

**Absence/Illness:** Please provide a written note to your child's teacher on the day your child returns to school. The note should include the date of absence and reason for the absence. In compliance with Georgia State Law, all absences will be classified as unexcused except those for reasons of personal illness, death in the immediate family, religious holidays, when mandated by order of a governmental agency or instances where attendance would be hazardous. Students must be in school at least one -half day to be counted as present. Checking out before 11:30 AM or checking in after 11:30 AM will result in an absence. Students with excessive tardies, absences, or early checkouts may not be eligible to participate in clubs and activities. Please refer to the GCPS Student-Parent Handbook for state attendance laws.

**Arrival:** Students may arrive at the school no earlier than 7:45 AM. Prior to that time, the staff is busy with training, planning, and conferencing, which makes them unavailable to supervise students. A bell will ring at 7:45AM, signaling that students can enter the building. If you should arrive before the bell has rung, your child must stay in the car with you. The 7:45AM, bell signals the time students may exit their car at the supervised drop off area. For the safety of your child, only drop him/her off at the designated drop off area. Do **not** drop your child off in the parking lot to walk to the sidewalk. ***Car riders are not allowed to cut through the parking lanes, but should stay in the car rider lane.*** Staff assistance for car riders ends at the 8:10 AM bell. Please arrive early enough to allow your child to be on time. The WDDN (Dyer Dragon News) daily broadcast begins promptly at 8:10 AM.

**Breakfast:** Breakfast will be offered each morning for \$1.25 (student reduced price \$.30). Upon entering the building at 7:45, students will report directly to the cafeteria.

**Buses:** In the morning and afternoon, our school buses always have "right of way," when arriving and leaving school grounds. Students are to get off only at their designated stop. For emergency situations, you must request a bus pass from the office. Please see "Transportation Changes" for specific procedures. For permanent changes, please contact the office.

**Car Riders:** Registration for J. G. Dyer's Car Rider Program is accomplished at Orientation or through the front office. **All car riders must have a numbered tag.** Please read carefully the following car rider expectations and procedures:

**Car Rider Arrival (7:45AM-8:10AM):**

- Please have your child prepared to exit your car once you enter the unloading area. This means that book bags, lunchboxes, and other items need to be in your child's hands or secured on his/her back in order to make an immediate exit from your vehicle once stopped and inside the unloading zone.
- Goodbye hugs and kisses need to take place BEFORE entering the unloading zone! This will help keep our arrival process running safely and smoothly.
- **Once inside the unloading zone and after coming to a complete stop, (please put cars in park to avoid accidental rolling) your child is to exit your**

**vehicle on the right hand side on his/her own and then shut the door to your vehicle.**

- Please do not use cell phones during this process.
- Duty personnel will be standing at the beginning, middle, and ending points of the unloading zone should an emergency arise. However, it will be up to your child to open and close your vehicle door.
- After the 8:10 bell, you must park and walk your child to the front door.

**Car Rider Dismissal (2:45PM-3:05 PM):**

- Please have hanging from your rearview mirror the purchased vehicle/student identification number to which your child/children are assigned.
- Car Rider tags will be issued as a set of two so that more than one member of your family may use this system or enable you to have a spare.
- Each number will be radioed into the building where the car rider students will be seated awaiting their number to be announced.
- Please discuss with your child the number assigned to you and have your child ready to "respond" and move to the loading zone when his/her number is called!
- Once your vehicle is in the loading zone and is stopped, **(please put cars in park to avoid accidental rolling)** your student(s) will be directed to proceed to your vehicle and open the door.
- Just as in the morning, it will be your child's responsibility to open and close your vehicle door.
- Please do not use cell phones during this process.
- Duty personnel will be standing in the beginning, middle, and end of the loading zone should an emergency arise.

