**\*\*\*MANY CHANGES SINCE THE 8/1/22 WELCOME LETTER. PLEASE READ TODAY!!\*\*\***

GLENWOOD COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

**August 6, 2022**



Glenwood Country Day School

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<https://glenwoodcountrydayschool.com/>

**Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year**

Dear Families,

We hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer. We also hope you are relaxed, recharged, and ready to start a new school year. We are delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. We welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and we look forward to working with you and your children.

Our much-appreciated PTO is gearing up to welcome families, provide volunteer opportunities, and offer other exciting events and programs. We are indeed a joyous and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, caring students, and promoting high-level learning.

A special welcome is extended to our families new to Glenwood. We are glad you’ve joined our GCDS community. We will hold a **New Family Orientation** on **Thursday, August 25th from 6:30 – 7:30 pm** outside under the pavilion.

Our annual **Meet and Greet** will be held on **Friday, August 26, 2022**.  At least one parent will attend with their child to meet his or her teacher.  The times of the meet and greet are as follows:

* 3:45 - 4:30 pm
* 4:45 - 5:30 pm
* 5:45 - 6:30 pm

     In a separate memo, you will find the time to attend meet and greet with your child based on his or her learning group.

     During this time, you and your child will:

* meet your child's teacher.
* see your child’s classroom.
* your child will do a craft with his or her teacher.
* your child will do an activity with his or her teacher and other friends from the class.
* enjoy a yummy ice cream snack.

     At your meet and greet time, you will also bring the following:

* 5 boxes of tissues.
* 10 boxes of anti-bacterial hand wipes.
* 5 boxes of spoons (parents do not have to put spoons in their children's lunches throughout the year.)
* An old pair of rubber boots to keep at school.
* \*\*There will be containers out front to put these items in.  Please label each item with your child's name on it. \*\*

**Back-to-School Night** will be held on **Tuesday, September 6th; Wednesday, September 7th; Thursday, September 8th from 6:30 – 7:30 pm** in your child’s classroom. In a separate email that you will receive, you will know which night to attend. Back-to-School Night is for parents **Only.** One parent from each family is required to attend this informational meeting. Please mark your calendar today.

**Communication** is always key! At GCDS, we do our best to consolidate communication in our newsletter, which is emailed throughout the school year weekly. It will be packed full of a lot of important information in one location. There will be times when we send email communication from the administration office so, please be sure to check email regularly.

**We look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Monday, August 29th. Please read through this newsletter carefully for important information to start the year off safely.**

**Enjoy the weekend,**

**Mrs. Stradling, Administrator and President**

**Mrs. Poland, Director of Preschool Program**

**Mr. Dameon, Director of Public-School Program**

***Important Upcoming Dates and Events***

**For a complete list of dates and events visit:**

**https://glenwoodcountrydayschool.com/event-calendar/**

**REQUIRED FORMS**

The following required forms can be found on our website at the top of the homepage called “Forms” and must ALL be returned **BEFORE** August 22nd. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND US YOUR FORMS UNTIL YOU HAVE ALL OF THEM!**

* Emergency Form
* Health History
* Blood Lead Testing Certificate
* Immunization Certificate
* Current immunization record from the doctor
* “All About Me” Form
* Medical Release Form, which can be found in the handbook
* GCDS Releases
* Parent / Student Handbook “Acknowledgement Form,” which is found on the last page of the handbook.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE PRINTED AND EITHER MAILED TO GLENWOOD COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL OR DROPPED OFF IN OUR GREEN FORMS BOX THAT IS LOCATED ON OUR WHITE CHECK-IN TABLE OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL. PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL ANY FORMS!**

**Uniforms:**

The children wear uniforms from Flynn & O’Hara. Flynn & O’Hara was chosen for the quality of the uniforms and the various sizes that they have to offer. Uniforms begin at size 2 and the tops come as small as xxxs. You can purchase your uniform online at flynnohara.com or the Glen Burnie store: 410.684.2816 or 1.800.441.4122.

**\*Please purchase your uniforms at the beginning of the summer while supplies may run out.\***

**Our uniform policy is in the Handbook and includes:**

* khaki pants/shorts with green GCDS logo polo for boys
* khaki pants/shorts/skorts or green jumper with the green GCDS polo or white GCDS blouse for girls
* On Fridays, preschool children wear GCDS Spirit wear, which includes a green GCDS t-shirt, sweat suit, or GCDS gym shorts. The Spirit T-shirt is also to be worn on field trip days.
* Children must wear closed-toe and heel shoes (sneakers). No sandals or flip-flops!

**Lunches**

* Lunches should be in a washable lunch bag. It needs to be washable because our children are also outside throughout the school year.
* We are a “Nut-Free” school. No food should contain nuts due to allergies.
* You may bring in your child’s food items in Tupperware containers that fit in your child’s washable lunch bag.
* For extended day children, pack extra snacks for your child (morning and afternoon snacks.)
* All lunches are kept in our insulated coolers.

**Other Items to Bring**

* All backpacks must be washable. They do not have to be plastic, but they must be washable because we are outside most of the day.
* Extra clothes in a Ziplock bag placed in your plastic backpack.
* Water Bottle: Your child’s teacher will refill it.

**Hot Lunch / Milk Program:** G.C.D.S. offers an optional hot lunch and/or milk program. Both programs will begin on Tuesday, September 6th, 2022. These forms will be on our website and **MUST** be returned BEFORE August 22nd, 2022.

**Drop Off and Pick Up**

* Times will be pre-arranged via sign-up genius the Tuesday before the following week.
* When you pick up and drop off, you have a 30-minute window to pick up and drop off your child.

1. **Arrival**
2. For extended day children, the time is between 6:30 and 9:00 am. For ½ day children as well as academic day children, the time is between 9:15 and 9:30 am. You will sign-up via “sign-up genius.”
3. Once you arrive, you will pull up to the arrival check-in table.
4. A teacher will come to your car to watch the parent take your child’s temperature with your **OWN** thermometer. As the temperature is being taken, the teacher asks the CDS (Center for Disease Control) questions about COVID-19. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, the child is unable to stay at school.
5. The child is then escorted to their class.
6. **Departure**
7. You will sign up for a departure time via sign-up genius.
8. For academic day children, you will pick them up at exactly 3:00 pm. For extended day children, you will sign up for a time between 4:00 and 6:30 pm on the sign-up genius. If your child is at GCDS for ½ day, your child’s teacher will bring him/her to your car.
9. Parent pulls their car up to the check-in table at their scheduled pick-up time.
10. A designated teacher will escort the children to the parent’s car.
11. It is very important **NOT** to make appointments for your children during the academic day, which is between 9:30 am and 3:00 pm. After 9:30 am, no one is at the check-in table to greet your child and hear his/her temperature. No one returns to the check-in table until 3:00 pm. Parents are not allowed on the premises of Glenwood Country Day School.

**Medication**

If your child requires medication at school for the upcoming school year, you will find the forms needed on the GCDS website under forms at the following link: https://glenwoodcountrydayschool.com/forms/