



New Garden
FRIENDS SCHOOL



Welcome to **A CHILD'S GARDEN**

Preschool

NURTURING AND INSPIRING YOUNG LEARNERS

Grounded in a strong belief that children learn best when they feel safe, valued, and nurtured, our Preschool, Pre-Kindergarten, and Transitional Kindergarten classes offer a unique learning environment. At A Child's Garden, we honor the importance of play in the healthy development of young minds, hearts, and bodies.

Play helps build resiliency and provides the opportunity for children to take turns, work with a group of peers, make decisions, and resolve conflicts. Our academic readiness curriculum is a developmentally appropriate blend of fun and challenge, where children learn to love books as they begin to read, tell their story as they begin to write, and see the usefulness of numbers as they begin to think mathematically.





LEARNING THROUGH DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION

While our program may appear informal on the surface, it is designed to provide a bridge between family life and beginning experiences in a classroom community. Our days are carefully organized to encourage exploration. This enables us to foster children's natural curiosity about the world around them. We know that children learn through discovery and play and our youngest learners do best with a predictable schedule and lots of one-on-one attention. Teachers respond to each child's interests and build upon children's individual strengths.

At A Child's Garden, children are given time to explore and experiment. Hands-on experiential learning centers are designed to provide children opportunities to learn and play inside and outside the classroom. A thoughtful combination of child and teacher-led experiences aid in developing the cognitive, social, emotional and physical skills children need to take their next steps. Problem-solving and conflict resolution are modeled by teachers and intentionally discussed and explored with students. Learning to be a good friend and community member is an important aspect of early education.



Fresh air and outdoor time are critical to a child's development and our youngest friends are given ample time and space to play out of doors. Unstructured time outside gives children opportunities to engage with the natural world and make up their own games where they create, negotiate, pretend, plan, and prioritize through engaging in imaginative play.

Getting Comfortable at School

For many families, A Child's Garden is the first formal school experience. A relaxed transition into the school day allows parents to linger at drop-off, chat with a teacher, and observe briefly as their child becomes involved in classroom activities. Gradually, a community develops as children become comfortable with their teachers and friends and accustomed to the routine. Morning separations become simpler and children quickly immerse themselves in morning activities upon arrival.

Our experienced and caring teachers appreciate that transitions can be more difficult for some children. They work carefully to develop plans to help children and families through this important developmental milestone.



Academic Readiness

Our Pre-K academic curriculum, Get Set for School, is an integrated, engaging approach to building skills in the areas of pre-reading, pre-writing, and math. There are daily opportunities to work alone, collaboratively in small groups, and as members of the whole group.

Participation in *art, music, physical education, and Spanish classes* offer our students opportunities to express themselves and make important gains in language development, motor skills, and decision making. Young creators develop a sense of innovation and experimentation that will be important as they grow intellectually, socially, and emotionally.

An Inclusive Quaker Education

Our inclusive community welcomes families with many customs and traditions. We invite families to share their traditions with us and we cherish the opportunity to give our students insight into how other families live and celebrate. In the Quaker tradition, our community values silence and stillness but we are mindful that this is not always easy for our younger friends! The skills to sit quietly and listen to the silence are taught patiently and kindly, in a developmentally appropriate way. Throughout our school, students gather in community weekly. It is through quiet reflection that people of all faith traditions can worship together. Students from A Child's Garden participate in this whole school tradition in a way that honors their capabilities.

Since its founding, service to others has been a cornerstone of New Garden Friends School and even our youngest students are taught that they can make a difference to their community by helping others and treating people kindly and respectfully.



Flexibility for Families

- We offer Preschool, Pre-K, and Transitional Kindergarten.
- Students may attend half day or full day – three, four or five days a week.*
- Families can choose to pay tuition in one payment, semi-annually or in monthly installments.
- We offer drop-in Extended Care from 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. daily.
- We also offer Traditional School Year and Year–Round programming.

**Tuition rates vary depending on which options you choose.*



New Garden Friends School Admissions
admissions@ngfs.org | 336.299.0964

Preschool & Lower School
1128 New Garden Road | Greensboro, NC 27410

ngfs.org



OUR ADMISSIONS PHILOSOPHY

We're so glad you've chosen to explore what a New Garden Friends School education can provide for your student. Choosing a school can be a daunting experience, but we strive to make it as easy, open, and friendly as possible.