Loading and unloading can only take place within the designated zone. **Do NOT, for any reason, allow your student to enter or exit your car outside the designated zone.** Additionally, should you find it impossible to wait the short time in the car rider line, we ask that you park and check out your student with appropriate identification in the front office of the school. However, please note that checking out students from the front office should take place prior to 2:15 PM.

**Care of School Property:** Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, supplies, and furniture supplied by the school. Students who vandalize school property will be required to pay for the damage and face disciplinary action.

**Textbooks:** It is important for students to be responsible for their textbooks. In the case of loss or damaged textbooks, it is the student's responsibility to pay for the books at a rate determined by the State Department of Education and/or the GCPS Board of Education.

**Media Center:** Lost books and magazines must be paid for by the end of the school year. Paperback books and magazine are \$5.00 and hardcover books are \$15.00.

**Change of Address or Phone:** For emergency purposes, we require updated information for each student. Please notify the school in writing if any changes occur in your work or residential phone numbers and/or address. The school cannot be held responsible for failure to communicate if it is not informed of such changes.

**Checkout of Students:** The instructional day does not end until 2:45 PM. Students checked out early miss important Gwinnett County Academic Knowledge and Skill (AKS) instruction as well as critical directions to prepare them for the next day. Teachers have been instructed not to release students directly to parents/guardians. Children will not be released to adults other than parents without permission of the parents. For your child's protection, please be prepared to show picture identification when checking your child out. Parents should not make it a daily occurrence to come into the school to check out their child at the end of the day to avoid the car rider pickup lane. **Students must be checked out in the front office before 2:15 due to safety concerns, the staff's involvement in afternoon bus call, and the disruptive nature of numerous checkouts at the end of the day.**

**Child Abuse / Neglect / Georgia Code Section 19-7-5:** From the Georgia Code of Law: School teachers and administrators, school guidance counselors...having reasonable cause to believe that a child under the age of eighteen has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him other than by accidental means by a parent or caretaker, or has been neglected or exploited by a parent or caretaker, or has been sexually assaulted or sexually exploited by a parent or caretaker, shall notify the person in charge of the facility or his designated delegate who shall report or cause reports to be made in accordance with the provisions of this section. Any person or official required by this Code Section to report a suspected case of child abuse who knowingly and willfully fails to do so shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as for a misdemeanor.

**Clinic:** Dyer has a full time clinic worker who will administer minor first aid and properly authorized prescription drugs or long term medication. The clinic worker will contact parents to pick up ill students. Please indicate on the clinic card any special circumstances you wish to make the clinic worker aware of concerning the health of your child. If your child has a fever of 100 degrees, you will be notified. **If he/she has a fever of 100.4 or greater, your child must be sent home.** The county policy also requires that students be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. Children with lice must be picked up and may not return to school until proof of treatment is brought in. Dyer's clinic worker may not take responsibility for evaluating signs of illness or injury that have occurred at home. These should be referred to your family doctor or an emergency room. A child who has been vomiting should remain home until symptoms have been gone for 24 hours. If a child becomes ill during school hours, parents are expected to make arrangements to have the child removed from school as soon as possible. Parents without transportation, and working parents should make arrangements

for this possibility early in the school year. Please inform the school of any medical problems by adding them to the back of the school emergency card. These cards are updated yearly in the fall.

**Medication:** If your child's health requires a long term medication, our clinic worker will dispense medication after your doctor has completed a document describing the dosage. We also require a document giving permission to administer emergency-type medications for specified known problems, such as a bee sting or allergies. Long term or emergency medications will not be administered to students in the absence of these required authorizations. Notes from parents will not suffice. Our clinic worker will also administer short term prescriptions to students. Parents must bring the prescription to school with a note indicating the medication dosage and time. "Over the counter" medications are only dispensed from the clinic with written parental instructions. Parents must bring all types of medications to the school. **No medications may be brought to or from school on the bus.**

**Special Diet/Food Allergies:** In order to substitute milk with juice as part of the regular daily diet, a note from your physician indicating a medical reason is required. Other special diets should be provided from home.

