



FAQ's

How much recess do they have in Lower Elementary?

The children have approximately 30-45 minutes of recess daily.

Do Lower Elementary have a snack?

Children bring a healthy snack from home and have time each morning to eat a snack in the classroom.

Do children receive homework?

Jarrow elementary students are expected to organize and manage their time to complete their daily assignments at school so the need for traditional homework is eliminated. However, periodically, "homework" might refer to a special project, an outing to the museum or their science fair project. We encourage children to practice math facts at home, to read nightly, either individually, or together as a family, and always for parents to continue to read aloud to their child.

We also see "homework" as an extension of practical life where by they can contribute to the family's well-being, like helping cook meals, set the table, making their own lunch or helping with laundry.

Do children get report cards?

Teachers write progress reports for each child twice a year. The progress reports are sent home before Parent-Teacher conferences each fall and spring.

Do they children take standardized tests?

Children take the Terra Nova Standardized Achievement test in grades 4th through 6th. Test-taking at this age is a practical life skill, and while we do not teach to the test, our students, on average, perform several grade levels above in all curriculum areas tested.

Are there enough students at each age to form an adequate peer group for social development?

Jarrow is a community. As in all communities, relationships among students develop for a variety of reasons. Some students share interests or similar abilities. Some students forge relationships by helping one another. Still, other students work together in the classroom or play together on the soccer field. Just like the "real world", age has little to do with relationships at Jarrow.

Consequently, social development at Jarrow is not the product of a child's age or peer group. It is the product of a rich construct of relationships among students who interact daily in their multi-age classes. Through this interaction, students make friends and learn to value and work with other students of different personalities, abilities, ages, and genders.



Is there learning assistance on-site?

Literacy specialists work on staff at Jarrow to support children with specific types of intervention and added support in and out of the classroom. Private speech and occupational therapists have the ability to work on site, however, these services are not covered by tuition. Teacher observation and formal or informal assessments are the basis for work with a specialist, and if required, further recommendations for professional evaluations are suggested.

How do parents communicate with the teachers?

School notices are sent home via email and a classroom e-newsletter is sent once a month. Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled two times a year, once in the late fall, one in the spring. Should you need to speak to your child's teacher you can email or leave a voicemail by calling the school.

After completing Upper Elementary (grades 4-6th) at Jarrow, what next?

Graduates of Jarrow are typically evenly divided in their choice of public vs. private middle schools. Students are equally successful at either choice and there are many options in Boulder. Jarrow currently has sent graduates to Alexander Dawson School, Boulder Country Day, Casey Middle School, Centennial Middle School, Friends Middle School, Manhattan Middle School, Peak to Peak Charter, Southern Hills, Summit Middle School, and Watershed School

Graduates of Montessori, are typically well-rounded, self-confident students who have strong academic capabilities. They are able to manage choice and independence, seek and find information, and think critically. Students can apply imagination and creativity to problems, work beyond set limits, and seek real understanding of subjects. Self-directed students are often organized learners who manage their time and communicate well, both in oral and written form. They are well equipped to handle the freedom and rigor of any middle school program and beyond. Graduates have a strong preparatory foundation for continued learning throughout their lives.

In addition to academic strength, faculty from other schools thank us for the real-life skills our students possess such as advanced time management, confidence, critical thinking, independence, and effective communication.

