Welcome to KINDERGARTEN

Taylor Elementary School
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Lawrenceville, GA 30043

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taylores.gcpskl2.org

Tawanda Sanks, Principal



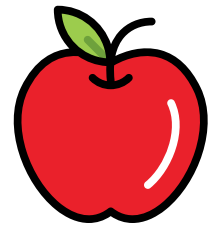
Dear Families of Taylor's Newest Eagles,

It's time for them to leave the NEST,
Kindergarten awaits and it's the BEST!
Meet Mrs. Sanks, the proud principal of the school,
The first day is coming and that's super cool!
We are here for you in every way.
Guiding and supporting each day!
It's a new adventure and grade this year.
Buckle up for the ride, no need to fear!
The learning will be great, you shall see,
You'll have your teacher, the staff, and the whole
Taylor Family!

Tips and Tricks:

- Share Your child's excitement about kindergarten!
- Don't forget, "SAY CHEESE!" Take a picture of your child leaving for the 1st day of school.
- Send your child off with a hug, a smile, or a kiss. Try to avoid the long good-byes.
- If your child expresses anxiety about school, let him/her know that it is a normal feeling many people have when they try something new.

Tawanda Sanks, Proud Principal Taylor ES



A Typical Day in K!

Morning Arrival

- Breakfast in Cafeteria - FREE for ALL students
- Unpack/Joyful Learning in Classroom

Eagle Eye News Broadcast (morning announcements)
Eagle Time & Calendar
Specials (PE, Music, Art, STEM, Computer Science, Health)
Language Arts: Reading, Writing, Phonics
Math
Lunch
Teacher Directed Physical Education (recess)
Snack
Science, Social Studies, & Social Centers
Students also visit the library and the Guided Play Space once each week.

Attendance

Consistent elementary school attendance is critical because it builds the strong academic and social foundations children need for long-term success. If your child is absent from school, please send a written note that includes the date(s) of the absence, the reason for the absence, and your signature. It's important we keep accurate records for each student.

Please be aware that if a student has 5 unexcused absences, the school will reach out to parents or guardians to discuss the absences and any potential next steps. Also, a reminder that students are considered tardy if they arrive after 8:45 AM. Students checking out before 11:45 will be marked absent for the day.

Growing Independence

Your child is becoming more independent and is ready to do many things to help him/herself and others.

Some responsibilities at home could include:

- Choosing an outfit for the day and getting dressed independently
- Making the bed and cleaning up his/her room
- Setting the table
- Separating clothes for washing, folding clothes, matching socks
- Get into and latch car/booster seats for car riders
- Independently use the restroom with the door closed (Note: students cannot use wipes or be wiped by a teacher)

Responsibilities at school will include:

- Unpacking backpack and delivering notes to the teacher daily.
- Opening packaging and feeding themselves at breakfast/lunch in the cafeteria and snack in the classroom.
- Letting the teacher know they need to use the restroom.
- Independently using the restroom with the door closed. (Note: students cannot use wipes or be wiped by a teacher)
- Cleaning up after themselves in the classroom and cafeteria.

Preparing Your Child

- **Send a change of clothing in a Ziploc Bag to be kept at school.**
- Write your child's name with a permanent marker on his/her personal belongings (i.e., bookbag, water bottles, coats, lunch boxes, etc.)
- If your child will be buying a lunch, it is very helpful to prepay for a week or more at a time. You can do this online at MyPaymentsPlus.com.
- If your child will be bringing lunch from home, please make sure lunch is packed in easy-open containers.
- Your child may bring a healthy snack (no candy) and a water bottle (water only - no juice or Gatorade is permitted) each day. Please pack snacks separately from lunch.
- Make sure your child and teacher know how he/she will be going home from school each day (car rider, bus rider, daycare van, walker)
- If your child will be a bus rider, make sure your child knows the bus number.
- All students will be given a permanent transportation tag attached to the book bag on the first day of school. Please do not remove it, write on it, or add stickers to it. This tag will need to last all school year.

Parental Involvement

- Stay informed on school and class happenings.
- Read newsletters and reports that come home.
- Check student Friday Folders for completed work and information about school events.
- Set-up a Parent Square account to receive teacher and school-wide communication. This is the primary tool or communication used by teachers, the school and the district.
- Check our school website often
- Be familiar with the AKS - Academic Knowledge and Skills (our curriculum).
- Attend parent-teacher conferences in the fall and spring to discuss your child's progress
- Become a school volunteer and attend school events
- Join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Social Skills

- Respond to a trusted adult
  - Hello
  - Yes/No
- Stating his/her name
- Saying please/thank you
- Waiting for turn
- Walking Indoors
- Keeping hands to self (appropriate physical contact)

Ready, Set, GO!

We will be working on the following skills at the beginning of the school year. To help your child feel more successful, you may wish to practice these activities at home:

- Recognizing lowercase and uppercase letters
- Recognizing capital letters
- Identifying letter sounds
- Knowing the days of the week
- Recognize and print his/her first name using upper and lower case letters as appropriate
- Drawing and writing a story
- Listening to and retelling a story
- Counting to 30
- Counting 1 - 30 objects
- Identifying & writing numerals 1 -20
- Working within a time frame (5-10 minutes)
- Practice striking numbers on a keyboard/laptop. A Chromebook will be checked out to each student for in-school activities and Digital Learning Days. Otherwise, they remain in the building.

Small muscle activities to develop fine motor skills:

- Working with playdough, Legos, puzzles, stringing beads and cereal.
- Writing in shaving cream or in sand or salt.
- Using tweezers to pick up small objects like dried beans, macaroni, or beads.
- Using scissors and glue correctly.

Kindergarten Supply List

Label with Child's Name:
1 set of headphones - no earbuds/no blueooth
1 LARGE backpack
1 pair of school scissors (Fiskars rounded tip)

Unlabeled items:
1 water color paint palette with brush
2 reams of white copy paper
1 pack colored copy paper (no cardstock)
1 Orange and 1 Purple PLASTIC folders with pockets & brads
4 Elmer's JUMBO glue sticks
4 boxes of 24 count **Crayola** crayons
2 large boxes of tissues
4 THICK **BLACK** Expo dry erase markers
1 12 count box pencils - Murado or Ticonderoga
1 4 count box Ticonderoga My First Pencil (thick)
1 box baby wipes (not bathroom wipes)

Students with Last Name: A - L
1 box SQUARE snack size bags (Kroger/Walmart)
1 box of quart-sized Ziploc bags
1 bottle of hand sanitizer

Students with Last Name: M - Z
1 container Clorox wipes
1 box of gallon-sized Ziploc bags
1 pack Broad Line (THICK) **Crayola** Markers