

The Coop Scoop

Pioneer Springs....where learning comes *naturally!*

www.pioneersprings.org

How to help your student transition from summer break to school

A message from Heidi Magi, Pioneers Springs Community Education Coordinator



Summer break is a time for exploring the outdoors, pursuing hobbies, catching fireflies, swimming, getting lost in a good book, and enjoying unstructured time with family. Returning to the routine of the school year—with early wake-up times, afterschool activities, homework, and the structure of school—can be a big transition for many students and families. Here are some ideas to smooth that transition:

Ease back into bedtime routines and morning wake-up a few days before the start of school.

Ask your student(s) “What are you wondering about this year of school?” to open a conversation about how they are feeling, what they need to know to feel confident, and about their goals for the year.

Create a daily after school routine with your student(s) and set clear expectations. When will they work on homework (Right after school? Following a snack break? Once sports practice is done?), where will they do homework, and what materials will they need? Be sure to include read-aloud and/or family reading time in your routine, as well as time to play games that are fun for your family and work on math skills.

Teach your student to use a planner. Encourage them to fill in extracurricular activities, free time, and social time first, and to then build their homework schedule around those other obligations. Read about meaningful homework at PSCS [here](#).

Set clear boundaries around devices. When your student is at school, it is vital that they are able to be fully present so that they can focus on academics, and on socializing with their friends who are at school. Help your student maintain device boundaries by refraining from calling or texting them while they are at school.

We are looking forward to the start of the best school year yet and are excited to welcome your student(s) to campus on Tuesday.

New Parent Welcome Coffee, Hosted by WINGS

Returning families, come join us in welcoming our new families to the PSCS community. Feel free to drop by or to stay a while...we'd love to meet you! Bring your own coffee mug to cut back on waste and breakfast and a breakfast treat to share. Park along the railroad side of Bob Beatty Road and sign in at the front desk before coming around back. If you have questions, email wings@pioneersprings.org.



Items to Note & Important Dates

School Pick-Up & Drop-Off Times and Information

[Click Here](#)

Before and After School Care Information

[Click Here](#)

School Calendar

[Click Here](#)



August 22

First Day of School

August 25

New Parent & Family Coffee hosted by WINGS, right after morning drop off.

August 25

[Pioneer Plus](#) and [Athletics](#) registration deadline

Nocturnal Music...listening to the sounds of nature



One of the joys of summer nights is listening to nature sing. Spend some time under the stars and challenge your family to see who can hear the most sounds. Songs to listen for include the chirping of cicadas. Dog-day cicadas (*Tibicen* sp.) emerge annually, and the males vibrate a plate-called a tymbal-on their abdomen to produce a mating call that can be heard up to a mile away! The Piedmont is home to a number of frogs and toads, many species of which sing to attract mates from the spring through autumn. How many frogs and toads can you hear in your neighborhood? Learn more about local cicadas [here](#). [Click here](#) for more information about frogs and toads in North Carolina. Looking for a song about night music? Check out “Nocturnal” by Billy Jonas. Share your discoveries with the PSCS community on by tagging us on Facebook and Instagram, #pioneersprings.

Important Health and Safety

Information Your student’s health and well-being are important to us. As the school year begins, please make sure you have updated forms (available in the “forms and materials” section of our website) for prescription and over-the-counter medications. Additionally, please make sure you are familiar with our Wellness and Safety policies, which include our allergen-aware and medication administration policies. [Click here to learn more.](#) Medications may be given to the nurse at the Castle (gray building). If the nurse is unavailable, they may be left with Glenda at the same location. These medications can be brought to the school during or after carpool on 8/22/23, and/or any school day following.

Families as partners at Pioneer Springs



At Pioneer Springs we believe that children and young people learn best when all of the significant adults in their life work together in support of their growth and development. This belief guides PSCS’s identity as a *community* school. We’d like to encourage you to partner with your teaching team through regular communication. Our [covenant](#) describes our shared communication expectations. Volunteering is another great way to partner with us. In particular, we are looking for room parents and middle and high school parent committee members. [Click here](#) to fill out our volunteer interest form.

Classrooms are back-to-school ready! Take a peek at our first grade rooms in Davis...

