

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2011-12 school year, and a special welcome to the new families who have joined the Birchwood community! We are excited about the upcoming year and look forward to working with you and your children. The following is important information about the opening of school.

First Day of School

Wednesday, August 24 is an early dismissal day at 12:00 noon.
Students should bring all school supplies labeled with their names
Bring a snack since we will not be having a lunch period at school before dismissal

Regular School Hours

Drop-off is between 8:00 and 8:15 A.M. Doors open at 8:00 A.M.
Children are not allowed in the building before 8:00 A.M. unless parents have made arrangements for [Before School Care](#) with Lisa Samarin. At 8:15 A.M. instruction begins. If a child arrives later than 8:15 he/she should come to the office accompanied by an adult and sign in.
Dismissal is at 3:20 P.M. Teachers will remain with the children until 3:30 P.M. Afterwards, students will be escorted to [After School Care Program](#). There is a fee for childcare.

Map Please review the [map of traffic patterns for drop-off and dismissal](#).

Forms

[Emergency medical authorization](#), [school dismissal](#), and [pupil information](#) forms will be sent home on the first day of school in your child's correspondence folder or you may download these forms from our web site. (See [Office Documents](#).) Please complete and return **ALL** forms to school by Friday, August 26th.

Gym Classes for the following students begin on Friday, August 26th

Grades 1 & 2 may wear gym clothes and tennis shoes to school (no change of uniform clothes needed)
Grades 5 and 6 **boys and girls** wear uniforms and bring a change of gym clothes
Grades 7 & 8 **boys** wear gym clothes and bring a change of uniform clothes

[After School Program](#) begins Thursday, August 25th.

Important Parent Meetings

Kindergarten – Grades 1 and 2	Monday, August 22 at 7:00 P.M.
Grades 3, 4, and 5	Wednesday, September 7 at 7:00 P.M.
Grades 6, 7, and 8	Wednesday, September 14 at 7:00 P.M.

Working together with you for every child's success.

Charles Debelak Head of School	Helene Debelak Curriculum Director	Linda Brown, Principal Day-to-day procedures	Donna Parrino School Secretary
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