

Immaculate Conception School

# JANUARY NEWSLETTER

## TIME TO RE-REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR!

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe, but it's time to start thinking about the 2025-2026 school year at Immaculate Conception School of Special Education! To ensure your child's spot in the classroom, it's time to re-register for the upcoming school year.

We will soon send home re-registration information with all the details you need to secure your child's place for next year. The process is simple, but it is important to act quickly, as spots are limited and our classrooms fill up fast. With our upcoming partnership with ABLE KIDS, there are already waiting lists for some of our classrooms for next year.

Please be sure to complete the re-registration forms as soon as you receive them to guarantee your child's continued enrollment at our school. Don't hesitate to contact the front desk if you have any questions or need assistance with the re-registration process. If you are not planning on enrolling for next year, please send in a written and signed note immediately.

Thank you for being part of our school community! We look forward to another successful year of learning, growth, and achievement.

Re-register today, and let's continue this journey together!



## SPEECH AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICES STILL AVAILABLE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

At Immaculate Conception School of Special Education, we are dedicated to supporting all our students' academic and developmental needs. As part of our ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality education and care, we are pleased to continue to offer speech and occupational therapies each Monday in partnership with Wellstar Health /Augusta University. These services enhance students' communication, motor skills, and overall functional abilities, helping them thrive in the classroom and beyond.

### How to Sign Up for Speech and Occupational Therapy Services

Parents interested in enrolling their child in speech and/or occupational therapy must follow a simple process:

1. Request a Packet from Ms. Daphne: Parents should contact Ms. Daphne at the front desk to request the necessary paperwork. She will provide you with all the forms you need to get started.
2. Complete and Submit the Paperwork: After receiving the packet, the parent or guardian must complete the paperwork and submit it directly to Wellstar Health. All of the necessary instructions for submitting the documents will be provided in the packet.
3. Insurance and Invoicing: Once Wellstar reviews and approves the paperwork, they will invoice the family directly for the therapy services. The Wellstar team will also handle all insurance filings, making the process seamless for you.

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS FOR THE 2025-2-26 SCHOOL YEAR

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE SEVERAL NEW PARTNERSHIPS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR. WE WILL BE PARTNERING WITH ABLE KIDS! THEREFORE, ABA SERVICES WILL BE OFFERED. IN ADDITION, WE ARE PARTNERING WITH AUGUSTA TECH TO PROVIDE DUAL ENROLLMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT LEARNERS. WE WILL ALSO OFFER CLASSES THROUGH GEORGIA VIRTUAL FOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. LASTLY, WE ARE PARTNERING WITH AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY TO ALLOW THEIR SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY MASTER LEVEL STUDENTS TO DO THEIR STUDENT TEACHING AT IC. WE MAY ALSO BE PARTNERING WITH THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB TO PROVIDE AN AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM AND SUMMER PROGRAM. STAY TUNED AS WE CONTINUE TO GROW AND EXPAND WHAT WE CAN OFFER.





# RICHMOND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SPEECH SERVICES FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS

IN ADDITION TO THE THERAPY SERVICES PROVIDED BY WELLSTAR, THERE IS AN IMPORTANT OPTION FOR PARENTS WHO WOULD LIKE THEIR CHILD TO RECEIVE FREE SPEECH THERAPY THROUGH THE RICHMOND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

IF YOUR CHILD PREVIOUSLY HAD SPEECH SERVICES OUTLINED IN THEIR IEP (INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN) BEFORE ENROLLING AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, YOU CAN REQUEST CONTINUED SPEECH SERVICES THROUGH RICHMOND COUNTY. HERE' S HOW:

1. CONTACT RICHMOND COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION: PARENTS NEED TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AT RICHMOND COUNTY AND REQUEST THAT THEIR CHILD RECEIVE SPEECH SERVICES WHILE ATTENDING IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION.

2. SPEECH SERVICES PROVIDED BY RICHMOND COUNTY: ONCE THE REQUEST IS PROCESSED, RICHMOND COUNTY MAY PROVIDE SPEECH THERAPY IN ONE OF TWO WAYS:

- A. AN SLP (SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST) MAY COME TO THE SCHOOL TWICE A WEEK TO PROVIDE SERVICES.
- B. ALTERNATIVELY, RICHMOND COUNTY MAY OFFER ONLINE THERAPY SESSIONS TWICE A WEEK FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.

