



June 8, 2011

Dear Parent(s):

We trust you are having a relaxing, enjoyable summer. Our summer office hours are from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM if you have any questions or concerns.

Student Orientation

It is always our pleasure to welcome new families. Please note the following events:

- 8/1/11 -First Grade "Meet & Greet" from 4:00 – 6:00 PM, Chick-fil-A on the corner of Hodges and Beach Blvd.
- 8/4/11 – Second Grade “Meet & Greet” from 5:30 – 6:30 PM, McDonalds on Beach and San Pablo.
- 8/4/11 - Fifth Grade “Meet and Greet” at Chick-fil-A on Hodges on Thursday, from 6:30-8:00 PM.
- Fourth Grade:
 - 8/2/11- Mrs. Zipperer's “Meet and Greet”- Mochi Frozen Yogurt - 6:30- 7:30 PM
 - 8/4/11 Mrs. Harper’s “Meet and Greet” - Mochi Frozen Yogurt - 6:30 - 7:30 PM.
 - 8/7/11 Mrs. Regal’s “Meet and Greet” - Mochi Frozen Yogurt - 6:30- 7:30 PM.
- 8/4/11 – Kindergarten “Meet and Greet” at Jack Russell Park from 6:00 PM.
- 8/7/11 – Third Grade “Meet and Greet” at Sunshine Park from 5:00 – 6:00 PM.
- 8/8/11 – Orientation for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade, 6:00-7:00 PM in classrooms; 7:00-7:30 General Assembly in gym.
- 8/9/11 – Welcome New and Returning Students. Students are invited to meet their teacher and to visit the classroom at 8:30AM.
- 8/10/11 – First day of school; ½ day early dismissal 11:30 AM.
- 8/10/11 – Kindergarten Parent’s Boo Hoo Breakfast; 8:00 – 9:00 AM
- 8/11/11 – Second day of school; ½ day K- 5. Dismissal 11:30 AM. Lower School only.
- 8/12/11 – Third day of school; ½ day K-5. Dismissal 11:30 AM. Lower School only.

You may go online to view the school calendar for further dates and events.

Lower School Hours – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Lower School schedule this fall:

- 7:00 AM – Morning Extended Day
- 7:30 – 7:45 AM - All Lower School Students arrive; 7:45 - patrols off duty
- 7:45 AM – Teachers pick up Grades 4-5 students
- 7:50 AM - Teachers pick up K- 3 students
- 8:00 AM - Instruction begins (tardies issued after 8:00)
- 2:45 PM – All grades start for car line
- 2:50 – 3:05 PM – Dismissal for Grades K-5 (*Please hang posters from rearview mirror*)
- 3:05 – Afternoon car line students brought to Extended Day
- 3:15 – Upper School Dismissal
- 3:15 – 3:25 PM – Sibling Pick-up
- 3:05 – 6:00 PM – Afternoon Extended Day

- 11:30 AM - ½ day Lower School Dismissal

New After School Clubs for Grades K-5

Lower School is excited to be offering new after school activities and would appreciate feedback from you. Please read the following descriptions and let us know if your child is interested in joining. If he/she is interested, please email Ms. Dyer at sdyer@prov.org so we can determine if there is enough interest to offer a new club.

1. Chess Club – The Club will meet once a week for an hour. Grades K-5th are invited to attend. Registration fee is \$10. Students will learn the basic fundamentals of how pieces move, defensive, offensive and more advanced chess play as well.
2. Bricks4Kidz – The Classes will meet once a week for an hour. Architecture, Engineering, Math and Science concepts are explored through building a different model each week. Most models use gears and motors and students learn about kinetic and potential. Each 4 week session is \$45.00.
3. Christian Martial Arts – The Classes meet for one hour, twice a week and help students become physically, mentally and spiritually stronger through loving discipline and training. One time registration fee (includes class uniform) \$99.00. Monthly tuition \$125.00.
4. ArtWise – The Art Classes will meet once a week for an hour. They are designed to increase artistic abilities; in the following areas: cartooning, collage, air dry clay, scratch art, drawing, and painting. K-2 Classes will meet Tuesday afternoon for an hour. Grades 3-5 will meet on Thursdays for an hour from August 15 through October 6, 2011. Registration fee is \$90.00 (includes fee for materials).
5. MyGym – The Classes meet once a week for 45 minutes. Unique physical education program designed for fitness on a weekly basis; including: relays, games, gymnastics, sports and other physical fitness activities. Students are grouped according to age. Ten students in a class for \$30.00 a week.
6. Guitar Lessons - Private Guitar Lessons will be offered for students in grades K-5 once a week for thirty minutes. Students will develop a strong musical foundation by learning to play classical guitar. They will also learn to play other musical styles of their choice. Lessons are \$15.00 each.

F.L.I.G.H.T. Day for Providence Lower School

Isaiah 40:31- But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.

