



August 18, 2025

Dear Clark Families,

We are so excited to welcome you back to school for the 2025–2026 school year! Our team has been busy preparing classrooms, gathering materials, and planning meaningful learning experiences to ensure a positive and successful start for every student. The energy in our building is growing, and we can't wait to see our students' smiling faces on the first day—**Thursday, September 4th!**

This year, we are proud to share our school-wide theme: **"Read to Lead: Growing Good Character Through Books."** Each month, students will engage with a carefully selected picture book that aligns with a core character trait. Through shared reading, students will strengthen their comprehension skills and, more importantly, reflect on how they can apply these traits in school and beyond. The goal is to build strong readers *and* strong individuals.

Families are encouraged to reference our **monthly newsletter**, which will be shared at the start of each month. It will include:

- A spotlight on the month's featured book
- Activities your child will participate in at school
- Ideas for extending learning at home, including conversation starters and suggested connections

Our teachers have spent time this summer collaborating on instructional planning and curriculum updates. Their dedication to creating a nurturing, inclusive, and high-quality learning environment continues to shine. Additionally, our custodial staff has worked tirelessly to prepare the building, ensuring it is clean, safe, and welcoming for our students.

Please take time to carefully review the important information included in this mailing. Additional updates will be shared via **email** and on the **district website**, so we encourage you to check both frequently.

Thank you for your continued partnership. Together, we are looking forward to an inspiring year of learning, growth, and character-building through the power of reading!

Sincerely,
Jessica Loggia
Principal, Jeffrey Clark School

Summer Save the Dates!

Open House and Medication Drop-Off: All families are invited to attend one of our Medication Drop-Off and Open House events. Our buildings will be open on the dates and times listed below for self-guided tours and medication drop-off. *Students must be accompanied by an adult.*

August 21, 2025: 4:00 pm-5:30 pm

August 26, 2025: 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Preschool Back to School Information Sessions

Preschool Orientation – Virtual Parent Sessions: We invite all preschool families to attend one of our virtual orientation sessions on **Wednesday, August 27**. During these sessions, you will learn more about what to expect in Preschool, our daily routines, and how to best support your child.

Virtual Session Times:

9:00 AM- [Click Here for the Meeting Link](#)

6:00 PM- [Click Here for the Meeting Link](#)

Meet & Greet & Bus Ride: Your child is invited to meet their teacher and classroom staff, explore the classroom, and participate in a few fun activities on **Wednesday, September 3**. Families may also take this day as an opportunity to send any school supplies in advance of the first day of school. Students will also obtain their name tag to wear on the first official day of school. After the session, families will have the opportunity to take a **brief bus ride** to help students become familiar with bus routines.

Please Note:

- Families are invited to attend the classroom session with their children.
- **One adult per student** may accompany their child on the bus ride due to limited seating.
- Meet & greet times are staggered by class. *****Families will be emailed Realtime Portal Information at the end of August to notify them how to login to the Parent Portal where you can access your child's teachers.*****

**** Please refer to the schedule below:**

| Time | Teachers |
|--------------|--|
| 12:30-1:15pm | Dellerose, Goodstein (Massimi), Knight |
| 12:45-1:30pm | D'Agostino, Kilgus, Bohanon |
| 1:00-1:45pm | Morris, DiDonato, Finan |

Beginner Orientation – Virtual Parent Sessions: We invite all Beginner families to attend one of our virtual orientation sessions on **Wednesday, August 27**. During these sessions, you will learn more about what to expect in Beginners, our daily routines, and how to best support your child.

Virtual Session Times:

10:00 AM- [Click Here for the Meeting Link](#)

7:00 PM- [Click Here for the Meeting Link](#)

Meet & Greet & Bus Ride: Your child is invited to meet their teacher and classroom staff, explore the classroom, and participate in a few fun activities on **Wednesday, September 3**. Families may also take this day as an opportunity to send any school supplies in advance of the first day of school. Students will also obtain their name tag to wear on the first official day of school. After the session, families will have the opportunity to take a **brief bus ride** to help students become familiar with bus routines.