IT' S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT SPEECH SERVICES ARE THE ONLY SERVICES RICHMOND COUNTY MUST PROVIDE TO PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS. THESE SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE AT NO COST TO FAMILIES, MAKING IT A GREAT OPTION FOR THOSE WHO QUALIFY.

## WHY SPEECH AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MATTER

BOTH SPEECH AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIES PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN A CHILD' S DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS. THESE THERAPIES IMPROVE CRITICAL SKILLS, ENHANCING COMMUNICATION, MOTOR FUNCTIONS, AND OVERALL INDEPENDENCE. BY OFFERING THESE THERAPIES ON-SITE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, STUDENTS CAN RECEIVE THE SUPPORT THEY NEED WITHOUT MISSING OUT ON THEIR ACADEMIC SCHEDULES.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- FOR SPEECH AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SIGN-UP, CONTACT MS. DAPHNE AT THE FRONT DESK.
  - FOR RICHMOND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SPEECH SERVICES, CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AT RICHMOND COUNTY.
  - FOR ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THERAPY SERVICES OR PAPERWORK, CALL US AT 706-722-9964.
- WE LOOK FORWARD TO PARTNERING WITH YOU TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD' S EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY!
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# THE IMPORTANCE OF A ROBUST STEM PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

STEM EDUCATION IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER, BUT FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, PURSUING CAREERS IN THESE FIELDS CAN SEEM DAUNTING. AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION, OUR ROBUST STEM PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO EMPOWER STUDENTS, OFFERING NOT JUST ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES BUT ALSO PERSONAL GROWTH, REAL-WORLD SKILLS, AND CAREER PATHWAYS.

## 1. DEVELOPING PROBLEM-SOLVING AND CRITICAL THINKING

STEM EDUCATION ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO ENGAGE IN HANDS-ON, PROJECT-BASED LEARNING, FOSTERING SKILLS LIKE PROBLEM-SOLVING, CREATIVITY, AND PERSEVERANCE. THESE ARE ESSENTIAL FOR SUCCESS BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM, BUILDING CONFIDENCE AND RESILIENCE.

## 2. PREPARING FOR FUTURE CAREERS

WITH GROWING DEMAND IN STEM FIELDS, OUR PROGRAM PROVIDES SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN CODING, ROBOTICS, AND ENGINEERING, GIVING STUDENTS THE SKILLS NEEDED FOR HIGH-DEMAND, WELL-PAYING CAREERS.

## 3. BUILDING SELF-CONFIDENCE AND INDEPENDENCE

STEM'S INTERACTIVE NATURE ALLOWS STUDENTS TO SEE IMMEDIATE RESULTS FROM THEIR WORK, BOOSTING THEIR SELF-ESTEEM AND FOSTERING GREATER INDEPENDENCE.

## 4. FOSTERING SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL GROWTH

STEM PROJECTS OFTEN INVOLVE COLLABORATION, TEAMWORK, AND COMMUNICATION—CRUCIAL SKILLS FOR ALL STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WITH SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES.

## 5. REAL-WORLD LEARNING

STEM EDUCATION CONNECTS STUDENTS WITH PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS, MAKING LEARNING RELEVANT AND MOTIVATING THEM TO PURSUE CAREERS IN TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND OTHER FIELDS. THIS REAL-WORLD FOCUS MAKES STEM ENGAGING AND MEANINGFUL.

## 6. CLOSING EDUCATIONAL GAPS

A SPECIALIZED STEM PROGRAM HELPS ADDRESS THE UNIQUE LEARNING NEEDS OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, CLOSING EDUCATIONAL GAPS AND OFFERING INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT TO ENSURE SUCCESS.

AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, WE CONTINUE TO REFINE OUR STEM PROGRAM, INCORPORATING NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES TO ENSURE EVERY STUDENT IS PREPARED FOR THE FUTURE. OUR MISSION IS SIMPLE: TO EMPOWER STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS TO PURSUE THEIR PASSIONS, EXCEL ACADEMICALLY, AND SUCCEED IN THEIR CAREERS.



# REMINDER 🌟

AFTER 8 YEARS OF KEEPING OUR SCHOOL LUNCHES PRICED WHERE THEY ARE, INFLATION HAS FINALLY TAKEN ITS TOLE ON OUR SCHOOL. GOING FORWARD, ALL SCHOOL LUNCHES ARE BEING RAISED IN PRICE BY \$1.00. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING

## PICTURE RETAKES AND CLASS PICTURES

- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5  
AFTER MASS---ALL STUDENTS MUST BE IN FULL MASS UNIFORM