The goal of our admissions process is for your family to get to know New Garden Friends School and for us to get to know you and your child. During this time, you will be considering if NGFS will enable you to provide the educational experience you are looking for, and we will be determining whether we think this is a school at which your child will thrive.

New Garden Friends School is the Triad's only independent preschool through grade 12 school guided by Quaker faith and practice and built upon the long-held standards of extraordinary Friends schools. At NGFS, we value our unique, open-minded, and respectful school culture as much as our rich and engaging academic environment. We embrace diversity in all of its dimensions and seek students who are curious, caring, and compassionate.

In the NGFS community, students are challenged in a respectful environment and valued for the curious and inquisitive young people they are right now.

We approach teaching and learning from a growth mindset, encouraging our students to take intellectual risks and experience the struggle that often accompanies difficult work. Students are guided to appreciate the interdependence of community life and consider how their attitudes, words, and actions affect others.

If you believe that New Garden Friends School would be a good fit for your family, we encourage you to begin the admissions process. Our website (www.ngfs.org) provides a glimpse of what makes NGFS such a unique learning environment, but nothing takes the place of a visit. Set up a time to come and see for yourself what an NGFS education could mean for your child.

We can be reached at admissions@ngfs.org or by calling 336-299-0964.

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Kim Freedman
Head of School
kfreedman@ngfs.org

Chris Skidmore
Director of Admissions
cskidmore@ngfs.org

ADMISSION PROCESS



1 Call: 336.299.0964 or
Email: admissions@ngfs.org



2 Take a Tour of
Our School



3 Apply Online at
www.ngfs.org



4 Submit School Records,
Transcripts, and Other
Required Forms to NGFS



5 Prospective Student
Spends a Day as a
NGFS Student



6 Complete Additional
Admissions Requirements
*Essay Questions Required for
Applicants to Grades 7-12*



New Garden FRIENDS SCHOOL

2023-24 Tuition

Crocus (3s) and Iris (4s)	Tuition
Half Days (limited availability) *8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	\$9,500
Full Days *8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	\$11,350
Sunflower (4/5s)	\$11,350

*Arrival begins at 8 a.m.

There is a one-time new family fee of \$750.00.

Extended Care Rates

Full-Time Use*	Rate	Occasional Use	Rate
Morning and Afternoon Care	\$3,600/year	Afternoon Care	\$20/day
Afternoon Care only	\$3,350/year	Early Dismissal Days	\$35/day
Morning Care only	\$1,200/year	Teacher Workdays	\$55/day
		Unscheduled Attendance	\$11/hour

*Enrollment in full-time Extended Care also includes most early dismissal days and staff workdays.

The fee for late pick-up (after 6 p.m.) is \$1.00 per minute.



EXTENDED CARE PROGRAM

The Extended Care program is structured to be consistent with the educational goals and philosophy of the school and follows the same health and safety protocols used in the classrooms. The program provides a nurturing atmosphere for students in the transition time between school and home.

- Extended Care is offered on the Guilford Campus for Preschool-grade 6 students.
- Hours of operation are 7:30-8 a.m. and class dismissal times until 6 p.m.
- Extended Care is also offered on most teacher workdays (full day) and early dismissal days (half day).
- Enrollment options include full-time and occasional use.
- Full-time plans run from the first day of the school year to the day prior to the last day and may be paid in installments, September-June.
- Enrollment in full-time Extended Care also includes early dismissal days and staff workdays when Extended Care is open.

Full-Time Use	Rate	Occasional Use	Rate
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Afternoon Care only	\$3,350/year	Early Dismissal Days	\$35/day
Morning Care only	\$1,200/year	Teacher Workdays	\$55/day
		Unscheduled Attendance	\$11/hour

Meet the Teachers

- A Child's Garden Crocus (3s) Class -



Lindley Laws

Lindley, an NGFS alum, joined the staff in 2016 as a Rainbow (grades 1-2) teacher. In 2022, she transitioned to the Crocus (3s) classroom. Lindley brings her enthusiasm for play and song to the classroom. "I love being able to watch students learn through exploration and play as they begin their academic journey." She appreciates being a part of the "unique learning experience" at NGFS where, "every student is given a great opportunity to succeed."

