

December 13, 2025

# Cockrell Connection

Be sure to follow us on facebook and instagram



### SCHOOL HOURS

Grades PK-4.....7:55-3:15 PM  
 Front Doors Open.....7:15 AM  
 Breakfast Served.....7:15-7:50 AM  
 Students Enter Class.....7:45 AM  
 Class Begins.....7:55 AM

## No Lunch Visitors

December 15-19th

\*Students must be inside the building by 7:55 AM. Students entering the building after this time will be tardy. If a student is tardy, parents are required to park and come in the lobby to sign them in.

## Holiday Parties

Thursday December 18th  
 see flyer below for details

**IMPORTANT LINKS:**  
[Cockrell Elementary Contact List](#)

- [DECEMBER MENU](#)
- [DISTRICT CALENDAR](#)
- [DRESS CODE](#)
- [STAFF AFFIRMATIONS](#)
- [SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS](#)
- [ABSENCE REPORTING](#)
- [CAMPUS PFE POLICY](#)
- [DISTRICT PFE POLICY](#)

Holiday Drive Thru  
 December 18th

## Upcoming Dates:

- 12/15-19 NO LUNCH VISITORS
- 12/15 CIRCUS SHOW
- 12/17 PRE-K HOLIDAY PARTY
- 12/17 PEARLAND PD TOY DRIVE ENDS
- 12/18 KINDER - 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE HOLIDAY PARTY
- 12/18 HOLIDAY DRIVE THRU
- 12/19 EARLY RELEASE
- 01/07 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY BACK FOR STUDENTS
- 01/12 DRILL WEEK
- 01/19 MLK HOLIDAY
- 01/22 CAREER DAY
- 01/30 100<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SCHOOL



BRING TOY DONATIONS TO THE FRONT  
 DESK UNTIL DECEMBER 17TH.

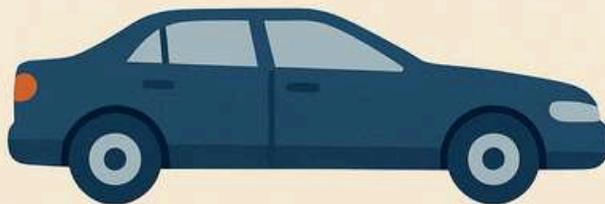
# Getting to School on Time

# DROP-OFF REMINDERS



**SCHOOL STARTS AT 7:55 AM**

It is important to arrive on time each day. Being punctual helps ensure that your child is ready to learn and be successful in school.



- PARENTS STAY IN VEHICLES AT ALL TIMES
- PULL ALL THE WAY PAST 1
- STUDENTS EXIT THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE VEHICLE ONLY
- OUR DRIVEWAY IS A CELL PHONE FREE ZONE
- THERE IS NO PARKING UNLESS YOU HAVE BUSINESS IN THE BUILDING



## ATTENDANCE in the early grades

Many of our youngest students miss 10 percent of the school year—about 18 days a year or just two days every month. Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten, and even preK, can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades, especially if the problem persists for more than a year. Do you know how many young children are chronically absent in your school or community?



### Who Is Affected

Kindergarten and 1st grade classes often have absenteeism rates as high as those in high school. Many of these absences are excused, but they still add up to lost time in the classroom.

1 in 10 kids

in kindergarten and 1st grade are chronically absent. In some schools, it's as high as 1 in 4.<sup>1</sup>



2 in 10 low-income kids miss too much school. They're also more likely to suffer academically.<sup>2</sup>

2.5 in 10 homeless kids are chronically absent.<sup>3</sup>

4 in 10 transient kids miss too much school when families move.<sup>4</sup>



### Why It Matters

If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.<sup>5</sup>

#### Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?<sup>5</sup>



### What We Can Do



#### Engage Families

Many parents and students don't realize how quickly early absences can add up to academic trouble. Community members and teachers can educate families and build a culture of attendance through early outreach, incentives and attention to data.



#### Fix Transportation

The lack of a reliable car, or simply missing the school bus, can mean some students don't make it to class. Schools, transit agencies and community partners can organize car pools, supply bus passes or find other ways to get kids to school.



#### Address Health Needs

Health concerns, particularly asthma and dental problems, are among the leading reasons students miss school in the early grades. Schools and medical professionals can work together to give children and families health care and advice.