**Communicable and Infectious Diseases - Rules for Control:** Children having a contagious or infectious disease should not return to school unless cleared by the clinic worker and accompanied by a note from the family physician. The clinic worker reserves the right to make the final decision on any questionable cases. Parents of students who will be out for 3 days or more should contact the school to discuss the child's return to school. The following conditions should be considered communicable: Lice (Pediculosis), Chicken Pox (varicella), Strep Throat, Ringworm, Scabies, Measles (Rubella), German Measles, Mumps, Meningitis, Poliomyelitis, Scarlet Fever, Hepatitis, Mononucleosis, Worms or Parasites, Impetigo or staph infection, Whooping Cough (Pertussis). Parents should notify the school if their child has been affected by any of these for advice on readmission to class.

**Clinic Cards:** Phone numbers (home, work and cell) must be kept up-to-date in the event we need to reach you in an emergency concerning your child. Should an emergency situation arise in which your child needs immediate medical attention, and we are unable to contact anyone we will call "911" and your child will be taken to the emergency room.

**Closing of School:** In the event of inclement weather, the starting time of the school day may be delayed or all schools may be closed. Announcements will be made over the radio station WSB-AM 750 and TV station WSB-TV Channel 2. Reports on the delay of starting times and closing of school will be given between 6:00 a.m. and 6:30 a.m. Please do not call Dyer Elementary as the school needs to be in touch with the Administrative Offices regarding emergency announcements.

**Clubs:** Dyer offers several clubs for students. Please check Dyer's website for the most current information regarding clubs. For parents with no internet access, please contact the front office for club information. Please do not drop off siblings who are not club participants.

**Counseling:** Dyer's school counselor is trained in developmental counseling. Developmental counseling is a preventive approach to helping children. Through classroom guidance, small group and individual counseling, counselors can teach life skills. The types of life skills focused on are self-acceptance, conflict management, coping skills, occupational awareness, study skills, personal safety, and personal growth. Teachers, parents, students and administrators may refer to the school counselor at any time. Parents may send a note or contact the counselor by phone at 770-338-4782. Classroom guidance is scheduled monthly and the counselor sees students individually as needed. Small groups are formed in the fall and spring as needed per teacher and parent referrals to discuss topics such as grief, classroom work habits, study skills and changing families. Group counseling requires parental consent. Dyer's counselor is available for consultations with teachers, administrators and parents, coordinates a variety of programs for children and parents, arranges parent previews of materials and conducts parent workshops.

**Custody of Children:** A student will not be permitted to leave the school in the custody of a person other than the child's parent unless that person has verified authorization of one of the parents. Please note that the child can be released to either parent unless the child has been legally placed in custody of one parent and the other is restrained from seeing the child. If such a situation exists, the school must have verified, legal documentation for proof. Otherwise the school will have no alternative but to release the child to either parent.

**Day Care:** If your child is absent from school, please call your day care provider to inform them that your child will not be transported that day.

**Deliveries:** Students will only be called out of class to receive deliveries of an emergency nature. Delivery of items such as homework, books, agendas, etc. does not constitute an emergency. Such items will be placed in the teacher's mailbox for pick-up. If your child forgot his/her lunch, please drop it off at the office with the child's name and teacher's name written on it and we will be sure it is delivered to the cafeteria. The school will not accept deliveries from delivery services on behalf of students.

**Discipline:** All information regarding discipline policies and procedures is in the Gwinnett County Student / Parent Handbook.

**Dismissal:** The bell rings at 2:45 PM to dismiss car riders and day care buses. At 2:50 PM an announcement signals the dismissal of bus riders. Students will not be allowed to return to the building after dismissal to pick up forgotten items such as books or lunch boxes. We encourage students to learn responsibility in remembering items when leaving for home.

