
New Family Information

Some helpful tips and facts about life at Geneva



We want you, as a new family, to feel welcome at Geneva. Below you will find a collection of ideas and facts about the school that we hope will give you an understanding of who we are to help you be a part of our community. If you have any other questions, please let us know and we can add them to our list. Welcome!

CLASSROOM SUGGESTIONS

1. Write down a list of all the kids in your child's class and the classroom moms - you'll find yourself referencing these often! Keep a directory at hand.
2. There are tons of ways to get involved - contact Connie Merritt (who is in charge of Room Moms) or Katharine Spires (who is in charge of mom-hosted events). If you know your child's Room Mom contact them too!
3. It is immensely helpful to have all the different & various GA t-shirts in one location, (like your own closet), so you don't ever have to scrounge for them the morning you need it.
4. Download the RenWeb app to your phone. This gives you a directory, grades, a calendar, and more. Visit the school website to find the handbook, dress code, calendar, financial assistance application, and much more.
5. If your child has a birthday, you may bring cupcakes/treats to school and serve them during recess. Coordinate this with the teacher.
6. Some kids bring favors to classmates right before holidays - but most don't. No pressure!
7. The "no lunch until after 12:50 pm for elementary" thing seems intimidating at first. My children quickly adjusted to this schedule and did just fine with just a snack at school. You'll be surprised.
8. If your child ever has an issue with another child in the class, ask your teacher for help, and talk to the other child's parent. We want to know if there's an issue so we can maintain healthy relationships! You'll find that most every family here is like-minded and more than willing to work with you.
9. Be sure to join your child's class group on "Remind"
10. You may be assigned a "host" family. Use them to answer any questions you may have.
11. You are not alone. Several families have joined in the last few years and are still very new to Geneva.
12. If you ever need help carpooling or picking up kids after school many families are willing to help.
13. You can always pack your lunch and take your child to the playground after school. There should be at least one other mom there to chat with (and your children can play!).
14. Find out from your teacher how to watch over homework. Teachers send weekly notes, but you should communicate with them regularly about homework. "Tuesday folders" are sent home in the K-6th each week to keep you informed. These should be signed and returned the next day.
15. We have a Fall Break and a Spring Break which only occasionally coordinate with other schools in the area. This makes our breaks awesome! Our calendar fits the Church calendar and the academic needs of the students first and foremost.

DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Geneva is an orthodox, historic Christian school. We are not denominational, but we are distinctly Reformed. Our desire is that students know the Bible very well and trust and obey Christ.
2. About half of the families attend Church of the Redeemer, West Monroe (formerly Auburn Ave Pres. Church), the original host church to Geneva and where most staff and board members attend. The other half are from over 20 local churches. We have families from most every denominational background. Our statement of faith is not sectarian, but robust, orthodox, and Christian.
3. Approx. 60% of our families live in Monroe, and the other 40% live in West Monroe or the surrounding areas.
4. There are several related families at the school. Geneva is a family of families!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What are the hours of Geneva?

Pre-K: Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:50 - 12:50

Kindergarten: Monday - Thursday from 7:50 - 12:50

1st - 6th: Monday-Friday from 7:50 - 12:50

7th - 12th: Monday - Friday from 7:50 - 3:05.

Q. Why the shorter days for elementary?

Geneva wants healthy students. Healthy students have plenty of time with their parents and families. The modern practice of 8-hour workdays is not best for young children. Historical practices, as well as the practices of other countries, give us numerous examples of school being completed in less hours than the current model in the US. Though it seems difficult at first, you will come to love it, and so will your children.

Q. How early can students be dropped off at school? How late can they be picked up?

7:35 is the earliest drop-off time. Pick-up is at 12:50 (PK-6) and 3:05 (7-12). (See details in Handbook, page 21)

Q. Does Geneva provide after-school care?

There is a program for students who need to stay after to 3:05. It is under the direction of Heidi Lang. Students in After Care will eat lunch, work on homework, and take an afternoon recess.

Q. What are the annual fundraisers at Geneva?

1. The Big Serve
2. Donor Banquet
3. Spring Annual Fund / Raffle drive.

Our school conducts only 2 major fundraisers each year - so they are both super important. Most funds raised during fundraisers are used in our financial aid program, helping families who want a Christian education, but can't meet the full price-tag. We wish to strengthen that each year to assist families in need and to increase our building fund.