

# 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:
  - *The Parent/Student Handbook (online)*
  - *The Gillispie Sun* (weekly email newsletter)
  - Periodic *Special Notices* (sent via email)
  - Room parent emails
  - Teacher blogs, Storypark pages, or emails
  - The School's website ([www.gillispie.org](http://www.gillispie.org)) for additional information, such as the year's calendar or for forms that have gone missing
  - Gillispie's Facebook and Instagram accounts – be sure to "like" and "follow!"
  - Coming Soon: FACTS, a new Family Portal website through which you will be able to see information about your child's classes, registrations, and account.
- 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 contact 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 school events, several of which may be held virtually, class events, Teacher and Staff Appreciation Day, Giving Week, and the Corks & Forks friend-raiser.
- 5. Parking:** Parking in downtown La Jolla can be tricky! Parents are welcome to accompany their children to 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 1:55-2:30 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.

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6. **Campus Access:** For the sake of security, the Fay gate is **only** open 8:15-8:35 a.m., 12-12:30 p.m., and 1:55-2:30 p.m. The front entrance on Girard is open from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Currently, parents or family caregivers may not come onto campus unless to pick up a sick child. They will be asked to wear a mask, complete a health screening questionnaire, and have their temperature taken before entering campus.

7. **Staggered Drop off and Pick up:** In the morning, Early Childhood (EC) students may be dropped off at the Fay Avenue driveway (8:15-8:30 a.m.). Parents of Early Childhood students will sign them in at the Fay drop off gate whether by car or on foot. Only Elementary students may be dropped off at the Girard Avenue loading area. K-Grade 2 drop off is from 8:15-8:30 a.m. and Grades 3-6 is from 8:00-8:15 a.m.

EC pick-up is on Fay Avenue at 12:00 and 2:15 p.m. Kindergarten through Grade 6 pick-up is on Girard. K-Grade 2 pick up is from 2:15-2:30 p.m. and Grades 3-6 is from 2:00-2:15 p.m.

8. **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.
- Students are required to wear sneakers, sports shoes (such as Keens), or rubber-soled sandals. Tom's, flip-flops, cowboy boots, Crocs, and ballet-style slippers (or other shoes with poor tread) are not allowed. On P.E. days, children should wear sneakers or athletic shoes.

## **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: Because some classes will be held outside, please bring clothing that is appropriate for the daily weather and easily identifiable by the students. For this year, Elementary students may wear non-Gillispie outerwear.
- Only Gillispie baseball caps and sun hats are permissible. Hats and hoods may not be worn inside school buildings.

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