**Dragon Pride Days:** At the end of each grading period, students are recognized for achievement in the areas of academics, attendance and citizenship. Parents are invited to join us for these celebrations.

**Dress Code:** Students are encouraged to dress appropriately, suitable to weather conditions and in good taste. Tank tops, tube tops, halters, and clothing which advertises drugs, alcoholic beverages, or is suggestive, are not considered appropriate for school. No hats, scarves, or bandannas are to be worn in the building unless it is a planned school activity. The administration has the discretion to make additions or changes to the dress code if or when a student's dress or appearance adversely affects student learning at Dyer.

**Early Release:** Students will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m. on October 3, October 4, February 27 and February 28 for parent-teacher conferences.

**Elementary School Supply Contribution:** A supply contribution of \$10.00 is requested from parents to supplement supplies of duplicating paper, art materials and enrichment supplies. This contribution does not pay for necessary personal school items such as pencils, notebook, notebook paper and assignment books. These funds are over and above any funds provided under the A+ Education Reform Act of 2000. No student will be denied access to or participation in any course funded by the Gwinnett County Board of Education or by the state of Georgia.

**Field Study Trips:** Each grade level will participate in field study trips which are linked to classroom learning and the curriculum. Expenses (if applicable) are requested to cover class sponsored field study trips. No child is denied the opportunity to participate for not being able to contribute toward the trip cost, and special scholarships are available for students needing them. However, if sufficient funds are not collected, it may be necessary to cancel a planned event. Parents are often asked to help chaperone these trips. Younger siblings may not accompany parents on the school bus or on the field trip.

**Friday Folders:** Each Friday your child will bring home a folder that will contain their work from the previous week, important announcements from the school and other information sent by your child's teacher. Please return this folder, signed by a parent, on Mondays to your child's teacher.

**Fundraisers:** Our PTA sponsors a fundraiser during the first few weeks of school. These funds support classroom teachers in many ways. More information about this event will be distributed during the first few weeks of school. Dyer's students and staff also support community fundraisers such as United Way, American Red Cross, and Relay for Life during the year. All fundraisers are voluntary.

#### **Grading:**

**Kindergarten and First Grade:** Students are assessed on progress toward the AKS using the following scale:

E- Excellent

S- Satisfactory

N- Needs Improvement

U- Unsatisfactory

**Grades 2-5:** The following scale is used to assess student acquisition of grade level AKS:

A= 90 and above	Excellent Progress
B= 80-89	Above Average Progress
C= 74-79	Average Progress
D= 70-73	Below Average Progress
U= Below 70	Unsatisfactory Progress

When reporting progress (effort, participation, skill acquisition and completion of tasks) for special areas such as art, music, math enrichment, and physical education the following scale is used:

E= Excellent  
S= Satisfactory  
N= Needs Improvement  
U= Unsatisfactory

**Gum/Candy:** Bringing candy and gum from home is not permitted.

**Homework:** Home study is essential to each student's educational program. Parents are advised to plan and supervise a daily study time at home.

Homework is:

- an extension of the learning process meant to reinforce skills that have been taught in class.
- a way to keep parents informed and involved with the child's school work.
- a method of helping students establish self-discipline and study skills.
- beneficial for parents to help the child establish set times to work.

**It is the student's responsibility to remember to take all necessary items home. Students will not be allowed to re-enter the building after school to retrieve materials for homework.**

**Ice Cream:** Students may purchase ice cream or slushie for \$1.00 to be eaten during their lunch period after they have eaten their lunch.

**Impaired/Handicapped Access:** Gwinnett County Public Schools wishes to meet the needs of all of its students and families. If any member of your family needs assistance or has any questions regarding mobility impaired issues or handicapped access, please contact Donna Torbush, Principal.

**Individual Sales:** The school may not be used as a place for distributing items sold outside the school except through the PTA. Students are not allowed to sell or trade items at school.

