

# A FEW TOPICS AT A GLANCE

## Gillispie's Guide for Inquiring Minds

- 1. Put yourself "in the know."** The first year can be challenging because you may not know what events are coming up or what is due. Resources to help you are:
  - Teacher blogs, Storypark pages, or emails
  - **My BackPack Portal** – class lists, tuition bills, school directory, Parent & Student Handbook, forms, progress reports, and more.
  - *The Gillispie Sun* (weekly digital newsletter published on Thursdays)
  - Periodic *Special Notices*
  - Room Parent emails
  - The School's website ([www.gillispie.org](http://www.gillispie.org)) for additional information, such as the year's calendar.
  - Gillispie's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts - be sure to "follow" and "like!"
- 2. Always ask!** Linda Moyer, front-desk receptionist, is the first stop. Whether you need to contact a Gillispie staff or faculty member or have a question about an upcoming event, she is an excellent source. She can be reached at [lmoyer@gillispie.org](mailto:lmoyer@gillispie.org), or (858) 459-3773.
- 3. Go direct.** Direct communication is the most efficient and effective method to resolve issues. If your child is struggling academically or socially, approach your child's teacher. If that does not resolve the issue, Early Childhood (EC) families should contact Dr. Mindy Coates Smith, Early Childhood Director, and Elementary families should visit Jon Bluestein, Assistant Head of School. If more needs to be done, make an appointment with Alison Fleming, Head of School, via Linda Moyer.
- 4. Become involved.** Gillispie is indebted to its parent volunteers who allow the School to provide a rich array of experiences for the children. Not only does your volunteerism support the School's efforts, but it also allows you an opportunity to make friends and understand how the School's mission is carried out. Opportunities include assisting with hot lunch, school events (such as International Day), class events, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Day, healthy snack, the Annual Gala, and the Corks & Forks friend-raiser.
- 5. Parking:** Parking in downtown La Jolla can be tricky! Parents are welcome to accompany their children into the School but must park on the street. Please do not park in the Girard or Fay Avenue loading areas between 8:00-8:35 a.m. and 2:55-3:30 p.m. Please do not block neighbors' driveways, move trash cans onto sidewalks, park in red zones, or in the Faculty/Staff lots located on Girard Avenue.
- 6. Campus Access:** For the sake of security, the Fay gate is **only** open 8-8:35 a.m., 12-12:30 p.m., and 2:55-3:30 p.m. The front entrance on Girard is open from 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

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- Drop off and Pick up:** In the morning, Early Childhood (EC) and Elementary students may be dropped off at the Fay Avenue driveway (8:00-8:25 a.m.). Parents of Early Childhood students can sign them in at the Fay drop off or at their classroom if they choose to street park and walk them in. Only Elementary students may be dropped off at the Girard Avenue loading area. EC pick-up is on Fay Avenue at 12:00 and 3:00 p.m. Kindergarten pick-up is on Fay and Grades 1-6 pick-up is on Girard at 3:00 p.m.
- Dress Code and Uniforms:** Uniforms are required for Grades K-6 students and are available (but not required) for Early Childhood.

## **Dress Code for Early Childhood:**

- Students should be dressed comfortably and appropriately for indoor and outdoor activities.
- Tops need to cover the midriff, shoulders, and back. Floor-length dresses and skirts are not recommended.
- Students are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes that fit properly and are easy to put on and take off, such as sneakers, sports shoes (such as Keens), or rubber-soled sandals. Students are required to wear sneakers or athletic shoes on P.E. days. Shoes with poor tread (such as Tom's, flip-flops, cowboy boots, and ballet-style flats) are discouraged.

## **Uniform for Elementary Students:**

- Lands' End is the School's sole provider.
- Shorts and skirts/dresses must be longer than students' fingertips resting at the side.
- Gillispie T-shirts that have been distributed for various events are permissible.
- Footwear: Students are required to wear primarily solid colored, low-top tennis shoes.
- Leggings: Leggings may be worn only when layered under other clothing (shorts and skirts/dresses) and must be navy, black, gray, or white.
- Outerwear: All outerwear must be provided by Lands' End with Gillispie logo.
- Only Gillispie hats and caps are permissible. Hats and hoods may not be worn inside School buildings.

**Please be sure to label all of your child's clothing.**