Volume 13, Issue 22 July 2023

Knightsbridge

A periodic Chatham Charter newsletter

What's Different and/or New…?

Welcome to a new school year at Chatham Charter! The administration and staff look forward to welcoming students, families, and new colleagues to the Knights family.

K-5 Language Arts Intervention and Enrichment

Elementary students will spend the first thirty minutes of the school day having additional individualized Language Arts instruction.

Campus Improvements

There have been several campus improvement projects this summer. Elementary classrooms have new tile. The circle at the gravel parking lot has been paved. The tennis courts are being resurfaced.

Athletic Department Transitioning to Online Forms

Knights Athletics is transitioning over the course of the school year to digital participation forms. The NC High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) has uploaded its required forms to DragonFly and is encouraging member schools to use this "one stop shop" for multiple athletic needs. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to go ahead and create a Dragonfly account and complete the NCHSAA forms online instead of the version in the Knights PDF packet. Create an account at www.dragonflymax.com.

Athletic Leadership Transition

Director of Athletics and Operations Clint Fields will now be serving Chatham Charter and its replication school, Central Carolina Academy in Sanford as part of the Central Services Team. Knights Athletics will be led by Jason Messier as Athletic Director and Rachel Smith as Assistant Athletic Director.

Back-to-School 2023-2024 Edition

Open House

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Opening information sessions will be held in the gym at 4:00 and 5:45 PM. Please begin your visit there.

4:00-5:15 PM: Grades K-5 concentration

5:15-5:45 PM: Traffic transition time

5:45-7:00 PM: Grades 6-12 concentration

Many families have students in multiple grades. These families are welcome to choose either session. Faculty will be available during both sessions.

Don't Miss….

Monday, July 31
High school fall sports begin

Tuesday, August 1
Freshman Family Orientation (HS lobby), 6:30 PM

It is crucial that students be present as the school year begins. The school loses significant funding when they are not, and students miss important instruction that is foundational to success.

School Year Daily Schedule

Kindergarten-Second Grade
Start: 8:00 AM
Dismissal: 2:50 PM

Third & Fourth Grade
Start: 8:00 AM
Dismissal: 3:00 PM

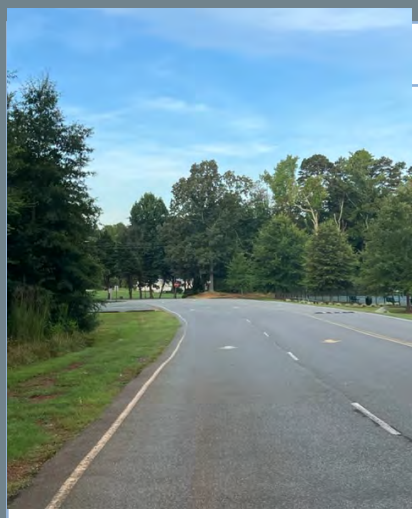
Fifth & Sixth Grade
Start: 8:00 AM
Dismissal: 3:10 PM

Seventh & Eighth Grade
Start: 8:00 AM
Dismissal: 3:20 PM

High School
Start: 8:30 AM
Dismissal: 3:30 PM

Dismissal Times on Early Dismissal Days

K-Grade 2: 10:50 AM
Grades 3-5: 11:05 AM
Grades 6-8: 11:20 AM
High School: 11:30 AM



Athletic Calendar

Keep up with game/match times through the BigTeams calendar. The Athletic Department posts schedules for all school sports teams. The site also has an option to register to receive alert for specific sports. The calendar link is on the school website under *Athletics*.

Watching Athletics

Knights Athletics is an NFHS Network School, allowing fans to subscribe and view varsity sports held in the gym virtually as well as away games at other Network Schools. Details on how to subscribe are at the bottom of the *Athletics Overview* webpage.

Required Immunizations

The state requires kindergarten, seventh, and twelfth graders to have certain immunizations completed by 30 days after the first student day of a school year. Contact School Nurse Dawn Murphy if needed (dmurphy@chathamcharter.org).

Stay Updated on School News

Check the school website frequently and follow Chatham Charter on social media.

Website: www.chathamcharter.org

Facebook: Chatham Charter School

Instagram: @ChathamCharterSchool

Twitter: @ChathamCharter

Typical Back-to-School Topics of Interest

Lunch Program

Chatham Charter participates in the National School Lunch Program in partnership with the School Nutrition Services of Chatham County Schools. Families can apply for free and reduced lunches. Each student's lunch status from last school year will remain the same for the first 30 days of school or until a new lunch application is submitted. Lunch applications will be available at Open House and will also be sent home during the first week of school. Families pre-order meals through My Meal Order.

Staggered Kindergarten Entry

Kindergartners will begin school on a staggered schedule August 10-11, and all students will begin attending together starting Monday, August 14. Families will receive information about the day their students will start school prior to Open House.

PowerSchool

Use the website link or PowerSchool app regularly to stay updated on student grades and attendance. Logins will be the same as last year. Staff will help new families log in.

Athletic Teams

Students in grades 6-12 can tryout for Knights athletic teams. A list of the 30+ sports teams offered over the course of three seasons can be found on the dropdown menu under *Athletics* on the school website.

Anyone who tries out for a sport is required to have had a **physica**l within the last 395 days and have this and other forms on file with the Athletic Department. There is a dropdown menu under *Athletics* on the school website where forms can be downloaded. Students cannot participate until all completed forms have been submitted to the Athletic Department. They also must be academically eligible to play a sport.

High school fall sports teams will begin practicing on Monday, July 31. **Middle school fall sports teams** will begin practicing on Tuesday, August 15. The Athletic Department has a comprehensive list of initial team practice times on the school website.

Weekly Messages

The administration typically sends weekly messages on Sunday evenings containing announcements through a rapid communication system, SchoolMessenger. Contact information is drawn from PowerSchool, the student data management system, so it is important that families ensure information is current. Anyone with a change during the school year should contact data manager Cathy Fields (cgfields@chathamcharter.org).

Pittsboro Bus Route Schedule

Chatham Charter has a single bus route between the school and Pittsboro. Notify Etta Foushee (efoushee@chathamcharter.org) of your child(ren)'s intention to ride the bus. Be prepared to complete and return an information sheet within the first week of school.

Morning Route
7:00 AM - bus arrives at the Pittsboro Food Lion parking lot
7:15 AM - bus leaves for Chatham Charter

Afternoon Route
3:35 PM - bus leaves Chatham Charter for Pittsboro
3:55 PM - expected arrival time at the Pittsboro Food Lion parking lot

Student Driver Parking Permits

Student parking permits will cost $20 for the entire year and $10 for spring semester. Only licensed drivers are eligible to purchase them in the high school during Open House. Potential drivers will receive an email shortly before Open House with additional details.

Student Supply Lists

The school website contains links to instructional supply lists for students. K-8 lists are by grade level; high school supply lists are by subject area.

Parent/Student Handbook

The Parent/Student Handbook is a comprehensive source of expectations, rules, procedures, Student Code of Conduct, and notifications. It is important to review expectations for student attire now.