



OP TIMES

The Onionpatch
Academy

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Back to Basics



Although summer is not over we will be using the month of August to prepare our students for September and the new school term. We will explore foundational concepts such as shapes, colors, numbers and letters.

In Week One - Colors.

In Week Two - Shapes.

In Week Three - Numbers.

In Week Four - Letters.

In our Bible stories students will hear of some of the well-known characters such as Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego who used their belief in themselves and the power of God to overcome challenges.



8 August – Chicken/Cheese Quesadillas & Fruit Kabobs

15 August – Spaghetti & Meatballs

22 August – Fish Sticks & Corn

29 August – Meat Lasagna & Garlic Bread

Popsicle days are every Tuesdays and Thursdays for the months of July, August and September. \$1 per popsicle.

New Students

We welcome to the Onionpatch Family:

Gia Wales
Spencer Holland
Taran Hollis
Seige Sarawagi

Upcoming Birthdays

3 August – ZaRyah Holman
8 August – Hunter Roy
15 August – Jalen Smith
17 August – Isaiah Lightbourne
16 August – Ava Simons
22 August – Roman Simmons
27 August – Sarai Minors
31 August – Nasir Beckham

Aquamania



Aquamania is scheduled for every day, Monday thru Thursday for the first 2 weeks in August at 10:30 am – 11:30 am. Aquamania will be held pool at the National Sports Centre. Please remember to send your child dressed in their appropriate swimming wear with sunblock already applied. An extra set of clothes and towel will be needed. We are kindly suggesting that a brown paper bag lunch be provided as are allocated time is very close to our lunch period.

Class Transitions

Please note due to the fact that our Preschoolers will not be leaving us until mid September, there will be no class transitions until that time.

SAVE THE DATE – Parent meetings:

Lower school (under 2s) – Sept 8 from 5-6pm
Upper school (over 2s) – Sept 9 from 5-6pm
Meetings will be held in the Church Hall.

Notices for uniform orders and extracurricular activities will be out mid month.

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We wish to thank you for your support during our 2013-2014 school year.

During our Administrative/Professional Development Days at the end of July, we were able to conduct a number of workshops and discussions on ways to improve our service. We thank you again for participating in the 2014 Parent Survey.

We tried to address all the concerns raised in the survey:

- organization – we have implemented new internal policies to assist with this
 - classroom sizes – do to the limitations of the space, we believe that the current layout is the most efficient use of the space but we are always looking to ways to improve the space and appreciate your thoughts and comments
 - student-teacher ratio – we are in compliance with the current regulations and this was confirmed by a recent visit by the Health Inspector
 - communication books – new books will be arriving soon which we hope will assist in improvements in this area
 - communication regarding delinquent accounts are usually dealt with directly with the individuals but on occasion it is necessary to send out mass communication in this regard
 - daily communication is sent out collectively between management and staff. Ms Nakia is the Person In Charge and is responsible for the day to day running of the facilities. However the Owners are kept abreast of all activities in the facility at all times.
 - The school has a challenging behaviors policy (found on the website) but do ask that parents assist in discipline. We have had a number of events this past year where children were allowed to run around while parents sat and talked or watched. It is expected that parents will assist in controlling their own children at external events such as Sports Day, Graduation, etc.
 - Staff retention – this is a particularly challenging profession and retention of staff is not always possible. We do our best to inform parents and ensure that disruptions due to staff changes are minimal. We also engage our staff in professional development and regular discussions to ensure any challenges or issues are addressed as soon as possible.
- Notices for activities – we will do our best to ensure sufficient notice is given
 - Prices of items – please note that there is no mark up on the cost of school uniforms or extra curricular activities so the prices charged are what is paid directly to the vendor. Field trips often include the cost of transportation and not much else.
 - The cost of food is expensive in Bermuda and since our parents, from the last surveys, requested healthy lunches, we have to take this into consideration when we purchase food supplies. We do our best to minimize costs by shopping in bulk and on discount days. We believe the \$8 cost for hot lunches is reasonable and parents have the option to purchase or not purchase the hot lunches, etc. Please recall this was one of the survey questions and the majority of parents opted to have these items remain separate rather than incorporate them in the school fees.
 - Most schools in Bermuda either incorporate extra curricular fees in with school fees or have them as add-ons. We think the add-on option gives parents more choice in which activities they wish their children to be involved in.
 - Please also note it is common to compare schools but please note that each school is unique in its organization, location, fee structure, staffing, curriculum, etc.
 - Each year we undertake parent surveys as part of our continued commitment to quality service and value for money. We incorporate many of the parent ideas and suggestions and do our best to address concerns as quickly as possible.

Classes for 2014-2015 school year:

Baby Onions – Ms Lyndell and Ms Bean

Little Onions – Ms Naadei

Shallots – Ms Aruna

Green Onions 1 – Ms Nakia and Ms Stephanie

Green Onions 2 – Ms Danelle

Pearl Onions – Ms Veronica

The new Academic Calendars should be available for purchase at the end of August.

A revised school calendar is available and will be emailed out to you and placed on the school website.

Thank you again for your continued support!