Please Note:

- Students will attend their classroom session independently. **Parents will be asked to wait outside** the building during this time.
- **One adult per student** may accompany their child on the bus ride due to limited seating.
Meet & greet times are staggered by class. *****Families will be emailed Realtime Portal Information at the end of August to notify them of their child's teacher*****

Please refer to the schedule below:

| Time | Teachers |
|-------------|---|
| 1:15-2:00pm | Savage, Piper, Leheny |
| 1:30-2:15pm | Glenn, DiStefano, Spadea, Humphreys, Hansen |

Medical Information

- All students entering Preschool and Beginners (K) for the first time must enroll with a current physical report (dated no older than September 1, 2024).
- Please use one of these two forms: [EG Report of Physical Exam](#) or [Universal Child Health Record](#).
- VACCINATION RECORD: Per N.J.A.C. 8:57-4, each child enrolling in school must present documentation of immunizations or valid medical or religious exemption to vaccines. Review the links below to review the requirements.

[Kindergarten Vaccinations Requirements](#)
[Preschool Vaccination Requirements](#)

- If your child will need medication administered during school hours, please review and find our [medication guidelines](#) here.
- To administer medication in school, a doctor's order will be required on an East Greenwich Twp. school form. Your doctor will not have our school forms. Use this link to print the required [East Greenwich medical dispensing forms and /or Emergency Action Plans](#) *before* you head to the doctor.
- Please email the school nurse at calhounc@eastgreenwich.k12.nj.us to discuss your child's medical concerns before school starts.

Student Name Tags

Name tags have been prepared for our Jeffrey Clark students displaying your student's name and grade level. We are requesting that families send their students in wearing their name tag on the first day of school to help ensure a smooth arrival. Name tags are available for pick-up beginning August 21st through 12pm on August 28th. **All Preschool and Beginner students will be provided their name tag on September 3rd.**

School Supply Lists 2025-2026

Please click on the links to find your student's school supply list for the upcoming school year.

| | |
|--|---|
| <u>Preschool Supply List</u> | <u>Beginner Supply List</u> |
| <u>Grade 1 Supply List</u> | <u>Grade 2 Supply List</u> |

Classroom Teacher Assignments

Homeroom teacher assignments and student schedules will be available in Realtime's Parent Portal on August 27th. Please note the district is closed on Friday, August 29th and Monday, September 1st. If you need assistance with your parent portal login, please contact the Jeffrey Clark main office at 856-423-0613. When you login to the portal, you will be asked to confirm your contact information and read some important documents before accessing your student's homeroom information.

Welcome New Staff!

Please welcome to Jeffrey Clark School the following staff members:

- Jessica Bohanon, Preschool Teacher
- Gail Friel, Preschool Instructional Assistant
- Grace Lombardo, Preschool Instructional Assistant
- Shannon Mitten, Preschool Instructional Coach/Preschool Intervention & Referral Specialist
- Jessica Breslin, Long Term Substitute for Erica Kilgus

Please congratulate the following staff members to new roles in the school district:

- Deanna DiDonato, Preschool Teacher
- Courtney Finan, Preschool Teacher
- Courtney Morris, Preschool Teacher
- Amanda Hazel, 1st Grade Teacher
- Jennifer Harris, Beginner Aide
- Andrea Fiocco, Preschool Instructional Assistant
- Dana Gentile, Preschool Instructional Assistant
- Alana Ferrell, Permanent Substitute
- Theresa Wordelmann, Clark STEAM Teacher
- Alice Meeks, Mickle STEAM Teacher
- Susan Curtis, Resource Room
- Jessica McCarthy, ICR Teacher
- Carley Reese-moving to Samuel Mickle School in a new special education role

First Day of School

We look forward to seeing all of our students for the first day of school on **Thursday, September 4, 2025. The first day of school is an early dismissal day.** On an early dismissal day, the school day begins at 8:40 am. Students may begin entering the building at 8:25 am and dismissal is at 12:55 pm. Beginner to Grade 2 students that are parent drop-off will enter the building through the first grade wing doors, located at door

2. Please send a snack in with your child as lunch will not be provided. Friday, September 5, 2025 will be the first full day of school for students.

For the first couple of weeks of school, Beginner students will gather in the gym or cafeteria where they will be met by school staff to help guide them to their homeroom and better familiarize them with the building and where to go.