**Insurance:** Student health and accident insurance is offered to all families during the school year. This insurance would provide coverage for your child in the event of an accident in the classroom or playground here at Dyer. This coverage is optional, but please know that the school does **not** provide any additional coverage for you. Purchase and claims are made directly to the vendor.

**Internet:** The Internet is used for academic purposes only. Students must have a signed permission slip, from a parent (Acceptable Use Policy-AUP) in order to use the Internet. Students may go to sites designated by the teacher and are

responsible for following the teacher's instructions. Failure to use the Internet properly may result in the loss of Internet privileges.

**Lost and Found:** Dyer Elementary maintains a "Lost & Found" in the front office. *Items not claimed at the end of each month will be donated to charity.* In order to reduce the number of lost articles, please label clothing articles and lunch boxes with your child's name.

**Lunch Charges:** We appreciate parental assistance in reminding students to bring lunch money and for frequently checking with your child when additional payments are needed. Our school has adopted a policy which governs student charges. Only two charges are permitted. *After two charges, students will not be permitted additional charges. (However, our cafeteria will provide the student with a sandwich and milk.)* If you are interested in receiving an electronic notification when your child's account has a negative balance—please sign up at [www.gcsnp.org](http://www.gcsnp.org). Please contact our School Nutrition Program Manager, Dana Bowen, at 770-338-4783 if you have any questions.

**Lunch Meal Prepayment:** We use a prepayment system for lunch. When a prepayment is received, the amount of the prepayment is entered into a computer. The computer subtracts the cost of each meal purchased by the student. Prepayments of lunches can be made by the week, month, or longer time increments. Lunch is a \$2.00 a day or \$10.00 for a week. Milk is \$.40. Adult meals are \$3.00. Payments to your child's account can be made quickly and securely online by logging on to [www.mealpay.com](http://www.mealpay.com). *Please put your child's name, teacher and grade on every check you send for lunch accounts. If you send cash, always put the money in an envelope with the student's name, teacher, grade and amount of cash written on the front.* If students add extra food to their tray, their account will be charged an additional amount.

*Please Note: **Our school policy does not permit:***

- **fast food being brought in for consumption in our cafeteria.**
- **any type of carbonated drinks.**
- **any type of drink in a glass container.**

Free or reduced lunches are available to children of parents whose income is within certain ranges. Forms are available at the school office.

**Make-Up Work:** Assignments missed during a short or long term absence should be made up on return. Students have the same number of days to make-up work as days missed. If parents decide that their child is able to work at home, a message requesting make-up work received before 9:30 AM. will be honored for pick up after 3:00 p.m. Requests for make-up work received later in the day (after 9:30 AM.) will be honored the following day.

**Messages:** Our office hours are 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM, Monday-Friday.

**Messages to Students:** Only messages of an emergency nature will be immediately communicated to students.

**Messages to Teachers:** Calls will be received by the office staff between 7:30 AM and 3:30 PM.

Messages for teachers to return calls will be placed in their mailboxes or forwarded by email at the school.

Parents may also contact teachers via email. Teacher hours end at 3:30 PM. Teachers cannot be called to the phone for calls during school hours.

**Moment of Silence:** The General Assembly of Georgia has enacted a law requiring a moment of quiet reflection at the opening of school each day. Dyer students observe a sixty second quiet time in each classroom during the morning announcements.

**Newsletter:** The *Dragon Tales* is posted on the Dyer website the last Friday of the month. The newsletter will provide parents with information about PTA and other school activities. Classroom teachers will post a classroom newsletter the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month..

**“No Idling: Little Lungs at Work”:** Dyer is participating in a no idling zone partnership with The Clean Air Campaign. We are improving air quality and creating a healthier environment for our children by reducing engine idling on our school grounds and in our community. Parents will turn off their engines while waiting for students on school grounds. School bus drivers will also eliminate unnecessary idling. You can participate by turning off your car in the school’s “No Idling Zone” and reducing idling wherever you are, such as the fast food drive-thru, banks, pharmacies, and the dry cleaners.

