

Dear Clifton Community,

Please take note of the following updates.

**2023 Symposium and Cultural Exchange**

Please join us for our annual symposium. This year, we will line the halls with symposium boards showcasing learning in your child's classrooms.

**Our Infants and Toddler I classes will participate in a sing-a-long led by Opus music.** Families are invited and encouraged to join us for this in-person experience.

**Toddler II and Preschool** will showcase some of the skills and dances they have learned during Kinder Dance with an in-person recital.

This year, we are also excited to welcome back our cultural potluck exchange. The cultural potluck exchange is when we invite all families, teachers, and staff to bring a dish representing their family's culture to share with the rest of the village. After your scheduled program, we will then gather in the piazza to share a meal.

Please join us by bringing your dish to share on your child's recital or sing-a-long day. Dishes can be brought in at any point during the day. **Please label your container/dishes with your child's name and classroom, and list all ingredients. Please do not bring food that contains nuts.**

Please see the date and time for your site and village below.

**Clairmont**

Infants & Toddler	December 12, 4:30-6:00 PM
Toddler II	December 13, 4:15-6:00 PM
Preschool	December 14, 4:10-6:00 PM

**Clifton Road**

Infants & Toddler I	December 14, 4:30-5:45 PM
Toddler II	December 11, 4:30-5:45 PM
Preschool	December 12, 4:30-5:45 PM

**Please park in the parking garage on the day of your event.**

**STAC Campaign**

**Message From The PTA About STAC**

We sincerely thank all who have donated to the annual STAC campaign so far. Today is officially the LAST day of STAC (Staff-Teacher-Appreciation Campaign)! We hope to make a big impact this year and show our beloved Clifton School staff how much we appreciate them. So far, we have raised over \$58,000 of our \$70,000 goal! **You can make your donation here: [STAC](#)**

**Message From The Clifton School Team About STAC**

We are grateful for your participation in The Clifton School's Staff and Teacher Appreciation Campaign sponsored by the PTA. Your involvement in this unique initiative truly sets The Clifton School apart from other childcare programs in our community. The overwhelming response from our families each year

showcases the remarkable bond we share as a community that values and recognizes the dedicated efforts of our teachers and staff.

The Staff and Teacher Appreciation Campaign is not just a tradition; it is a celebration of the exceptional individuals who make a profound impact on our children's lives every day.

In many childcare programs, the tireless work of teachers and staff often goes unnoticed or unacknowledged. However, at The Clifton School, your commitment to recognizing and appreciating our educators is one of the driving forces that keeps our team motivated and passionate about their work.

The joy and enthusiasm displayed by our teachers and staff during this annual campaign are a testament to its positive impact on their morale. Your kindness and thoughtfulness contribute significantly to creating a positive and nurturing environment for our educators and the children they care for. Thank you!

### **Home visits**

As a reminder, we launched our pilot home visiting program in November. Some families have already participated in the program. Our teachers and families who have had visits raved about how engaging they were. They reported the children were excited and in awe of seeing their teachers in their homes. Home visits help create a strong bond that positively impacts the teacher's relationships with the child and family. Please know that home visits can also take place at your local public library if you prefer to have a visit outside of your home. We believe that childcare teachers are early relational health professionals. The last few years have been emotionally challenging for all of us. Many of our children spent the first years of their lives interacting with other children and adults, with everyone wearing masks. Home visits are one of the tools we can use to build solid connections and a sense of community after a challenging period. When all of the caregivers in a child's life work together, the effects are positive and last a lifetime.

We are testing this program; therefore, we will start home visits with a limited number of families. Each classroom will have an opportunity to schedule home visits with six families. They will visit three families from November to January and three from February to April. The teachers will choose which families to conduct home visits with based on the children's needs. If you think your child will benefit from a home visit, please let your child's teacher know.

### **Professional Development**

The Clifton School is committed to staying abreast of the current trends and research in early childhood education. Our teachers and staff participate in professional development locally and nationally throughout the year.

- This year, nineteen teachers and staff attended the Georgia Association for the Education of Young Children Conference.
- In October, teachers and staff from both sites attended The Clifton School's annual professional development conference at the Downtown Decatur Conference Center. Our speaker was Brandy M. Locchetta, PhD, BCBA a National Consultant from The Pyramid Model Consortium <https://www.pyramidmodel.org/>. She facilitated training on supporting children's social-emotional development in the classroom.

- The Executive Director attended the Building Well-Being and Connections for the Childcare Community conference in Chicago hosted by Childcare Aware of America.
- Three mentor teachers and four administrators attended the National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference (NAEYC) in Nashville.
- The Emory Police Department will facilitate active shooter training for both sites in February.

### **Parents Morning Out**

We're excited to announce a special event for families! Parent's Morning Out is back, and it's on Saturday, December 16th at our Clairmont site (families from both sites can register). For a fee of \$45 per child and an additional \$15 for each extra little one, you can enjoy some well-deserved "me time." Whether you choose to tackle your holiday shopping or savor a leisurely brunch with friends, we are hosting this event to provide you with a moment of respite. Please email Ms. Doris, [drice@thecliftonschool.org](mailto:drice@thecliftonschool.org) at Clairmont, or Ms. Anita, [ahendley@thecliftonschool.org](mailto:ahendley@thecliftonschool.org) at Clifton Road to sign up for parent's morning out. You can also sign up at the front desk.

### **Important Dates**

December 25-January 1, 2024	Closed for winter break
January 15, 2024	Closed for MLK Jr. Holiday
February 19, 2024	Closed for Professional Development Day

Scan the QR Code below to follow us on Facebook.



Best,  
Natalie Feagin  
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