# Erwin Craighead Elementary School 1000 South Ann Street Mobile, Alabama 36605

**(251) 221-1155 office (251) 221-1151 fax**

**Tracey L. Hunter, Principal Parent Bulletin September 5, 2023**

# Congratulations and Thank You!!!!!

Thank you for quickly signing and sending your Parent Compact back to your child’s teacher. The first class to have 100% compacts returned was Mrs. L. Benning’s pre-kindergarten class. The second class to have 100% compacts returned was Ms. Haines’ 3rd grade class. The third class to have 100% compacts returned was Mrs. S. Wilson’s 5th class. These classes will be rewarded. All students who have returned their parent compact will receive a treat.

# Update Your Information

If your phone number or address has changed since the first day of school, please make the necessary measures to correct this information in the office immediately. I called several phone numbers for sick children last week and this week and all numbers submitted were disconnected. This is dangerous! We need to be able to get into contact with you in case of emergency.

# Check Out Our Social Media Pages and Our School’s Website

We invite you to visit and follow our social media pages and our school’s website. Valuable information is posted frequently. Go check us out!

# How Does My Child Get Home?

Please be sure you review with your child how they are to get home every day. If you change your child method of getting home, you must come to the office and fill out and sign a new form. If another child comes home with your child and they are not authorized to be there, please contact the school and/or the parent. You do not want to put yourself in a situation to be accused of kidnapping someone else’s child.

# Note: Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Special Family Activities**

We have many ***special family activities*** planned for the year. Our first activities were Meet the Teacher and Registration. Our next activities are our Annual Title 1 and PTO Open House. Open House is scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2023, from 5:00PM and 5:30PM.

***Special Note: Thank you to those who attended Meet the Teacher.***

**Our Staff Members**

Our staff members work hard each day educating our future. Please be sure your child comes to school with a great attitude and is well-prepared to learn. There are so many new things required this year. There is ***no*** time for discipline issues. Be sure to talk with your child about proper behavior at school.

# Children Walking Home

Please speak with your child (ren) about their conduct on the way home from school. A resident from Ann Street reported that some of our Ann Street walkers pulled newly planted flowers out of their yards. I applaud

all of our children who conduct themselves in the correct manner on the way home from school. I encourage all others to walk on the sidewalk with the teachers and keep all trash in their possession until they arrive home.

***Note: Please encourage your child (ren) to walk straight home from school.***

**School Attendance Month**

September is **School Attendance Month.** Attendance will be tracked from September 5th – October 2nd. All classes that have perfect attendance with no tardies and no early dismissals will have a chance to enter a drawing for a classroom party. **The winning class will receive a pizza party and the teacher will receive a gift card.**

# School Attendance

The school **attendance** rate is **important** because students are more likely to succeed in academics when they attend **school** consistently. It is difficult for the teacher and the class to build their skills and progress if a large number of students are frequently absent.

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. When you make school attendance a [priority](http://absencesaddup.org/importance-of-school-attendance/), you help your child get better grades, develop [healthy](http://absencesaddup.org/importance-of-school-attendance/) life habits, avoid dangerous behavior and have a better chance of graduating from high school.



**\*\*When your child is absent, please send an excuse the day they return to school.**

# School Safety

As principal of Craighead Elementary School, it is my responsibility to create and maintain a safe and orderly environment. It is also my responsibility to ensure the safety of my students, my faculty and staff members, and all other visitors. As an educational institution, we have a ***Disorderly Conduct Policy*** in place.

**No one will be allowed to come to our campus and act in a disorderly and confrontational manner and think that it is justifiable.** Some examples are the use of profanity, the use of threats, the disregard of school policies and procedures, confronting children/staff members or any other behavior that will compromise the safe and orderly environment on our campus. ***Disrespect will not be tolerated***. Respect is the most important character trait one can possess. There is always a better way to handle any situation.

If you choose to disregard our ***Disorderly Conduct Policy***, there are consequences that you will face that will include law enforcement and possibly being banned from campus. Thank you for your understanding.

***Remember: Everything we do is for the children***. If you have any questions, please feel free to schedule an appointment to talk with me. I would love to hear from you.