Lorenza Wyatt

Lorenza joined the A Child's Garden team in 2021. He loves working with 3-year-olds because their view of the world is always evolving. "Each day there are new surprises and insights that the children bring into everyday life; they broaden my perspective." He enjoys helping children "learn about self care and talking about their feelings and problems in a way that is positive and fosters nonviolence and reflective problem solving."



Meet the Teachers

- A Child's Garden Iris (4s) Class -



Benjamin Lancaster

Ben is an NGFS alum and has worked in the community over 17 years.

He previously served as the NGFS Director of Extended Care. In 2017, he joined the Iris (4s) classroom.

Ben shares his love of science with his students through engaging, interactive demonstrations and experiments.

He enjoys working in a close-knit, supportive community where “all students are recognized and celebrated.”

Jeannie Wigal

Jeannie has been teaching in A Child's Garden since 2008. She enjoys, “instilling a love of school and a curiosity for learning in children just beginning their school experiences”. She shares her love of gardening with the preschool students as they tend the NGFS plot in the Guilford College Community Garden. She values “the creative curriculum and the close relationships that teachers enjoy with families”.



Meet the Teachers

- A Child's Garden Sunflower (4/5s) Class -



Courtney O'Shea

Courtney is an experienced early childhood educator who joined NGFS in 2020 when she moved to NC. Courtney's classroom mantra is "play with purpose". She believes children learn best when they are provided opportunities to work together as a team to achieve community goals, when they are allowed to make choices which foster independence, and when they can use hands-on exploration to satisfy sensory needs and further curiosity."

Atayah "AJ" Smith

AJ is the 4/5s assistant teacher. She has been at NGFS for five years, having first served as program leader for NGFS Preschool summer camp and as a long-term substitute teacher. AJ delights in seeing the growth in her students over an academic year. She enjoys the family that is New Garden Friends School, the students, her colleagues, and the families she gets to know. AJ shares her love of sports with her students and as an athletics coach.



A CHILD'S GARDEN



AT A GLANCE

- New Garden Friends School was founded in 1971 and serves students in preschool-grade 12 on two campuses in Greensboro.
- We believe that children learn best when they feel safe, valued, and nurtured.
- We honor the importance of play in the healthy development of young minds, hearts, and bodies.
 - Daily outdoor time
 - Hands-on experiential learning centers
 - Development of cognitive, social, emotional, and physical skills
- Daily specials include Art, Music, Physical Education, and Spanish.
- Problem-solving and conflict resolution are modeled by teachers and intentionally discussed with students.
- Our inclusive Quaker community welcomes families with many customs and traditions.

LEARNING TO BE A GOOD FRIEND COMES FIRST



New Garden FRIENDS SCHOOL

WHAT IS RESPONSIVE CLASSROOM?

Core Belief

In order to be successful in and out of school, students need to learn a set of social and emotional competencies—cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy, and self-control—and a set of academic competencies—academic mindset, perseverance, learning strategies, and academic behaviors.

Guiding Principles

Six principles guide the *Responsive Classroom* approach.



1 Teaching social and emotional skills is as important as teaching academic content.



2 How we teach is as important as what we teach.



3 Great cognitive growth occurs through social interaction.



4 How we work together as adults to create a safe, joyful, and inclusive school environment is as important as our individual contribution or competence.

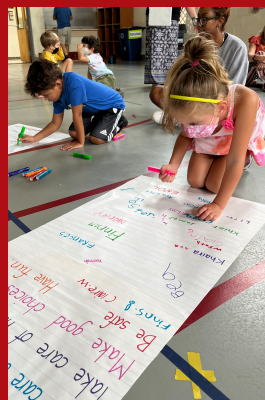
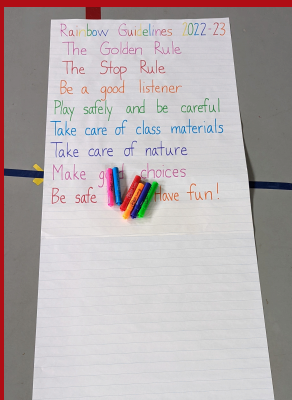


5 What we know and believe about our students—individually, culturally, developmentally—informs our expectations, reactions, and attitudes about those students.



6 Partnering with families—knowing them and valuing their contributions—is as important as knowing the children we teach.