School Hours

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| B, 1, 2 Regular School Day | 8:40 am - 3:20 pm |
| Full Day Preschool Regular Day | 8:40 am - 2:40 pm |
| Preschool, B, 1, 2 Early Dismissal Day | 8:40 am - 12:55 pm |

Parent Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Preschool Drop-Off and Pick-Up Information: For families of preschool students, we want to ensure that arrival and dismissal run smoothly and safely each day. Students who take the bus will be met by an adult when they arrive and will be led into the gym. Once in the gym, they will line up with their class and then be walked to their classroom by a staff member. In the afternoon, bus riders will be walked by an adult to their assigned bus at dismissal time.

Families who choose to drive their child to school should use the Beyond the Bell doors, located at Door 4. If your child is unable to unbuckle themselves from a car seat or open the car door independently, we kindly ask that you park your vehicle and assist your child out of the car. Parents are not permitted to exit their vehicle while idling in the drop-off lane. To keep the flow of traffic safe and efficient, please park in the designated spots in the Jeffrey Clark parking lot if assistance is needed. You may then walk your child to the preschool drop-off doors. The same process and designated parking spots will be used during afternoon pick-up. **Please bring your ID with you for parent pick-up. Staff members are required to check identification prior to releasing a child.**

Students who are dropped off in the morning will wait in the cafeteria and be escorted by a staff member to their classrooms. We strongly encourage families to use district-provided bus transportation if possible, as this helps maintain a smooth and timely arrival process. If you choose to drop off your child, we appreciate your patience and cooperation in following staff directions to ensure everyone's safety.

Any students arriving late should report to the main office. Parents should park their vehicles and walk their child to the door in order to sign them in. Any Clark student that is not met by an adult or older sibling at the bus stop will be returned to the building. The parent or guardian on record will be called to pick up the student.

Beginners to Grade 2: Beginner to second grade students are permitted to enter the building at 8:25am. Parents are permitted to park and walk their child to the first grade side entrance of the building and remain with them until they are able to enter the

building. If students are able to unbuckle themselves and exit the vehicle on their own, parents/guardians are permitted to drive through the car lane to drop their child off at the side entrance to enter the building. Students are not permitted to exit their vehicles prior to arriving at the drop off location. Students may not exit their vehicles unless directed by a staff member to do so.

Any students arriving late should report to the main office. Parents should park their vehicles and walk their child to the door in order to sign them in.

Transportation

- Bus Passes will be mailed out in late August.
- The bus route number will be on a sign in a window on the passenger side of the bus.
- East Greenwich contracts with BR Williams and Holcomb to transport our students.
- Jeffrey Clark students will receive a color-coded band for their book bag on the first day of school to help staff identify how the student goes home.
- Please advise that any Pre-K to 2 student will not be permitted to be dropped off if an older sibling, parent or guardian is not present at the bus stop.

Lunch/Cafeteria Services

School lunches consisting of a daily entree, assorted fruit and/or vegetable, 1% milk and/or juice will cost **\$3.50** for students. Bottled water can be purchased separately, \$1 for a 16.9 oz bottle or \$.70 for an 8 oz bottle. Milk can be purchased for \$.60. Snacks are also available each day ranging from \$.80 to \$1.50. Prices are subject to change. For additional information regarding My School Bucks Payment Platform and information regarding free or reduced lunch, please [click here](#).

Lunch/Recess

Students will eat together with grade-peers each day at lunch. Students will also enjoy recess with grade-level peers. Due to the reduction in enrollment and number of classes, B-2 students will combine into one lunch period and one recess period for each grade level. Preschool students eat together with their classmates in their classroom. They have designated periods for gross motor play throughout the day with their class.

Special Areas

B-2 Special areas rotation schedules include art, library, music, physical education (2 times weekly), and Spanish. Homeroom teachers will provide a detailed schedule in September. Please ensure students are wearing appropriate attire (shorts or pants) and footwear on their P.E. days.

