

Centre School September Newsletter 2023

Dear Centre School Parents and Students,

With school vacation now coming to an end and the new school year arriving, we are excited to see everyone ready for school! Please note that Centre School students are invited to school with their parents on Monday afternoon, August 28th for Meet the Teacher/ Orientation. The first full day of classes for K-2 students at Centre School will be held on Tuesday, August 29th. The school day for K-2 students begins at 8:30 AM and ends at 2:52 PM. Our preschool program will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 5th. The Centre School student population totals approximately 325 students. We continue to be fortunate to offer an educational program provided by a staff with extensive instructional expertise and experience. Centre School (PreK-2) is one of three schools providing public education for the Hampton School District, Marston School (3-5) and Hampton Academy (6-8) are the other two schools. Students leaving the Hampton School District after grade 8 attend Winnacunnet High School (9-12). The Hampton School Board meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Hampton Academy cafe. The Hampton School District is called “SAU 90” and is led by Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lois Costa.

The following information is given to parents at school orientation and needs to be completed and returned to your child’s classroom teacher.

1. Check all of the information in the Centre School Eagle Folder/Student-Parent Handbook given to you at orientation.
2. Please complete and sign all forms and cards and return these to your child’s teacher.
3. Eagle Folder & Student-Parent Handbook – Please read these two together as a family. This information gives our expectations for students at Centre School.
4. Emergency contact information – The emergency card provides us with current emergency contact information. Please notify the school office secretary immediately if any of the information on your emergency contact card changes. It is vital that we can contact parents & guardians during the day in case of emergencies.

Students may begin arriving at 8:20 AM and again this year, they will go directly into the building (East parking lot side Door “T”) and go directly to their classroom. **Please Note: All dropped off and bus students will be entering the building in the morning on the left side (EAST) of the school. Please make sure the lined pathway is left open for students to follow into the building.** All students should be inside the doors prior to the 8:30 official start of school day bell. Students are marked “tardy” if they are not in the classroom by the 8:35 AM tardy bell. If you drop off your child at or after 8:35, please note all doors are locked and you will need to sign in your child at the main office. Dismissal is at 2:52 PM for kindergarten, first grade and second grade students. **If you are picking up your child at the end of day, the designated pick up area for all students is the west side hot topped area (right side of the building).** You will sign out with the homeroom teacher. Your child’s safety at school and their success as a learner are prime concerns for all of us at Centre School. Our school expectations include the right for “Every child in our school to have an uninterrupted opportunity to learn” and that “Every Centre School child has the right to feel and to be safe”. At Centre School harassment, bullying, disruptive behavior, and unsafe behavior will not be tolerated in the school building, on the school grounds or on the school buses. Parents will be notified immediately if their child’s behavior creates an unsafe or disruptive school environment for others. School privileges may be denied until students can demonstrate expected behavior. To assist students in maintaining appropriate behavior our school wide social development program is modeled on Responsive Classroom strategies which strive to help students achieve

academic excellence within a community that teaches cooperation, responsibility, independence, caring and self-control.

Our two school secretaries, Mrs. Melanie Liebenow, Secretary to the Principal, and Mrs. Kimberly Larck, Office Receptionist/Secretary, will be happy to assist you when you call (603) 926-8706 or fax (603) 926-1177.

Our school entrance is secured to increase student safety. You will need to ring the bell at the front door (new this year!) and identify yourself, as well as state the purpose for your visit before being buzzed into the foyer. After entry to the foyer, you will need to stop at the office window and sign in before full entrance into the building (secondary locked door). We expect parents, guardians, visitors and staff to wear visitor tags at all times while in our building. School office hours are 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM. If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress you are welcome to contact your child's teacher through the school office at (603) 926-8706. If you have questions about the Centre School program please contact me (tlannan@sau90.org) or Assistant Principal, Jamie Hayward (jhayward@sau90.org)

School Nurse News

Welcome back to school! I will be taking an extended leave through the 2023-24 school year. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Mallory Richard, RN who will be covering the school year as the School Nurse in my absence. She has been a substitute school nurse in our district the past year and has also been substitute nursing in other districts in New Hampshire as well as working in a nearby hospital. She is a member of our Hampton community and is very excited to spend the year in Centre school with our students! She can be reached by email at mrichard@sau90.org.

As a reminder, it is very important that everyone returns their beginning of the year health forms as soon as possible once those have been received. There will be an additional health office consent form to look for, so please be mindful of returning all health forms in a timely manner.

If your child needs medication at school and you have completed the necessary supporting paperwork, please bring those to school on orientation day to be given to Nurse Mallory. Medication cannot be sent in with students at Centre School and must always remain in an adult's possession.

For all new registrations- any requested health forms/ documentation that were requested at registration should also be provided to school prior to the first day of school. If your child does not have all the state required paperwork submitted they may not be able to attend school until those are provided.

If you need new health forms for you and/or your provider to complete, they can be found online on our district website at <https://www.sau90.org/page/health-service-forms>.

I am wishing everyone a safe and healthy 2023-24 school year and look forward to seeing everyone in 2024!

Sincerely,
Amy Pietras, RN

School Counselor News

Welcome! It is hard to believe summer is winding down. It has been a great couple of months of warm weather and relaxing summer days.

