



Welcome to Kindergarten!

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Percy Priest Elementary (PPE) School! We hope this short guide will give you helpful information about the year ahead for your Kindergartener at PPE. Additional information can be found on the Percy Priest website (www.percypriest.org) that is pertinent to ALL students.

This year will be packed with fun and quite a bit of change for your kids. We would love to have you volunteer at the school in small or large ways. We welcome your questions and feedback.

We look forward to seeing you at PPE!

Ashley Wade and Emily Walker
PPE PTO Presidents
PresidentsPPE@gmail.com

Lingo

Friday Folders

Folders are sent home each Friday, filled with your child's work from the week and announcements about happenings around PPE. They are to be returned empty each Monday. Be sure to check your child's folder after school on Friday because occasionally teachers send home time-sensitive info.

Invest

This is the PTO's primary fundraising effort. PPE parents are encouraged to contribute \$350 per student. Money raised is used for funding Intervention and Enrichment teachers, technology, teacher resources, and supplies for the Music, Art, Spanish, and Physical Education Programs. If you have questions about INVEST, please contact INVEST chairs, Jennifer McGee and Kirsten Schriener, InvestPPE@gmail.com.

Orange Totes

All Kindergarteners use the same orange totes in lieu of backpacks. They can be monogrammed but are otherwise uniform. The PTO will provide each Kindergartener a tote bag during the "Sneak-a-Peek". You can also pick up your child's tote in the front office on the first day of school.

School Clubs

After school clubs are offered by the PPE staff throughout the year. Details will be included in your child's Friday folders.

Snacks and Water Bottles

Kindergarteners have afternoon snacks each day. Please pack a healthy, dry, peanut-free snack each day and send it in your child's tote. Students may also bring a water bottle for the day.

Standard School Attire (SSA)

PPE follows Metro Nashville Public School District's (MNPS) policy pertaining to Standard School Attire (SSA). More information is available on the website for our school's specific requirements at: <https://www.percypriest.org/students/ssa/>.

PPE "spirit wear" will be available for purchase throughout the year. Spirit wear is any piece of clothing that has a PPE logo. Spirit wear shirts, tops, and sweatshirts may be worn any day. PPE athletic shorts can only be worn on Fridays. Check out the Tiger Store (<https://www.percypriest.org/tiger-store/>) for lots of fun options.

If you have any questions about SSA or spirit wear, please don't hesitate to reach out to the New Families Committee at newfamiliesppe@gmail.com. They can also give you great ideas of where to shop!

Supply List

The Kindergarten supply list can be found at:

<https://www.percypriest.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Kindergarten-Supply-List-2018-2019.pdf>. If you ordered supplies through 1st Day School Supplies, kits will be ready on your child's desk on or before the first day of school.

Transportation

All children arrive and depart from school as either walkers, car riders, bus riders, or to an after school club. Car riders will receive their numbers during “Sneak-a-Peek”. Bus assignments will be mailed by MNPS. The PPE website has more information on transportation here:

<https://www.percypriest.org/students/back-to-school-guide/>. You can also visit the MNPS website: <https://www.mnps.org/transportation>.

On the first day, many PPE parents choose to walk their children to the classroom. Parking is encouraged on Priest Road and Willshire Drive, and it gets crowded! Kindergarten teachers allow parents to walk their children to the classrooms for a short period thereafter, but then request that children get comfortable finding their own way.

During the first week of school, all methods of transportation tend to be slower than normal. Teachers and staff, as well as 4th Grade Ambassadors, will be available to help Kindergartners. PTO volunteers are assigned to help parents navigate the traffic circle. Please be patient and follow the safety rules - ***NO cell phone use during arrival and dismissal per Tennessee State Law and the safety of our children.***

Car Rider Protocol - Drop Off

Drop off begins at 7:40am, and students can use this extra time to enjoy breakfast in the Cafe, or head directly to their classrooms. Breakfast is free to all students. The front doors close at 8:00am, so students are encouraged to arrive between 7:40 - 7:55am. After 8:00 am, parents will be required to walk children in, and sign them in at the front desk.

In order to prepare your child to exit your car, please have them ready with tote in hand, and goodbyes finished, once you cross the first Tiger Paw. Remember - parents, grandparents and babysitters, please do NOT exit your car during drop off.

Car Rider Protocol - Pick-Up

Dismissal begins promptly at 3:00pm. Parents, grandparents, and babysitters are encouraged to begin lining up before 3:00pm along Otter Creek and Priest Road.