We are very excited to be implementing a new program in the Providence Lower School called F.L.I.G.H.T. Day. F.L.I.G.H.T stands for Fostering Learning in the Gifted and Highly Talented. This program will encourage independent efforts and convergent and divergent thinking through inquiry, problem solving, and the decision making process. The F.L.I.G.H.T. experiences that will be provided are intended to stimulate critical, creative, elaborative, and flexible thinking skills; goal-setting; in-depth research; inductive and deductive reasoning; and initiative and originality through group and self-directed activities. Each week time will be dedicated to F.L.I.G.H.T. activities. All of the classroom teachers, resource teachers, and administrators will be F.L.I.G.H.T. day instructors. We believe that the F.L.I.G.H.T. Day activities will help develop our students into lifelong learners and thinkers. The activities are designed to meet the unique needs and abilities of all Providence students through highly engaging learning opportunities. We know that your child will soar to new heights with these exciting activities planned.

Student Handbooks

Please review policies and procedures as stated in the student handbook on-line at www.prov.org. *If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact the Lower School Office.* We invite you to ask questions, share your concerns, and to let us know how we might use this and other means of communication to serve

you efficiently.

- **The Golden Rule Policy** – Pursuant to Florida Statute 1006.14, it is the policy of Providence School that all of its students and school employees have an educational setting that is safe, secure and free from harassment and bullying of any kind. In alignment with Biblical teachings, “*Do unto you as others as you would have others do unto you,*” The Golden Rule Policy has been added to the Student Handbook. Please check on line for this addition.
- **Summer Math** - The summer math workbook is required work for all Providence new and returning students. The assigned workbook pages should be completed and brought to school on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 10, 2011. If the math workbook was not purchased during the Providence presale, the workbook may be purchased at the St. Johns Center Barnes and Noble. Please see the Providence website for book information.
- **Class Assignments** - Many factors are considered when placement is made for students. We request that recommendations not be given, but pray for Teachers and Administration as they compile class lists which will be finalized and mailed the first week of July.
- **AM Drop-off** - Please note that all students must be dropped off in front of the school by the flag poles by 7:45 AM - Patrols are off duty after this time. This is for your child’s safety and protection as this is the only area of the school that has adult supervision.
- **PM Dismissal** - Students stay in line with their classroom teachers at their designated location. Dismissal begins at 2:50 PM and ends at 3:05 PM. Remaining students will be placed in Extended Day and will be charged accordingly. A color-coded poster with your child’s number and teacher’s name on it will be issued the first day of school. *These posters are to be hung from the rearview mirror. Posters must be used every day for a safe release.* On the first day of school only, we are requesting that you write your child’s first and last name, teacher’s name and grade on a poster and place in the front window of your car on the right side.
- **Tardiness** - All students in Kindergarten through Grade Five are required to get a tardy slip from Ms. Ramski in the front entrance if they enter school after 8:00 AM. If unexcused tardies exceed five per nine weeks, a detention will be served. Please send in a written note if your child has a valid excuse for that morning’s tardy.
- **Length of Day** - For students to receive a full day attendance, they must be in school five hours. A student is considered absent if he/she does not meet the minimum of five hours.
- **Half Day Care** – If your child is not enrolled in Extended Day and you need child care on half days from 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM, we are offering a service at \$15.00 per day. Please contact Mrs. Varnadore at the Lower School office to fill out a registration form. If you have any questions, please call 223-5270 ext. 2102.
- **Parking** - Maps and traffic flow patterns will given be given out during Orientation. Please observe the “No Parking” in the fire lanes. The traffic pattern/map can be found on the web at www.prov.org.
- **Book Bag** - For safety reasons, no book bags with rollers are allowed in school. There will be no exceptions to this request. All backpacks are to be hand carried and not have any cartoon character that reflects aggression or violence.
- **Sign-out Procedure** - To avoid disruption of final assignments and review for the day, no students are to be signed out after 2:30 PM for grades K-5.
- **Medication** – if your child has any medication, please bring it to the office and fill out an “Authorization for Distribution of Medication” form. All medication is thrown away at the end of the school year if it is not picked up. Thank you for honoring this request.

PTP Passive Fundraising

Our PTP Officers have faithfully coordinated this project. On behalf of Providence, we thank the team for their time and hard work!! This project has benefitted the school with cash to enrich the curriculum and to provide teacher supplies. Please clip and save the following items:

Box Tops for Education - Box tops are on any favorite grocery and household products. Some of the most popular brands are General Mills, Pillsbury, Betty Crocker, Kleenex, Huggies, and Old El Paso, but there are more! Log on to the website at www.boxtops4education.com for a complete list and more information.

Campbell's Labels for Education – Can be found on all Campbell's products, Swanson products and all Goldfish cracker products. PLEASE SEND IN UPC'S ONLY rather than the entire soup label as in years past; Campbell's has changed their collection guidelines. Also, save and send in the CAPS ONLY from all V8 drinks. These come in several flavors.