<http://responsiveclassroom.org>



Responsive Classroom®



Engaging Academics

Adults create learning tasks that are active, interactive, appropriately challenging, purposeful, and connected to students' interests.



Positive Community

Adults nurture a sense of belonging, significance, and emotional safety so that students feel comfortable taking risks and working with a variety of peers.



Effective Management

Adults create a calm, orderly environment that promotes autonomy and allows students to focus on learning.



Developmental Awareness

Adults use knowledge of child development, along with observations of students, to create a developmentally appropriate learning environment.



WHAT IS SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING?

				
Self-Management	Self-Awareness	Social Awareness	Relationship Skills	Responsible Decision-Making
Working Through Stress Sometimes school can get stressful. Being prepared to work through that stress helps to make the situation less overwhelming.	What Makes Me Unique? You have unique qualities and these qualities can be used to help you on your road to postsecondary life, whatever that means to you.	What are the Rules? In many situations, there are rules you must follow, not just because there may be consequences, but because you will be a better person for it.	Teamwork There are a variety of benefits to being a good member. Skills to a successful partnership will serve you well now and in your postsecondary life.	Decision-Making Throughout life the number of important decisions that you must make increases. Having the skills to make informed decisions can help.

www.powerschool.com

WHY MULTI-AGE CLASSROOMS?

BENEFITS

- Children spend longer periods of time with the same teacher, allowing the teacher to develop a deeper understanding of a child's strengths and needs.
- Children are viewed as unique individuals.
- Children develop a sense of family and become a "family of learners" who support and care for one another.
- Older children serve as mentors and take on leadership roles.
- Children are exposed to positive models for behavior and social skills and, in turn, become leaders for younger students.

THE TEACHER'S ROLE

- Offer open-ended projects and lessons that can challenge children across different developmental levels
- Set appropriate expectations and provide extra support or challenges as needed
- Cultivate a strong sense of community and recognize each child's unique contributions to the classroom
- Encourage older children to take on leadership roles and younger children to seek support from older children
- Support each child's learning and development



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRE-K, TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN, AND KINDERGARTEN?

There is a continual progression of learning as students move from one level to another. Some students benefit from attending Preschool, Pre-K, TK, and then Kindergarten, while some students go from Preschool to TK and some students go from Pre-K to K.

We help students develop Kindergarten readiness skills (pre-reading and math) as well as fine and gross motor skills, and social skills. Social skills for Kindergarten include sitting at the circle, taking turns talking and participating in group activities, attending for increasingly longer periods of time, managing your own materials, and resolving conflicts peacefully.



Language and Literacy Development

- Pre-K students learn uppercase letters, recognize rhyming sounds, and listen attentively to short children's books. Children are encouraged to use complete and descriptive sentences.
- TK students match uppercase letters with corresponding keyword, letter, and sound, identify rhyming words, and show an understanding of increasingly complex sentences. TK students participate in the Pre-K curriculum with additional opportunities to work in small groups with our math and reading specialists.
- Kindergarten students identify the key word and sound for every letter taught, tap and read one syllable words with short vowels such as *bed* and *top*, and learn to read simple patterned texts with decodable text and/or predictable text, using letter-sound knowledge and pictures to construct meaning.

Mathematical Development

- Pre-K students count a set of objects up to 39, write numbers 1-10, and create sets of a given size, using 5 to 12 objects. Basic geometry skills are introduced; positional words and shapes.
- TK students develop a model for recording numerical information, use objects to compare less and more, and use an accurate counting strategy that includes one-to-one correspondence. TK provides additional time to practice counting sets of objects, identifying numbers 1-20, writing numbers 1-10, and using both numerals and other methods to record.
- Kindergarten students count up to 50 by ones, count to 100 by tens, write the teen numbers, and compare numbers.



RESOURCE CLASSES

Preschool - 6th Grade



ART, MUSIC, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, SPANISH, AND CODING

At NGFS, exploring the arts, PE, and coding not only enhances academic work, it also provides creative and physical outlets for all students. Strengthened relationships with peers, stress reduction, and increased confidence are just some of the benefits of these special classes.

For our youngest students, the resource classes aim to introduce and explore new concepts and themes. Students begin to become familiar with terms and ideas that will be expanded on in the coming years. In preschool, resource classes are led by the subject teacher with the classroom teachers attending as well to provide social/emotional support for young learners.