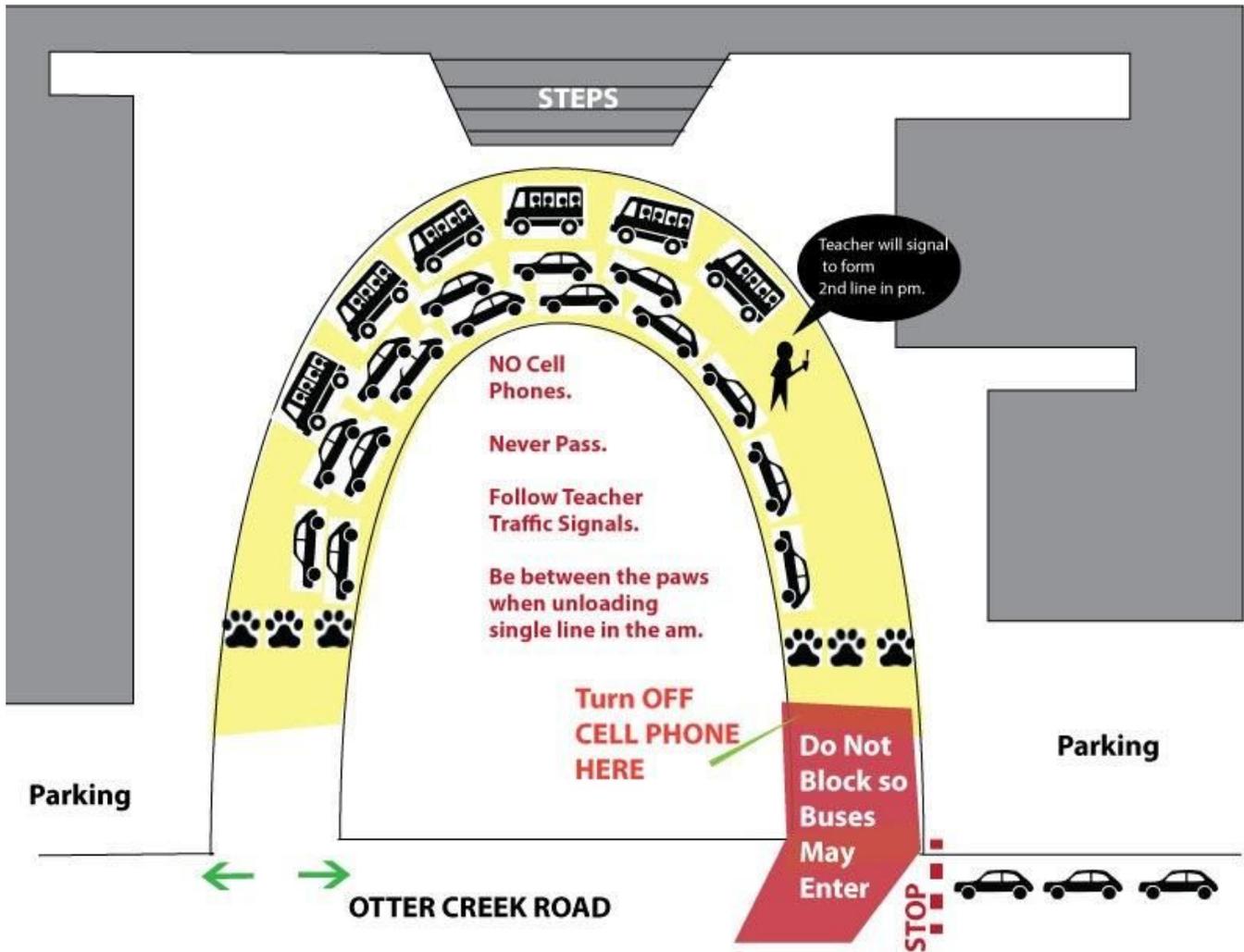
Round One Dismissal - The first group of cars lined up in the semi-circle will resemble the graphic included in this document, including buses in the third row.

Rounds Two, Three, and Four Dismissal - The first round of cars and the buses leave the semi-circle, and Mrs. Cathy or another school representative will wave your car in when it's your turn. Cars will be lined up in three rows between the Tiger Paws. Once you are in your spot, please put your car in park and wait for students to be dismissed to your car. You will be able to exit your car at this point to let your child know where you are in line. Teachers will dismiss children to cars by turning a STOP sign to GO or SLOW.

Car Rider Numbers

Please work with your child to learn his or her Car Rider Number before school starts, or even consider writing it on their tote bag/tag. Car Rider Numbers will be distributed at “Sneak-a-Peek” for new families. Returning families will continue to use the same number.

Transportation Map



*Please note, during Round One of Dismissals, only two rows of cars are allowed in the semi-circle. This is to provide buses the room they require to line up in the third row. The second row of cars MAY NOT line up past the second speed bump near the mailbox. This only applies to Round One of Dismissals - after buses depart, cars may line up between the Tiger Paws, 3 rows deep.

Events

Before School Begins

“Sneak-a-Peek” and Popsicle Party

On August 2, after Class Lists are posted at 1:00pm, come inside at 2:00pm with your Kindergartener to hear from Mrs. Williams and her team, as well as the PTO co-presidents, about the year ahead and some specifics just for Kindergarteners. Snap a picture with our school mascot, Percy, and then head on to your child’s classroom to meet your teacher. You can also drop off school supplies in your child’s classroom (unless you ordered them through 1st Day School Supplies). Please plan to join us for this exciting day! You will also receive your Car Rider Number and tote bag.

