discipline and Wellbeing

Facilitated by Carey Harris & Amira Hashem

**Option 2:**

Primary Ages (3-10) 6- Week Evening Workshop **Mondays 6-7:30 pm - Sept. 16**

Training series on the principles of Positive Discipline

Facilitated by Bonnie Greene & Lillian Salama

Sign Up Today - [Parenting Together Course Sign Up - Fall 2024](#)

To learn more visit: <https://parentingtogether.edublogs.org/>

**Advanced Parenting Course: Teaching Parenting the Positive Discipline Way - August 25th & 26th**

**Prerequisite:** Must have completed the 8-week Parenting Together with Positive Discipline Course

**Facilitators:** Deborah Owen-Sohocki & Carey Harris

**Dates and Times:** August 25th & 26th from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm *(CAC will provide after school care from 3:10-4:00 for those children who need supervision).*

**Location:** CAC - MS Room 116

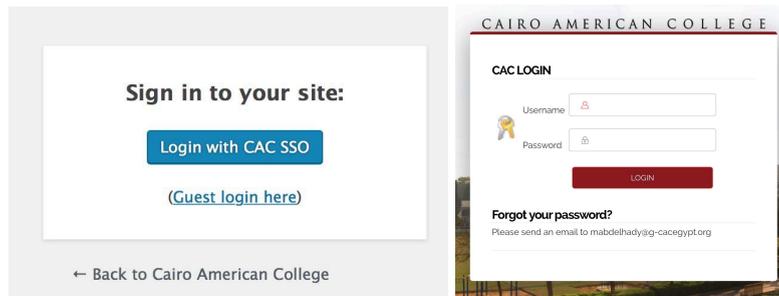
Teaching Parenting the Positive Discipline Way is an advanced parenting course that will be offered to CAC parents who have completed the 8 week CAC Parenting Together course. This two day intensive class will further increase one's knowledge of Positive Discipline by reaching the heart to inspire deeper understanding and change.

**Space is Limited! Register here:** [Teaching Parenting the PD Way Registration](#)

## Communication - Blogs

Our blogs are private for CAC families only. The first blog post will be on Sunday, August 18th to support your transition back to school and after this it will move to *Thursdays*. We want to be sure everyone is getting this important information, so we ask that you read the following information to access our blog.

You will receive an email each week with a link to access the blog post. Click on the link which will take you to the blogs login page, click on Login with CAC SSO and enter your single sign on credentials.



If you did not receive the blog post notification by email on Sunday, August 18th by 5:00 PM, please send an email to Mona Abdelhady [mabdelhady@cacegypt.org](mailto:mabdelhady@cacegypt.org).

Our technology department is available to help you if needed. They are located in room 135 on the first floor and the iSpace on the 3rd floor or you can email them.

Ahmed Fouad - PreK - 2 Technology Integrator [afouad@cacegypt.org](mailto:afouad@cacegypt.org)  
Sema Hegazy - Grade 3-5 Technology Integrator [shegazy@cacegypt.org](mailto:shegazy@cacegypt.org)

## End-Of-Year Slideshow

We invite you to enjoy watching highlights from our [End of Year Slideshow 23-24](#)

A heartfelt "thank you" to our tech integrators, Hebba & Sherif for coordinating and to Nariman, our incredible Image & Media Specialist for these beautiful memories.

## ES Student-Parent Handbook

The [ES Student-Parent Handbook 24-25](#) is available on the CAC website. The Handbook has been updated and it is the place to go to if you have a question.

If you cannot find the answer, please contact the ES Office at 2755-5202 or 2755-5203, or email [esoffice@cacegypt.org](mailto:esoffice@cacegypt.org).

The Elementary team is looking forward to a year of learning, exploring, fun, service and personal growth for our students.

Yours in partnership,

Julie Jackson-Jin  
Elementary Principal  
[jjackson@cacegypt.org](mailto:jjackson@cacegypt.org)

Penny Amies  
Elementary Assistant Principal  
[pamies@cacegypt.org](mailto:pamies@cacegypt.org)