My Coke Rewards for Schools – Turn in the caps and codes from empty coke bottles and cartons. These redeemable codes can be used to earn merchandise for our school. You may log onto www.mycokerewards.com/schools and enter codes under Providence School.

Tyson Project A+ Labels - Save the top tear-off label from most frozen Tyson Chicken resealable bags. Each one of these is worth 24 CENTS for our school! You will know if your Tyson chicken label is eligible because it will be bright red and have "Tyson Project A+" printed on it.

Don't forget to keep saving your Passive Fundraising items over the summer! Remember, the PTP awards a dress down day and a pizza party twice a year to the homeroom class that turns in the most items! You can turn your items in to your homeroom teacher after school starts; just make sure you mark each submission with your teacher's name on the outside so your class can participate in the contests. More collection details will be sent home with your child in the fall.

Entertainment Books and Sally Foster

Lower School fund raising has provided enrichment activities to enhance learning experiences. Entertainment Books and Sally Foster will be available the first week of school. Last year's proceeds bought flip cameras, pizza parties, teacher training, enrichment resources, teacher supplies, student awards. Thank you for your wonderful support and blessing.

Lower School Parent Council is looking for a parent who would be interested in coordinating classroom activities and keeping parents informed. If you are interested in serving as our Lower School Chairperson, please E-mail Kathryn Fonville at kathrynfonville@mac.com.

E-Spirit

Providence School is currently using the E-Spirit to expeditiously convey important information about our school through e-mail. In order to be sent an E-Spirit, a family must 'sign-up' for this communication by going to the Providence School Web site (www.prov.org) and proceed as follows:

- Click on the right tool bar item, 'E-Spirit sign-up'
- Enter a home e-mail address
- Click on the "go" button (begins the procedure)
- Choose the Departments of interest
- Click on "Subscribe to Department"
- A follow-up e-mail is also sent to that address. Please note that many servers have special "SPAM" protection devices which filter and place unknown mail in a spam filter. If you are experiencing difficulties receiving E-Spirit, please contact your internet server or contact us at support@prov.org for technical questions.

Extended Day

Ms. Darlene Perkins, Extended Day Director, is accepting K-5 applications for students requiring before and after school care. Hours of operation are from 7:00 AM until 6:00 PM. Applications are available in the Lower School office and on-line or call 223-5270 for mailing.

MBS Direct

MBS Direct is our virtual bookstore. Textbooks are to be purchased on-line. The bookstore will go “live” on July 1. If you missed the on-site book buy back, you may sell your used books back to MBS Direct after July 1. The bookstore will be accessible via a link on the Providence website, www.prov.org. Simply click on Lower School and you can order your books. Please put your child’s name in the front of each textbook. **Please do not write in any of the books before school begins.** Instruction will begin in the classroom.

Information Update

There is a form in the office to update information with regard to change of address, phone number, grandparent address change, emergency contacts, etc. This form must be filled out to keep mailing accurate. We appreciate your attention to this request.

Sage Dining

Providence School has partnered with Sage Dining Services to provide fresh-cooked meals for your children. In order for your children to purchase food, **you will need to set up a pre-paid account** with Sage Dining. This process takes up to **two business days**.

You may set up your student’s account using their student ID numbers, which can be obtained from the school office. There is a **\$50 minimum deposit** on the account. Once an account is established, future deposits will generally go in within 24 hours. You may also pay by check directly to the dining hall after setting up an account. The minimum check amount is \$25.

Parent Teacher Partnership (PTP)

We encourage you to join PTP this year. The Parent Teacher Partnership sponsors many activities that benefit teachers, parents and, most of all, students. All families will receive a copy of the school directory and the opportunity to build relationships in a community atmosphere. Involvement includes: Lower School Parent Council, Booster Club, Sports Events, classroom activities, and social events. All parents may join at Open House, Orientation, or online.

New and Returning PTP Officers

Providence Administration, Faculty and Staff are pleased to announce the new officers for the 2011-2012 School Year:

- President – Jennifer Gonzalez
- First Vice President – Victoria Register
- Third Vice President – Krista Murray
- Treasurer – Lynne Norris
- Parent Council Liaison – Lori Allen

Congratulations, new officers, we look forward to serving with you!! Also, we’d like to thank the returning officers:

- Second Vice President – Maria Williams
- Treasurer – Tina Taylor
- Secretary – Dawn Parker

We are excited about the vision and dedication these ladies bring to their new positions.

Thank you for your continued support and participation. We appreciate all the volunteers who have served along with the officers and look forward to serving with you another year.

Office Hours

Lower School Office will be open from 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM beginning Monday, August 10, 2011. We look forward to serving you during these times. Please be reminded that all visitors and volunteers must sign in and receive a visitor's badge. Your attention to this request is appreciated.

May the rest of the summer bring you and your family great joy and peace. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Susan K. Dyer

Lower School Principal