



GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

The first weeks of school is a time to help your child adjust to the routines, get excited about learning, and become more independent from you. Here are some ways you can help. **Get to know the teacher.** The faster you can establish a positive relationship with your child's teacher, the faster your child may adjust to the new surroundings and become independent. "The safer your child feels, the more energy they can put into learning – so from a parent's perspective, you want to support your child forming that bond with the teacher," comments Diane Levin, Ph.D.

If your child takes the school bus, encourage them to make bus friends. Get to know other parents at the bus stop to help you feel connected to school and to help your child find friends. Create your own special goodbye ritual to send your child off with a good feeling.

When you take your young child into the classroom, ask to see some work. If you sense your child feels uneasy at drop off, focus on the positive. Ask him to show you an art project or other activity he's doing at school.

If your child misses you a lot, choose a special object together that she can bring to school. Sometimes it helps with the transition if kids can bring a memento from home – a parent's picture, a note, a scarf, or other special objects to remind them that their parents are thinking of them. Encourage your child to show the object to the teacher. You should inquire to see if there is a policy about how your child can use the object during the school day.

If your child says, "I don't want to go," remind him about the fun stuff. Think of something you know your child loves to do, or likes about school. See if you can get started on this activity together. Or remind your child of all the new or old friends in his class. And go over and say hello together. If you

don't take your child to school, suggest he do some of these activities when he gets there, and send a note to the teacher about your concerns.

If your child says, "I hate school," ask her what is wrong. Usually kids will be able to tell you," recommends Diane Levin, Ph.D. "It's common for children to worry about playing on the playground with the bigger kids, or about when Mommy will return for pick up." Help your child develop a solution to the problem. You might ask, "What makes the playground feel scary? Suggest you talk to the teacher with your child about it. Ask your child if she wants to tell the teacher herself or would like you to do it.

Don't be surprised if your child is upset at the end of the day. Kids often save their hard feelings for the parents because it feels safer to let these feelings out at home than at school. "It's actually a good thing when kids save up their hard feelings for the parents," advises Lawrence Cohen, Ph.D. "You can even expect a surge in sibling rivalry or fighting with parents at home. Kids don't usually come home and tell to you things got rough on the playground, but they may act out their feelings at home."

Ask the school for help if your child has trouble adjusting. If separation remains stressful after a few weeks, set up a meeting with your child's teacher and the school's guidance counselor or principal to speak about the best ways everyone can help you adjust. If possible, meet without your child, but you may want to schedule a separate meeting with your child present, so everyone can make a plan together.

Attend school events. Go to Back-to-School night and PTA meetings. These events give you the opportunity to see the world your child inhabits every day and meet the people in charge (as well as other parents).

**TAX FREE WEEK-END
AUGUST 4-6, 2017**

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Crystal Jenkins Memorial Track
August 12, 2017 – 9:00am – 1:00pm

MEETINGS

- **August 3**, Blackville Community Dev. Corporation, Town Hall, 6:00pm
- **August 14**, BHHS Board of Ed., District #19, Board Conference Room, 7:00pm
- **August 15**, Neighbor Hood Watch, Tabernacle Baptist Church, 6:00pm
- **August 15**, Barnwell County Council, Agriculture Building, 6:00pm
- **August 21**, Blackville Town Council, Town Hall, 6:30pm
- **August 28**, Barnwell-Blackville Branch NAACP, Barnwell Masonic Lodge, 7:00pm
- **NO MEETINGS** - Blackville Downtown Development Association & Blackville Civic Club

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August 1, Queen E. Byas
August 1, Alice Armstrong
August 2, A.A. Williams
August 5, Rev. James (Bo) Johnson
August 6, Trina (McKnight) Isaac
August 6, Treva (McKnight) Williams
August 7, Phillip Felder
August 8, Dwayne Black
August 12, Steven (Steve) Jowers
August 15, Letha Johnson
August 15, Nettie Thomas
August 16, James Brown
August 19, Kenneth Hagood
August 21, Mary Johnson
August 22, Teresa Ashmore
August 23, Mary Ann Reed
August 23, Tyon Foust
August 28, Andre' Kinslow
August 28, Josephine Byas

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August 31, Albert and Rose Johnson-Raysor

CHEERLEADING REGISTRATION

Blackville Town Hall – until August 15, 2017. Ages 6-12. Fee is \$30.00. Birth Certificates are required. Contact Earl Nix - (803)671-6952 for additional information.

Football registration continues until the first week of September.

FYI

A reminder to all water and garbage utility customers. Republic Services requires all house hold garbage items be place in plastic bags, before placing them in your garbage cart for disposal.

Thank you for your cooperation.

SCHOOL NEWS

8/10 - 8/16 Teachers Return - In service
8/15 Registration and Open house 12 p.m. - 7 p.m.
8/17 First day of School
8/21 Half day for students (Eclipse Day)

BARNWELL STATE PARK Programs for the Solar Eclipse

Solar Bracelets (August 19, at 2PM) - Come out and make a Solar Eclipse Survival Bracelet with a Park Ranger. We will be using paracord and UV reactive beads to make bracelets that will change colors in the sunlight and glow in the dark during the eclipse. The program costs \$5/participant and we will meet behind the park office at the picnic pads.

Evening Hike (August 20, at 8 PM) – Come out and hike with a ranger in the evening. We will simulate the eclipse by taking an evening hike and see how wildlife may act during the eclipse. We will meet at the Park Office.

Pinhole Cameras (August 21, 2017 at Noon) – Come out and make Pinhole Cameras with a Park Ranger. We will be making and decorating pinhole cameras to use during the eclipse. All participants will receive Solar Eclipse Glasses in addition to their cameras. The program costs \$5/participant and we will meet at Shelter 4.

Office hours 11AM – 12PM and 4PM – 5PM daily at (803) 284-2212 or email us at Barnwellsp@scprt.com

Published by the Town of Blackville and the Blackville Community Development Corporation. Contact vtalston@bellsouth.net, subject line add "NEWSLETTER". Visit us on or website: www.townofblackville.com.

The Town of Blackville is an EOE