Gearing up for 2024-25 School Year

There is NO CARE from 11:30 - 2:55 for the Kindergarten Half Days (August 6th and 7th) - Kindergarten Parents must make other arrangements.

We've tried to make sure incoming parents are aware, but here is another attempt.

Welcome and staff introduction

We're so excited to have your student(s) join us this year for before and/or after school care! First, we want to introduce you (virtually) to our staff.

Our leadership team includes Mrs. Julie Yarnall, executive director and Ms. Jihada Sias (or Miss Jay), our site director. One of them should be on site every afternoon and would address any concerns or disciplinary matters.

Morning teachers are returning from last year and include Mrs. Carolyn Ewing and Ms. Rosalyn Dowell (Miss Toni).

After school care teachers include Miss Toni, Miss Molly (returning), Mr. Isaiah (who joined us at the very end of last school year). Miss Lennon will return as our assistant.

We are still hiring to fill at least one additional afternoon position and possibly two. For now, we will have Miss Daysha returning as a teacher for August (we're excited!).



If you were in camp at the end of the month, you've seen this picture. It is some of our campers watching the water flow from the epic water main burst in July (sharing for your enjoyment not any relevance).

Please be sure your child has a water bottle.

Our Contact Information:



Please do not hesitate to utilize our cellular phone for items needing urgent response (or anything else): 629-278-8633

ProCare Messages are great, but we do not receive a notification when one comes in so they are not the best for urgent needs. The one exception is if you want your child to ride home with someone who is not on the authorized pickup list - we need a ProCare message so that communication remains documented in your student's file

The two above messages are the primary methods for communicating with us, but you can also email inquiries@igec.info.

For items needing supervisory attention, you can reach Julie at j.yarnall@jgec.info or on her personal mobile: 615-924-5162.

Big Changes

always strive to provide quality otogramming for your students. This year, we le hoping to add clubs on a scheduled sign up basis to our programming. We have several exciting opportunities and would like to poll your interest. Please take our survey at the following link to let us know what things you're interested in.

Current Schedule K, 1st, and 2nd



3:00 - 3:10 - Dismiss to extended care teacher for restroom break and hand washing

3:10 - 3:40 - Snack

3:40 - 3:50 - Restroom break and hand washing

3:50 - report to gym or outside

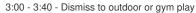
Important notes:

ProCare should let you know where your student is; they will be signed into and out of the restroom break, the gym and playground. The 10 minute break is the most problematic for parents as it is difficult to pick your student up while we are in the hallway. That said, Students are REQUIRED to wash their hands before and after snack - please encourage them to comply. Additionally, we will not move on when students are exhibiting unruly behavior. If your student can demonstrate an ability to simply use the restroom if needed and wash his/her hands and then stand quietly in the hallway, these breaks can be reduced to half of the time or less.

As this group of children becomes faster at eating snack, our goal will be to compress this schedule, but at the beginning of the year, this is the anticipated schedule.

We do not have Homework Time on the schedule for the younger students as they typically do not have a need to complete homework during aftercare. That said, when Homework Time is announced, they are always allowed to attend to do homework or simply read a book. If your child needs to attend Homework Time and you'd like us to make sure they attend, let us know.

Current Schedule - 3rd - 5th grade



3:40 - 3:50 - Restroom break and hand washing

3:50 - 4:10 - Snack

4:10 - 4:20 - Restroom Break and hand washing

4:20 - Homework room or back to gym/outside

Important notes:

ProCare should let you know where your student is; they will be signed into and out of the restroom break and the cafe. If you plan to pickup during snack, let your students know to take their belongings down to snack time.

The 10 minute breaks are the most problematic for parents as it is difficult to pick your student up while we are in the hallway. That said, Students are REQUIRED to wash their hands before and after snack - please encourage them to comply. Additionally, we will not move on when students are exhibiting unruly behavior. If your student can demonstrate an ability to simply use the restroom if needed and wash his/her hands and then stand quietly in the hallway, these breaks can be reduced to half of the time or less.

As the younger children become faster at eating snack, our goal will be to compress this schedule, but at the beginning of the year, this is the anticipated schedule.

Lastly...we always announce when it is Homework Time but must rely on the students to know if they have homework. You can let us know if you have the desire to always include your student in Homework Time, or ask us to never include them in Homework Time if you prefer to have them do their homework at home.



Sample text

Frequently Asked Questions

Where and when can I pick up my child?

You can pick up your child almost anytime. When we are at the restroom, it is not possible for us to run to get your child, but outside of our state-mandated restroom breaks before and after snack, you are welcome to pickup your child. If your child is in the cafeteria, you would pull up and park beside the patio with the green picnic tables and walk up to the cafe door. If your child is on the playground, you may come to the gate at the playground; we often have a teacher there, but sometimes you may have to enter the gate and walk up to the patio. We have access to a few other rooms within the school along with the gym, but pickup for all of them is by the gym door. When you pull into the drive, pass the playground and the gym and a teacher will be stationed at the first door facing the drive. Occasionally, that teacher has to leave his/her post to tend to a child, but that is the place to wait. If it's been more than a few moments, feel free to tap on the door with your keys or call our cell.

Are you open on half days and in service days?

Yesl

- ** On August 6th and 7th (which are half days for kindergarteners only) we are not open for the half day; we are only open for standard before and after school care.
- ** All other half days, we provide care from dismissal until 5:45. There is typically a sign up and \$5 fee for these days as we provide pizza.
- ** For many other days when school is not in service, we are open. We call these extended days, and there is a \$45 fee per student per day for those of you who are in regular before/after care. (The fee for those who are not in regular care is \$65.). Sign ups for these days will close two weeks before the day so that we can staff accurately.

How is invoicing done?

Monthly invoicing happens in ProCare. We post sign ups for extended days on our website and you pay when you sign up. If you miss an online sign up, you can always message us to see if we still have space; in this instance, invoicing would happen through ProCare.

Are the students separated into groups?

Sometimes. We separate into two large groups for snack. We also have a good bit of play time when we're all together. Often at the beginning of the year, we utilize a classroom for our kindergarteners as playing with the other students in the gym can be overwhelming. From a DHS standpoint, all of our students are school aged and can be grouped together with the school aged child ratio governing our supervision. That said, we evaluate the students and the needs of the group and make necessary adjustments.

What do I do if someone else is picking up my child?

Please see out check out policies (attached to this newsletter). If someone is picking up your child who does not have a code to do so and is not on your allowed pickups list, you will need to send a ProCare message with that information. Any person picking up your child should either know their pickup PIN or have an ID prepared.

Can my child bring a snack?

Yes! We provide snack based on DHS and USDA requirements, but you are able to send a snack (or snacks) with your child. That said, if your student wished to eat the snack at a time besides designated snack time, he or she will need to ask a teacher and will have to sit in a designated place. This will be on the patio if we're outside and in the hallway if we're inside as we are not allowed to have food in the gym and we must make sure no foods are shared due to allergy concerns.