**Parent Conferences:** Parents need to be aware of their child's educational experiences and progress, and teachers need to partner with parents to ensure academic achievement. Parent - teacher conferences are an ideal way to strengthen this partnership. Teachers are available for conferences either before or after the hours of student attendance. Administrators have an open door policy and are always happy to help with the resolution of parent concerns. However, we do ask that you speak to your child's teacher about any concerns prior to speaking with administrators. Dyer's teachers are always willing to discuss issues that are of a concern to parents. Parents may arrange conferences with teachers, administrators, or Dyer's counselor by telephoning the school office.

**Parent-Teacher Communication:** Parents are encouraged to maintain frequent communication with their child's teacher(s). Teachers will return parent phone calls within 24 hours and respond to e-mails at the end of the school day or the beginning of the next day.

**Parties:** County policy allows for two parties per year on days designated by the individual school. Dyer students have a Winter Holiday Party and a Spring Party. Check the calendar portion of the handbook for specific dates. ***No other parties, including birthday parties, are allowed.*** Out of school party invitations may only be distributed during non-instructional time and to all class members.

**Birthdays:** Parents are permitted to bring cupcakes, cookies or a wrapped treat during a student's lunch time to celebrate a birthday. Please be aware that some children may have allergies and may not be able to eat a treat. No balloons, party favors or additional food items (chips, pizza, drinks etc.) are allowed. The school will not accept delivery of celebratory items such as flowers and balloons.

**Personal Property:** Students should not bring large sums of money, toys, expensive jewelry or expensive articles of clothing to school. **The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.**

**Pictures:** School pictures are taken in the fall and in the spring. These are offered as an option to students and parents. Specific details will be sent home prior to the week of pictures. Picture dates for the current year can be found in the calendar section of this handbook.

**Promotion / Retention:** Promotion / retention is based on the student's mastery of the Academic Knowledge and Skills for the student's current grade level. Additional requirements are as follows:

**Third Grade:** Third grade students must meet (level 2) or exceed (level 3) the standards performance levels on the Georgia CRCT Reading Test.

**Fourth Grade:** Fourth grade students must meet (level 2) or exceed (level 3) the standards performance levels on the Language Arts, Reading, and Mathematics, and Science portions of the CRCT to be promoted to 5th grade; demonstrate proficiency of the Social Studies grade level AKS; and receive a passing score on the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Reasoning Test

**Fifth Grade:** Fifth grade students must meet (level 2) or exceed (level 3) the standards performance levels on the Georgia CRCT Reading Test and Math Test; and receive a passing score on the Georgia 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Assessment.

**PTA:** Dyer has an active and supportive PTA. We encourage you to join PTA either as a family or as an individual. Our PTA funds support many activities and materials for our students. This organization offers parents and teachers an opportunity to plan and work together as partners in the education of children. Help is needed on committees such as: Volunteers, Room Mothers, Yearbook, PTA Fund-raiser, Media & Technology and Hospitality. Plan to get involved by being a part of a dynamic PTA organization! Please check our calendar for PTA meetings for 2011 - 2012.

#### **PTA Officers 2011 -2012**

Co-President: Amanda Henderson & Amy St. Victor

Vice-president: Jane Botz

Secretary: Angelique Nasah

Treasurer: Jennifer Lanehart

**Report Cards:** Report Cards are issued every 9 weeks. These dates are listed on the website calendar.

**School Council:** School Councils were established in all Georgia Schools as part of THE A+REFORM ACT of 2000.

The intent of school councils "is to bring communities and schools closer together in a spirit of cooperation,...and bring parents into the school-based decision-making process." The role of school councils will be to provide "advice, recommendations, and assistance and represent the community of parents and business." Councils will have the opportunity to influence not only the instructional process in the school but also the perceptions of and support for public education in the community. Monthly meeting dates and times will be posted and open to the public.