Dismissal Information

- **The Daily Dismissal Form should be completed by Tuesday, September 2, 2025. [The form can be found by clicking here.](#)**
- If a child is to be picked up early during a regular school day, a *Change of Dismissal* form should be sent to your child's homeroom teacher.
- Paper copies of the Change of Dismissal Form are available in the main office. It can also be found on the district website under the Parents tab by clicking on "Forms and Documents". [It can also be found by clicking on this link.](#)
- If the person picking up the student is someone other than the parent, it is expected that this individual is listed on the Emergency Contact Form.
- If, for some reason, this individual is not on the Emergency Contact Form, his/her name MUST be provided on the *Change of Dismissal* form.
- If a note is not sent in and the name is not on the emergency form, the student will not be allowed to leave the building.
- Upon arrival at the school for early dismissals, parents/guardians must fill out the Student Sign Out Sheet on the cart outside the building. Once completed, parents/guardians must ring the day bell. The school will require a photo I.D. upon student pick up. For safety reasons, parents/guardians must remain outside the building when waiting for their student. An office staff member will ensure your child is dismissed to you.
- If changes have to be made during the school day for an early pickup, a phone call must be made to the school's main office no later than 11:00 am on an early dismissal day and no later than 1:00 pm on a regular day by the parent or guardian.
- Early parent pickups should occur no later than 12:30 pm during an early dismissal day and no later than 3:00 pm on a regular day. After this time, students will be dismissed at the regular dismissal time. This requirement has been put into place to ensure the safety of all students and that all children are in the right place at the right time.
- If a student is dismissed prior to 12:40, it will be recorded as a "half-day" absence.

Parent Pick-Up Dismissal- BRING YOUR ID

- At the conclusion of the school day, B-2 students who participate in parent pick-up will be dismissed to the Clark Library. Staff members will confirm the

parent or guardian identity and dismiss students out the door connected to the library.

Non-Transported Dismissal-BRING YOUR ID

- Staff members will confirm the parent or guardian identity and dismiss B-2 students out of the building through the first grade hallway doors. Please utilize the sidewalks on the school property and cross the street using the crosswalks when available.

B-2 Transported Student Dismissal

- At the conclusion of the school day, students will be dismissed from their classrooms and will be walked by their classroom teachers to the Jeffrey Clark gym. Students will be lined up according to bus numbers and will be walked out by a staff member to their assigned bus.
- Any Clark student that is not met by an adult or older sibling at the bus stop will be returned to the building. The parent or guardian on record will be called to pick up the student.

Beyond the Bell Dismissal

Beyond the Bell students will report to the cafeteria at the end of the day during dismissal.

Summer Work Assignments

Summer work assignments were distributed prior to the end of the school year consisting of choice boards. Students may submit their completed hard-copy complete choice board assignments or the digital scrapbook in order to receive a certificate and a prize for their hard work. Please submit completed assignments by September 11, 2025.

School Calendar

Please [click here](#) to reference the 2025-2026 East Greenwich Township School calendar. A monthly paper calendar will be sent home with students on the first day of each month. The calendar lists important events and activities at the Jeffrey Clark School. This information can also be found on the district website.

September Save the Dates

September 15, 2025- Clark Back to School Night, Early Dismissal Day

- Information about Back to School Night will be sent closer to the scheduled date. Please check your email or the district website for additional information.

September 16, 2025- Early Dismissal Day

Additional District Updates

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Parent/teacher conferences will be held earlier this school year. Rather than waiting to hold conferences at the end of November, conferences will now be held during the week of October 27-October 30. Information about Parent/Teacher conference sign-ups will be sent out via email closer to the scheduled date.

Preschool Expansion: We are excited to welcome everyone back to a new school year filled with growth, learning, and exciting updates! Our preschool program has expanded to include a total of ten classrooms, with eight of those classrooms operating under the New Jersey Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) grant. This expansion allows us to continue offering high-quality early childhood education to even more of our youngest learners.

Year 2 with iReady Math: Students in Beginners through Grade 2 will continue using iReady Math as they begin their second year with the program. iReady provides personalized instruction based on students' needs and includes diagnostic assessments that help us track progress throughout the year. In addition to math, students will also use My Path for targeted support in both ELA and Math.

New ELA Curriculum: We are also excited to introduce a brand-new ELA curriculum, Fishtank, for all B–2 classrooms. Fishtank ELA is a comprehensive, standards-based program that helps students build strong reading, writing, and discussion skills. It focuses on high-quality texts, close reading, vocabulary development, and writing grounded in evidence. The program emphasizes student engagement and critical thinking while building knowledge across various topics.

Word Study Phonics Pilots: This year, we are piloting new phonics and word work programs in some classrooms. One homeroom per grade level is piloting UFLI Foundations, a structured phonics program grounded in the science of reading. Another homeroom per grade level is piloting Heggerty, a program that focuses on phonemic awareness through daily routines and oral language practice. These pilots will help us explore additional ways to strengthen foundational literacy skills for all students.

We look forward to a fantastic year of learning ahead and thank you for your continued partnership!