# Parent Conferences

If you have not contacted your child’s teacher concerning your child’s academic or behavior status, please do so immediately. Call your child’s teacher today to make an appointment. **Note: Teachers can only receive phone calls on their planning time. No calls can be forwarded to classrooms during instructional time.**

# Tardies

The tardy bell rings at 8:00AM. If your child arrives after 8:00, you ***MUST*** come in and sign your child in. Some parents are dropping children off and pulling off before the children enter the building. ***This is a dangerous practice.***

# Early Dismissals

This is a reminder that our cut-off time for early dismissals is 2:00p.m. Our intervention time takes place at the beginning of the day and end of the day. It is extremely important for our students to receive the intervention they need. \*\*This includes inclement weather days as well. ***Note: There are too many unnecessary early dismissals.***

# Join the PTO

Please support your child and our school by becoming a member of the PTO. The membership fee is $7.00 per person. ***Please join today****.*

# REMINDERS:

**Arrival and Dismissal Reminder**

School takes in at 7:30 a.m. and dismisses at 3:00 p.m. We begin serving breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and stop serving breakfast at 7:50 a.m. We would like for all our students to join us for breakfast. Please be sure to get your children to school on time. A parent must come to the office and sign in all students arriving after 8:00 a.m.

*However, students are not to arrive on campus before 7:30 a.m. Faculty members are not on duty prior to that time.* We do not have before or after school care*. If your child is dropped off or arrives earlier than 7:30 a.m. and is picked up after 3:15, that is considered neglect and it will be reported to the authorities*. In order to minimize the traffic in the halls and to help your children become independent, please drop your students off at the carpool. All walkers must *cross at the crossing guard whether an adult is with them or not.* If your child is going home in a different way. than usual, please send a note to your child's teacher.

***Please do not pick up or drop off any students on Ann St., Douglas St. or in the school’s driveway***. All students should be dropped off and picked up in the carpool area only. *We are also asking that all parents remain in your car in the carpool lane*. The teachers will load all cars. ***This is for your child's safety!***

**Note:** Do not block the drop off lane in the mornings in carpool. Do not move the carpool cones. They have been placed there for safety purposes. Your child should not exit your vehicle until school staff members enter carpool at 7:30AM.

# Student Beverages

Students are only allowed to bring ***bottled water*** to school with them to consume throughout the day.

# Class Snacks

Thank you to all parents who have donated class snacks to your child’s class. Our teachers appreciate this generous act.

# Bookbags

The rest of our clear bookbags came in last week. All students should have clear bookbags at this time. Please let me know if your child has not come home with their clear bookbag yet.

# Uniform Shoes

Please be reminded that our uniform shoes should be white, black, or black and white.

# Hair Color

All hair should be natural in color.

**Mark Your Calendar Progress Reports – Wednesday, September 6, 2023**

**Parent Compacts – Thursday, September 7, 2023, Please return all compacts to school.**

**Title 1 Meeting – Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 5:00PM PTO Open House – Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 5:30PM Grandparents Day Celebration- Friday, September 8, 2023, at 9:00 Teacher Workday – Monday, September 11, 2023 (No school) First Quarter Ends- Friday, October 6, 2023**

**Teacher Workday- Monday, October 9, 2023 (No school) Second Quarter Begins- Tuesday, October 10, 2023**

**State-wide Parenting Day – Monday, October 16, 2023, at 8:30 Veteran’s Day – Friday, November 10, 2023**

**Thanksgiving Break – Monday, November 20 – Friday, November 24 (No school) Second Quarter Ends- Friday, December 15, 2023**

**Teacher Workday – Monday, December 18, 2023 (No school)**

**Tentative October Family Activities Parental Awareness Month State-wide Parenting Day**

**Report Card Pick-up**

**Required Parent Conferences (Pre-k – 5th grade)**

**We are ‘TEAMING’ Up to improve Literacy (Reading), Numeracy (Mathematics), Attendance, and Behavior! We want our students to be #1!**

**Tips to being #1**

1. Read to and with your child every night.
2. Practice math facts with your child every night.
3. Limit tv, device and phone usage to the weekend.
4. Talk with your child about proper behavior.
5. Be sure your child is at school every day and on time.
6. Avoid early dismissals.
7. Schedule a conference with your child’s teacher.
8. Join Class DoJo.
9. Support your child and their teacher.
10. Be encouraged and let us know when you need us. We are here for YOU!

There is no **US** without ***U***!