In Lower School, resource classes connect to the classroom curriculum and end-of-unit celebrations often integrate the arts, Spanish, and PE resources. Beginning in the third grade students may choose to take Suzuki violin with our experienced music teacher or continue with a traditional music class.

**RESOURCE
CLASSES ARE
PART OF THE
DAILY
SCHEDULE**



VISUAL ARTS

In the NGFS visual arts program, students study artists from around the world exploring a variety of styles, techniques, and mediums. Students create work using oil pastels, clay, metal and a wide array of mixed media. While the art instructor educates and oversees, each child determines what their artwork ultimately will become. Our student-centered approach is apparent when you view the collective artwork from a grade level – no two are the same.

MUSIC

An appreciation of music and the many ways we can make it is at the core of our music program. Students explore the concepts of pitch, movement, and tempo, using percussion instruments, reading rhythms, and the musical alphabet. Music history is taught at all levels, and students investigate world music, classical music, Jazz, and the history of Rock-n-Roll. Periodic performances give students the chance to prepare, rehearse, manage their expectations, and be responsible to others. Some students relish these opportunities, for others, knowing they can successfully perform in front of an audience, even for a short time, is an important developmental step.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The PE curriculum focuses on outdoor exploration, cooperative games, team sports, and fitness activities to develop strength, coordination, and agility. The surrounding Guilford College woods provide ample space for hiking, playing disc golf, and exploring nature.

SPANISH

With foreign language beginning in preschool, students are exposed to Spanish vocabulary, songs, and concepts early on. As the students' comprehension progresses, the curriculum works in conjunction with the classroom units to introduce the topics of study in Spanish as well as English.

CODING

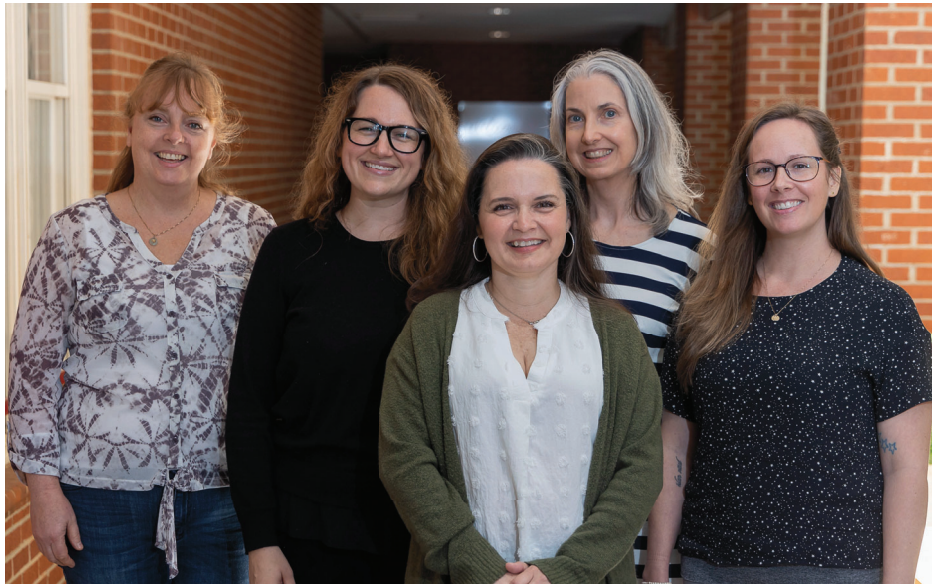
Beginning in kindergarten, students will learn the fundamentals of programming, sequence, and pattern recognition while designing and personalizing stories and animations to bring their creativity and imagination to life. Grades 4-6 will develop an understanding of real world usage of code sequences and become familiar with fundamental programming concepts that hold true for any programming language allowing them to develop their own interactive applications and games. No prior experience is required.





New Garden
FRIENDS SCHOOL

HOW WE SUPPORT STUDENTS



WE BELIEVE

- Each member of our community is an individual. We learn together. We work together. We support one another.
- Through our social curriculum, we teach and model the importance of inclusivity at NGFS.
- Students with demonstrated or documented needs are supported.
- Accommodating both acute and on-going learning challenges is central to our mission.