After “Sneak-a-Peek,” meet on the playground and enjoy popsicles while socializing with other Kindergarten families.

Class Parties

Each class will have various seasonal parties, such as Harvest, Winter/Gingerbread House making, and Valentines. Details to follow.

Fall Events

Open House

All parents are highly encouraged to attend Open House on August 15, 2019. Please see the PTO calendar for Open House times. This is an evening when teachers give information specific to their classes and compile contact information to create class email distribution lists. Volunteer sign-ups will also be available in the classrooms.

Family Picnic

All PPE families are invited to eat, enjoy music, face painting, games, and more at the Family Picnic on September 6, 2019, at 5:00pm. A variety of Nashville Food Trucks are present for food to purchase, or you can bring your own picnic. Look for more details in your child’s Friday Folder and on our social media.

Tiger Cup

The PTO hosts an annual Golf Tournament fundraiser. This year it will be held on September 23, 2019, at Old Natchez Country Club. Details can be found on the school website. Round up a golf group and join the fun while raising money for the school!

Walk to School Day

Percy Priest participates in National Walk to School Day. Buses still run on Walk to School Day, but all students are encouraged to walk the last part of their journey to school if they are interested. Parents can park on neighboring streets (except where marked) and walk with their kids to the school.

Field Trips

Kindergarteners go on 2-3 field trip a year. Parent volunteers will be needed to serve as chaperones. Your child's teacher and room parent will provide more information on these events.

50's Day

The Kindergarten classes celebrate the 50th day of school by dressing up in 50's costumes. Attire suggestions will be provided.

Harvest Celebration

Fall festival-type activities are hosted in the Kindergarten classrooms, with the help of parents. More details to follow.

Scholastic Book Fair

Each November, the library hosts an annual, week-long book fair which includes several fun events, including Grandparents and Special Friends Lunch, when loved ones are invited to join children for lunch (expect a crowd!). Please see the PTO calendar for dates and times.

Gingerbread Houses

Each classroom will have a Gingerbread House making party shortly before winter break. It is strongly suggested that one parent or guardian attend, as construction requires assistance!

Spring Events

100th Day of School

The Kindergarten classes celebrate the 100th day of school by dressing up as a 100-year-old. Attire suggestions will be provided.

Used Book Sale

Donate old books that are in good shape for other PPE families to purchase and enjoy. Parents will send money to school with their children to buy the books.

Read-A-Thon

Read-A-Thon is a favorite school event that is held for several days each spring. It is filled with fun activities and of course, reading!

Spring Auction

The Spring Auction is our 2nd biggest fundraiser of the year. Please Save the Date for April 4, 2020. There will be an Online Auction prior to the event, and both a Silent and Live Auction the night of the event. Camps, restaurant and store gift cards, art, décor, spa certificates, and so much more will be available for purchase or bid. Popular items include grade level baskets, teacher outings, class parties, no SSA (Standard School Attire) for a day or a week, and Sock Wars! More information to come. Plan to attend!

Field Day

Fun activities are available for all grades in the school. Parents are encouraged to volunteer.

Dine Out With PPE

Throughout the school year, we partner with local restaurants. Enjoy dinner with family and friends, and 20% of sales is donated to PPE. Check the calendar on the PTO website and look for flyers in your child's Friday folder.

School Lunches

Kindergarten Lunch is from 11:35 am - 12:05 pm. Students are welcome to purchase lunch in the Café or bring lunch from home.

*Updated to reflect the 2019 - 2020 school year by MNPS

Prices for school lunches:

- Breakfast: No cost for all students
- Elementary & MS Student Lunch: \$2.50 daily
- High School Student Lunch: \$2.75 daily
- Adult Lunch (MNPS Employees and Volunteers): \$3.50
- Adult (Non-MNPS Employees and non-volunteers): \$3.75
- Non-enrolled Pre-K children and visiting MNPS students: Breakfast is based on a la carte pricing. Lunch is \$2.75
- A visiting MNPS student is one that is eating at a school other than where they are enrolled and they are not there on official school business, i.e. eating lunch with their sibling.

For school menus - <http://mnpsnutritionservices.org/index.php?page=menus>.

Information and application for free and reduced lunch - <https://www.mnps.org/cep/>.

For more information about adding funds to your child's account for lunch, please see the Student-Parent Handbook.

How to Get Involved

Birthdays / Lunches at School

Parents are always welcome to have lunch with their children in the Café. Kindergarteners eat promptly from 11:35 am - 12:05 pm. Parents can purchase a lunch from the Café, or bring food. Parents may also bring lunch for their kids, as well.

PTO

Get involved in the PTO! This is a great way to support your children and make friends along the way. There are many opportunities throughout the year to volunteer. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the PTO Board or Committee Chairs. We'd love to hear from you!

<https://www.percypriest.org/parents/pto-leadership/>.

Visiting the School

During school hours, all visitors must enter through the main doors. Ring the buzzer on the left side, and you will be asked to identify yourself and reason for visiting, and then you may proceed to the office to receive a name badge, which must be worn at all times while in the building.