**School Store:** Dyer's school store is open each morning from 7:45-8:05. Students may purchase school supplies and snacks at competitive prices.

**Security Plan:** Our school has a security plan to provide a safe environment for our students. Our plan requires that all visitors check in at the office before initiating any school business. We also request that parents refrain from walking his/her children to their classrooms. If this is necessary on a given day, a parent would need to come directly to the front office and sign in to get a visitor's badge. Your support of this procedure is very important to our safety and security.

**Spirit Wear:** Spirit wear is available for purchase during the school year. Each Friday is spirit wear day at Dyer.

**Student Placement in Classes:** Please be reminded that all students are temporarily placed in classes until the end of the first few weeks of school. At that time, significant changes in enrollment within any grade level may require the redistribution of students. In such cases, the final determination about which students are to be changed will be made by the principal. Every effort will be made to be as fair and impartial as possible with a request for volunteers being made first. Our goal will be to keep disruptions to a minimum. We ask for your patience and understanding in the event that changes need to be made.

**Tardies:** Prompt arrival to school is expected and appreciated. If your arrival time prevents your child from being in class at 8:15, then you must accompany the student to the office and sign the student into school. Students who accumulate excessive tardies may not be eligible to participate in clubs or activities.

**Telephone Calls:** Children are not permitted to use the school telephone. In the event of a missed bus or emergency the school office will make the call. Encourage your child to be responsible for classroom materials, after school activity plans and payment of fees. Call your child only in case of emergency. Students will not be taken out of class for telephone calls.

**Testing Program:** Standardized testing and system testing will occur during the year for the following students:

**Kindergarten** Georgia Kindergarten Assessment Program (GKIDS) – August-May

**Grade 1** CogAT - September

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT) – April

**Grade 2** Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency

Test (CRCT) – April

**Grade 3** CogAT - September ITBS – October

Georgia Writing Assessment - March

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency

Test (CRCT) – April

**Grade 4** Gateway Math Reasoning Test - March

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency

Test (CRCT) - April

**Grade 5** CogAT - September ITBS - October

Grade 5 Writing Test – March

Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency

Test (CRCT) – April

**Transportation Changes:** If transportation arrangements for students to go home need to change on any day, you must send a written note to your child's teacher. In this note, you need to include the following information: your child's name, teacher's name, your name, his/her usual transportation home, the *new* arrangements, and your signature. If your child is going home with another student we will need full name of that student and contact information. We cannot accept phone requests to alter arrangements.

**Visitors:** To ensure the safety and security of our school community, we ask that all parents sign in at the office when visiting the school. Any parent who is walking in the halls without a visitors badge will be asked to return to the office to obtain one. Students will only be released through the office. Staff members have been instructed **not** to release any student from the classroom directly to any adult, including parents. This is a safeguard for all children and is an integral part of our security plan.

Our parents are always welcome in our building as we work to promote parent partnerships. However, we require that parents wishing to visit a classroom for a drop-in or extended visit speak with your child's teacher to schedule a convenient time. This advance notice is important as schedules can change. **Your cooperation will minimize disruptions to students' instructional program and activities.** Please do not attempt to conference with teachers during instructional time. All visitors must check in at the office and obtain a visitor's badge before visiting classrooms.

**Lunch Visitors:** In addition, parents are welcome to come and have lunch with their child (special tables are reserved for lunch visitors). Due to space limitations and safety issues, other students are not permitted to eat with you and your child. Parents are prohibited from bringing outside "fast food", carbonated drinks or glass into the cafeteria for lunch. After lunch, please say good-bye to your child when leaving the cafeteria. We prohibit parents from accompanying their child back to class or to the playground. Any child not enrolled at Dyer is not permitted on the playground area.

**Yearbook:** A school yearbook featuring students, staff members, and school activities will be available for purchase in the fall and will be distributed in May.