As we transition back to earlier bedtimes, busy school days and new school experiences, getting back to routines or starting new routines can be challenging. Each child approaches transition and changes differently and anxious feelings are normal and expected responses during these times. Here are some suggestions to help ease the transition for heading back to school.

- Get enough sleep - Sleep is incredibly important for children (and adults). Establishing a consistent bedtime is vital. School-aged children need 10-11 hours of sleep.
- Eat well - Start with a healthy breakfast and provide (or purchase at school) nutritious snacks and lunches. Kids are more likely to eat the foods they helped pick and pack. Take a look at the school lunch menu together and see what they might like!
- Set routines - Having before and after school routines provide consistency, a sense of security and help children understand time management. Before bed lay out the next day's clothing, pack tomorrow's lunch/snack and go over the day's schedule. Having a visual calendar is also a great way for kids to see the family schedule to help them understand what is going on in their lives.

When saying goodbye in the morning, say it one time in a cheery manner. If your child cries, screams or protests do your best not to engage. Usually these anxious feelings require a little problem-solving and/or involvement from the school counselor or teacher.

Some strategies to help settle separation and worries that you can do with your child include:

- asking about their feelings and worries
- practicing role-playing situations and strategies
- focusing on the positive with encouragement
- paying attention to your own behaviors as children take signals from their parents. It is important for you to model relaxation and confidence to help your child see there is no reason to be afraid.

A new school year always brings new worries. Although it is normal for your child to have worries, it is essential that if your child is healthy they attend school. Avoidance of school will only increase and reinforce your child's fears over the long-term. If your child is experiencing worries and you are having trouble getting them to school, please contact me so we can work together with the classroom teacher to decrease these worries and increase attendance. Remember, I am here to help!

Books about the new school year:

Is Your Buffalo Ready for Kindergarten? by Audrey Vernick

A Letter from Your Teacher by Shannon Olsen

Samantha Connell

School Counselor

Current information about all of our school's programs and events are maintained on the school's website: www.centre-school.sau90.org Also on the web site please be sure to find and review our SAU 90 Student & Parent Handbook. The Centre School family newsletter is published monthly and sent home along with the school menu on the last day of each month with your child. Classroom teachers use the school's "Eagle folder/student handbook" to send important papers and homework with students in their backpacks on a regular

basis. Our school mascot is the American Bald Eagle. We will provide Eagle Shirts to all Kindergarten students entering Centre School this fall.

The security of our students is a top priority at Centre School. Security cameras monitor the school environment. **We ask you to help our school staff to keep all of our children safe by observing the following safety guidelines.**

1. All parents, guardians, volunteers and visitors must sign in at the school office and wear name tags while in school.
2. The Hampton Police Department has been working with the Centre School staff and the Superintendent of School's office to help assure that safe student arrival and departure procedures are in place daily. It has been determined that the safest way to cross Winnacunnet Road is at the blue crossing with our crossing guard, Mrs. Moore, directly across from the school entrance (if you would like to use the blue crossing path in front of the Town Hall please do so only if that walk is monitored by a Hampton Police officer (they are there most times) as it is dangerous as buses depart from the lot at that point of the road.
3. Parents who drive students to school are expected to park briefly in the Town Hall lot and then have their children walk on the sidewalk to cross with the crossing guard. School crossing guards will assist students at the blue crosswalk directly across from the school entrance. Parking in the school lots is limited. Please park on Towle Avenue or the town lot across from the Lane Library. Parking is prohibited at the Ross Apartments next to the school and on the Centre School side of Winnacunnet Road.
4. Parents are reminded to closely supervise children if using our playground after school. Students are expected to follow the playground rules posted on the gym door at all times.
5. NO DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS AT ANY TIME (POSTED).
6. Please remember to call us in the morning if your child will be late or absent from school. You may call the school office at (603) 926-8706.

Thank you for helping to keep our little ones safe.

At Centre School, we endeavor to help each child enjoy this gift of public education as they continue the lifelong learning that begins at home and we look forward to partnering with you to assure that every Centre School child "soars like an eagle" throughout this school year. On behalf of all of the Centre School staff members, we look forward to this new school year with you!

Sincerely,

Mr. Timothy J. Lannan
Principal

Mrs. Jamie Hayward
Assistant Principal

Upcoming Events:

Monday, Aug. 28 – Orientation for ALL students (Pre-K through Gr. 2) 1:00-2:00 PM

Tuesday, Aug. 29 – First day of classes Grades K, 1 & 2

Tuesday, Aug. 29 - Boo Hoo Breakfast (Kindergarten parents only) 8:45 AM Centre Cafe

Friday, Sept. 1 - Monday, Sept. 4 – No School – Labor Day Weekend

Tuesday, Sept. 5 – First day Pre-School classes

Monday, Sept. 11 – School Picture Day

Tuesday, Sept. 12 – School Board Mtg. 6:00 PM

Tuesday, Sept. 19 - Hampton PTA meeting at H. Academy

Wednesday, Sept. 20 - NO SCHOOL - In-Service Day

Tuesday, Sept. 26 – Evening Open House

