



CASTROVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

11161 Merritt Street • Castroville, CA 95012

(831) 633-2570 Fax (831) 633-0642

August 2023

Dear Castroville Elementary Families,

We are excited to welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year! We look forward to partnering with you in your child's education. As you have noticed, there have been lots of exciting changes taking place on our campus over the summer. The school exterior has been painted, our cafeteria has a fresh coat of paint, our new front playground structure is under construction, and we are getting a new preschool building!

This greeting contains some important general information for all of our families. If you have specific questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school office and we will do our best to address all your questions.

Here's what you need to know about the beginning of the school year:

- The **first day of school for all students is Wednesday, August 9 – this is an early dismissal day (7:55 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)**.
- **The Warning Bell rings at 7:53 a.m. and school begins at 7:55 a.m.** This means that learning starts at 7:55. Students should be on campus and lined up by 7:50 a.m.
- **Dismissal on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday is at 2:32 p.m.**
- **Every Wednesday is an early dismissal day – students will be released at 12:45 p.m.**
- **Class lists** will be posted outside our Union Street office on the afternoon of **August 8 – parents may come by after 3:30 p.m. to learn their child's classroom assignment.**
- Breakfast will be available for students beginning at 7:20 a.m. every day and is served until 7:55.
- Lunch is provided for all students; however, students may bring food from home if they prefer.
- We have water bottle refill stations on our campus – students are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle to school (water only, no juices, energy drinks, soda, etc.).
- **Save the Date!** Back to School Night will take place on Wednesday, September 6, from 6:00-7:40 p.m.

Drop off procedures:

- **Student supervision begins at 7:20 a.m.** (please do not send students earlier unless they are enrolled in Kids Zone or NEST).
- Students who walk may enter through the breezeway on Union St. or the gate by the kinder building on Pajaro St.
- If you wish to drive your child to school, please remain in your vehicle and use the drive-up area on Pajaro St. – this is due to limited parking.
- We ask that parents please not park in the bus loading area on Union St. This is a loading zone only. Please note that the bus typically arrives between 7:20-7:25 a.m. - the loading zone must be clear of vehicles at this time.

Pick up procedures:

- While our front playground is under construction, parents can pick up students in grades K-2nd from their classroom.
- 3rd-6th grade students will be released at the back gate by the two-story building on Union St. - parents can meet them there.

A Parent/Student Handbook will be sent home with your child the first week of school. This will contain detailed information about school attendance, procedures, expectations and regulations. Please take the time to review the Parent/Student Handbook as a family. In the meantime, please call the school office at (831)633-2570 if you have any questions or concerns.

Once again, we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our students and we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, August 9!

Warm Regards,

Erica Lee
Principal

Carmen Velasquez
Assistant Principal