#### Track the Right Data

Schools too often overlook chronic absence because they track average attendance or unexcused absences, not how many kids miss too many days for any reason. Attendance Works has free data-tracking tools.

These are a few steps that communities and schools can take. How do you think you can help?

<sup>1</sup> Chang, Hedy; Romero, Marjorie. Present, Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades. National Center for Children in Poverty. NY, NY, September 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Chronic Absence in Utah, Utah Education Policy Center at the University of Utah, 2012.

<sup>5</sup> Attendance in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes, Applied Survey Research, May 2011.

# HOLIDAY FUN

## Student December Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Wear Red & Green 	2 	3 	4 It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas  Holiday Drive-Thru tonight! 6PM	5 
8 <i>You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch</i> Wear GRINCH GREEN & but don't be mean. Do something kind for someone else today! 	9 	10 <i>Deck the Halls</i> Dress like a Christmas Tree or a Gift! 	11 <i>Where are you Christmas?</i>  Wear your most festive Christmas shirt/sweater	12 <i>Santa Baby</i>  Wear your Santa Hat!
15 <i>Elf on the Shelf</i>  Where will the Elf be today?	16 	17 	18 <i>Party Day</i>  Dress in your most festive! Today is Holiday Party Day!	19 <i>Polar Express</i> Wear your comfy pajamas! Early release day! 

This calendar is just for fun we hope you will join in. Pick a day or 2 or 3 and let the fun begin!

Have a wonderful break!



COCKRELL ELEMENTARY

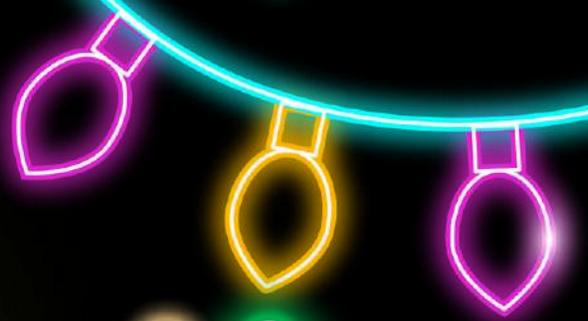
# *Holiday* DRIVE-THRU

*Join us for lights,  
literacy, and laughter...*

Make your way through our front drive,  
you won't believe your eyes! There will  
be lights and singing and loads of books  
too. we look forward to seeing all of you!

DECEMBER 18, 2025 6PM -7:30

*We are encouraging families to join in the  
festivities by decorating your car.*





# Holiday Parties

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 17TH**

**PRE-K & PPCD 11:00-11:30**

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 18TH**

**1ST GRADE 9:30-10:00**

**4TH GRADE 10:10-10:40**

**3RD GRADE 11:30-12:00**

**KINDER 12:10-12:40**

**2ND GRADE & PEARS 1:15-1:45**

**DUE TO CAPACITY LIMITATIONS WE ASK THAT YOU LIMIT VISITORS TO 2 PER STUDENT.  
NO STROLLERS OR SIBLINGS. THERE WILL BE NO LUNCH VISITORS ON THIS DAY.**

**THIS IS A FASTPASS EVENT**

# Party Guidelines

1. All visitors must show a valid ID before entering the building—no exceptions. If you have guests visiting, they must present a picture ID: license, state ID, passport.... Please be patient with us as we scan every visitor. We will work as quickly and efficiently as we can to get all visitors checked in while working to keep all students safe.
2. Please limit the number of guests to **2 adults per child**: siblings are not permitted so you can enjoy this special time with your student.
3. Strollers will not be allowed.
4. Guests may check in 30 min. prior to each party and will be dismissed to classrooms 5 minutes before each party.
5. In order to prepare for the next round of parties and to accommodate the cars in our parking lot, we ask that guests exit the parties promptly as they end.
6. If you plan to check your child out from the classroom party, you must sign them out and bring the check-out ticket to the front desk. If you are checking out siblings from another grade level, you must come to the front desk and check them out through the receptionist.
7. Important reminder: students from other grade levels or from other schools may not attend classroom parties during their schools' hours. Once you check a child out of school from a party, they may not come back on campus for another party.
8. Parking will be an issue: please plan to arrive early to allow for parking and check in. Do not double park, or park directly in front of the building or on either side of the entrance. Emergency vehicles must have access to our building at all times. Reminder: it is never legal to park in a fire lane.

