

Hello Families,

August has been an exciting month at The Clifton School! Our infant village is filled with new babies exploring their surroundings, bringing so much energy and joy to our community. It's incredible to see how quickly our toddlers grow, from sleeping on cots to enjoying family-style meals together and engaging with more advanced classroom activities. Our Toddler II students are eager learners, mastering new challenges, while our preschoolers and Pre-K students continue to build their social skills and independence as they prepare for kindergarten.

We feel privileged to be part of your child's early education, supporting their growth every step of the way. This year promises to be filled with exciting milestones, discoveries, and learning moments. The Clifton School remains dedicated to providing exceptional early childhood experiences and partnering with you during this important journey. Thank you for choosing us to be a part of your child's early years, and here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Please review the following updates:

As we begin the new school year, we want to inform new families and remind continuing families that The Clifton School provides early intervention services.

What is Early Intervention?

Early intervention is a system of services that helps infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with developmental concerns, delays, or disabilities. Early intervention focuses on helping eligible infants, toddlers, and preschoolers learn the basic and brand-new skills that typically develop during the first years of life, such as:

- physical (reaching, rolling, crawling, walking)
- cognitive (thinking, learning, solving problems)
- communication (talking, listening, understanding)
- social/emotional (playing, feeling secure and happy)
- self-help (eating, dressing)

Examples of strategies used in the classroom:

- Schedule adjustments
- Visual schedules
- Oral motor supports
- Sensory materials added to the environment
- Technology added to support communication
- Visual timers
- Materials added to support development
- Teacher training

Examples of third-party connections for early intervention services:

- Assistive technology (devices a child might need)

- Audiology or hearing services
- Speech and language services
- Public school system services
- Counseling and training for a family
- Medical services
- Nutrition services
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychological services

If you have a concern or specific question regarding your child's development or need early intervention services, please contact:

Kari Saxton: kford-saxton@thecliftonschooL.org at our Clairmont site

Aleece Beattie: abeattie@thecliftonschooL.org at our Clifton Road site

Be sure to record the dates for the 2024-25 School Closings.

September 2, 2024	Labor Day
October 14, 2024	Professional Development
November 27-29, 2024	Thanksgiving
December 24, 2024- January 1, 2025	Winter Holiday
January 20, 2025	MLK Jr. Day
February 17, 2025	Professional Development
April 11, 2025	Spring Holiday
(this date was changed from April 4 to correspond with the Dekalb County School Calendar)	
May 26-27, 2025	Memorial Day
June 19, 2025	Juneteenth Holiday
July 3-4, 2025	Independence Day
July 30- August 4, 2025	Move-up Event/Professional Development
August 5, 2025	First Day of School

Infant Massage Class

Join us on Saturday, September 21 at 10 AM for an infant massage class at our Clifton Road site, 1700 Clifton Road. Discover the magic of baby massage! 🌞 In this engaging workshop, we'll explore the wonderful benefits of baby massage, from promoting relaxation to aiding digestion. Learn simple techniques to ease colic and gas, all while enhancing that precious parent-baby bond. Plus, we'll throw in some tummy time tips to kickstart your journey.

Join us—it's time to nurture those little bundles of joy! Don't forget to bring the baby. [Click here](#) to register for the class. Spaces are limited.

The instructor: Jagruti is a Physical Therapist and founder of Babies and Beyond Physical Therapy. She is an expert in treating torticollis, head shapes, oral ties rehab, and infant development. Jagruti

is a holistic practitioner and incorporates CST/CFT (Cranio-sacral therapy/Craniosacral Fascial Therapy) in her sessions. She is passionate about understanding the Brain-Body connection and how our body moves and reacts through different stages of development in life. Her passion is to help moms and babies have successful feeding journeys so they can develop a strong bond right from the start. Her mission is to help babies feel comfortable in their bodies so they can eat, sleep, move, and breathe better. Jagruti has undergone extensive top-notch training to bring the highest quality care to her patients.

Home visits

In October, we will begin implementing home visits with some families. The teachers will select which families to visit based on the family's interests and the children's needs.

Home visits can establish positive interactions and communication with families. They are not a replacement for parent-teacher conferences but are a process through which teachers demonstrate their support for children's families by visiting the home environment or an alternative location where the family feels at home and comfortable, like a local library. Home visits promote proactive interactions and build good relationships.

Coaching Program

The program provides coaching and support to novice teachers and leadership training and growth opportunities to experienced teachers. The coaches and protégés receive several hours of professional development and financial compensation for participating in the program. The coaches at our Clairmont site are Marilyn Ebron, Sahanta Favors, Lathea Wilder, and Audrea Jackson. The coaches at our Clifton Road site are Dana Rogers, Angela Curtis, Tiffany Wilburn, and Bernita Love.

Check-in Calls

The administrative team is conducting check-in calls with families to learn about their experiences during the first month of the school year. We want to know what's going well for families and the areas where we can improve. We have randomly selected families to call. Not all families will receive a call. Thank you in advance for helping us improve the quality of our program.

PTA Room Representatives

The PTA board is looking for room representatives to liaise between each class and the PTA. The room representatives also help encourage classroom families to recognize teachers' birthdays and other fun celebrations. The administrative team often utilizes the support of room representatives when addressing important classroom happenings or changes.

Being a Room Representative is a great way to get involved with The Clifton School and to get to know other parents/guardians in your student's class. This role is a vital communication structure for all the amazing families in the Clifton community. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to be room representatives.

Upcoming Events

- Closed for Labor Day- Monday, September 2
- Grandparents Luncheon Clairmont- Wednesday, September 4
- Grandparents Luncheon Clifton- Friday, September 6
- Virtual Book Discussion- Saturday, September 14 (Full)
- Book Fair- September 16-20 In the front lobby at each site.
- PTA Meeting- via Zoom @ 12;30 PM- Wednesday, September 18th
- Infant Massage Class- 10-11 AM Saturday, September 21 @ Clifton Road
- Closed for Professional Development- Monday, October 14
- Hispanic Heritage Month- September 15 - October 15
- Harvest Festival Sponsored by the PTA-, 9-11 AM Saturday, October 26 at our Clairmont site

Best,

Natalie Feagin
Executive Director
www.thecliftonschool.org