WE PROVIDE

- A learning specialist, a counselor, reading specialists, and math specialists
- Differentiated instruction meeting each student's needs
- Support with study and organizational skills
- Extended time to complete assessments and individualized testing accommodations
- Technology and strategies to allow students to feel more empowered and gain independence

Support for all students is included in the tuition for our comprehensive educational program. Some services may have an additional fee based on individual student needs. Please see more information in our Polaris Learning Lab brochure or online.



2023-24 Major Dates Calendar

The complete NGFS 2023-24 calendar will be released closer to the end of this school year (22-23). In addition to the dates and events listed here, it will include community events, class overnight trips, and academic benchmarks, such as quarter dates and dates that student evaluations are sent home.

Lower School (LS) = Preschool-grade 6, Guilford Campus (GC) at 1128 New Garden Road

Middle School (MS) = grades 7-8; Upper School (US) = grades 9-12,
Page-Frederiksen Campus (PFC) at 2015 Pleasant Ridge Road

2023 Date	Event	<u>Extended Care*</u> offered
Thu, Aug. 10-Fri, Aug. 11	New Staff Orientation	N/A
Mon, Aug 14-Fri, Aug 18	Staff workdays	full day
Mon, Aug 21-Tue, Aug 22	Staff workdays	full day
Monday, Aug. 21	Lower School Classroom Welcome Night, 6-7 p.m.	No
Tuesday, Aug. 22	Middle and Upper School Walk the Schedule, 6-7 p.m.	No
Wednesday, Aug. 23	First day of school	regular schedule
Friday, Sept. 1	Parent/Guardian and Teacher Conferences, No school <i>daytime and virtual appointments available</i>	full day
Monday, Sept. 4	Labor Day, no school	No
Date TBA	GrandFriends Day / ½ day, early dismissal	half day
Friday, Oct. 13	Professional Development Day, No school	full day
Wednesday, Nov. 1	Late Start Day, 2-hour delay • LS Extended Care 2-hour delay = 9:30-10 a.m.	regular schedule for afternoon
Thu, Nov. 16-Fri, Nov. 17	Staff workdays, no school	full day
Mon, Nov. 20-Tue, Nov. 21	Staff workdays, no school	full day
Wed, Nov. 22-Fri, Nov. 24	Thanksgiving break, no school	No
Friday, Dec. 8	Trimester 1 Conferences, no school	full day
Friday, Dec. 15	Winter break begins / ½ day, early dismissal	half day
Mon, Dec. 18- Mon, Jan. 1	Winter break, no school	No

*Extended Care is offered for Lower School (Guilford Campus) from 7:30-8 a.m. and in the afternoon until 6 p.m. as well as on most staff workdays (full day) and early dismissal days (half day).

continued

2024 Date	Event	Extended Care* offered
Tuesday, Jan. 2	Staff workday, no school	No
Wednesday, Jan. 3	School resumes	regular schedule
Monday, Jan. 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, no school	No
Monday, Feb. 5	Professional Development Day, no school	full day
Thu, Feb. 29-Fri, March 1	Parent/Guardian and Teacher Conferences, no school <i>daytime and virtual appointments available</i>	full day
Mon, March 4-Fri, March 8	Spring break, no school	No
Friday, March 29	Good Friday, no school	No
Monday, April 15	½ day early dismissal, Professional Development ½ day	half day
Thursday, May 23	Baccalaureate, early evening event	regular schedule
Friday, May 24	½ day, early dismissal / Graduation 3-5 p.m.	half day
Monday, May 27	Memorial Day, no school	No
Tuesday, May 28	Sixth grade celebration, 6 p.m.	regular schedule
Thursday, May 30	Eighth grade celebration, 6 p.m.	regular schedule
Friday, May 31	Last day of school / ½ day, early dismissal	No
Mon, June 3-Fri, June 7	Staff workdays	full day

*Extended Care is offered for Lower School (Guilford Campus) from 7:30-8 a.m. and in the afternoon until 6 p.m. as well as on most staff workdays (full day) and early dismissal days (half day).

½ Day early dismissal times:

11:30 - A Child's Garden (Preschool, Pre-K, TK)

11:45 - Sunrise (K)

12:00 - Rainbow (grades 1-2); Middle School (grades 7-8) & Upper School (grades 9-12)

12:15 - Horizon (grades 3-4) & Galaxy (grades 5-6)