Icahn Charter Schools
1500 Pelham Parkway South • Bronx, New York 10461
Telephone (718) 794-2355 – Fax (718) 794-2358
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Icahn I 1525/1506 Brook Avenue, Bx., NY 10457
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Icahn VI 1701 Fulton Avenue, Bx., NY 10457
Icahn VII 1535 Story Avenue, Bronx, New York 10473
****United States Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School***

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ICAHN CHARTER SCHOOLS

STUDENT HANDBOOK

KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 4

2020-2021

Icahn Charter Schools are chartered by the New York State Board of Regents and the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute and is a result of the collaborative efforts of the Foundation for A Greater Opportunity and the Center for Educational Innovation-Public Education Association. The Icahn Charter Schools are public schools open to all children on a space available basis, by lottery.

Icahn Charter Schools

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Our Mission

Icahn Charter Schools, using the Core Knowledge Curriculum developed by E.D. Hirsch, will provide students in grades K-8 with a rigorous academic program offered in an extended day/year setting. Students will complete the 8th grade armed with the skills and knowledge to participate successfully in the most rigorous academic environments, and will have a sense of personal and community responsibility.



ICAHN CHARTER SCHOOLS

SCHOOL CALENDAR
2020-2021

★ PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THIS IS A **TENTATIVE** CALENDAR AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME. ALL DAYS THAT STUDENTS ARE IN SESSION MAY BE WITHIN THE BUILDING, COMPLETELY REMOTE FROM HOME, OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH (HYBRID).

Tuesday through the following Tuesday	September 1-4 & September 8	All Staff Report for Professional Development **(There will be no classes)**
Monday	September 7	Labor Day **(Schools Closed)**
Wednesday	September 9	First Day of School **(Remote Learning ONLY)**
Monday	September 28	Yom Kippur **(Schools Closed)**
Monday	October 5	First Day of Hybrid Instruction **(In-Person/Remote)**
Monday	October 12	Indigenous Peoples' Day **(Schools Closed)**
Tuesday	November 3	Election Day **(No Classes)** ***All staff report for Professional Development**
Wednesday	November 11	Veterans' Day **(Schools Closed)**
Thursday – Friday	November 26 & 27	Thanksgiving Recess **(Schools Closed)**
Wednesday through the following Friday	December 23- January 1	Winter Recess (including New Year's Day) **(Schools Closed)** ***All staff & students return on Monday, January 4th**
Monday	January 18	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day **(Schools Closed)**
Friday	February 12	Lunar New Year **(Schools Closed)**
Monday – Friday	February 15-19	Midwinter Recess (including President's Day) **(Schools Closed)** ***All staff & students return Monday, February 22nd**
Monday through the following Monday	March 29-April 5	Spring Recess (including Good Friday & Passover) **(Schools Closed)** ***All staff & students return Tuesday, April 6th**
Thursday	May 13	Eid al-Fitr **(Schools Closed)**
Monday	May 31	Memorial Day **(Schools Closed)**
Friday	June 18	Juneteenth observed **(Schools Closed)**
Friday	July 2	Last Day for Students and School Staff **(12:00 p.m. Dismissal)**

*Network staff, principals/office staff/staff developer/security report until July 31st

Why We Are Here

All the boys and girls and all the teachers at Icahn Charter Schools are here because they wanted to be here. In most other schools, children are sent to the school that is near their homes. At our school, many children live far away and come to school by bus or car.

Why do you think that your parents wanted you to go to our school? What do your parents expect of you? Name three (3) things about our school that is different from other schools.

Your parents wanted an exciting education program for you. They also wanted a small school so that you would get all the help that you need.

Our first school was a gift from Mr. Carl C. Icahn. It was a brand new school.

Why do you think that Mr. Icahn built a new school for us?

We are here to learn all the things that will help us when we are older. We are here to learn about the world around us. We are here to do the best we can. We are here to make our families and teachers proud of our work.

The best way to show our parents and Mr. Icahn that we are thankful for being here is by always doing our best, listening to our teacher, coming to school everyday and by finishing all our work.

Student Attendance

The children at Icahn Charter Schools learn many things that children in other schools learn in higher grades. To learn all the things that we have to, we must be in school everyday unless we are sick. When we return to school from an absence, we must return with a note from our parent/guardian or the doctor, and we must catch up on the work that we missed. We must always remember that our teacher does not stop teaching when we are absent.

We can have good attendance by taking care of ourselves and staying healthy. We should eat proper foods, dress properly and go to bed early. The stronger we are, the healthier we are. Let's think of all the things we can do to stay healthy.

When we come to school on time, we are **punctual**. All classes begin at 8:30 A.M. Our teachers begin teaching at that time. We miss important lessons when we are late.

Can you think of three (3) ways to make sure that we are in school on time?

Let's remember that we have a very important job as students.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS
every student, every day

Medication

Children are not to have over-the-counter or prescription drugs on their person. In the event that a child requires medication, and a doctor's note is on file, the medication will be kept in the nurse's office for the child to take. Parents/Guardians will have to pick up the medication and return it the next day if they need to have the medication at home after school. Over-the-counter medication will be administered in the nurse's office upon the written parent/guardian request and a 504 form, which will indicate the type of medication (Tylenol, etc.), amount and frequency.



Dress Code

All students at Icahn Charter Schools are required to wear a school uniform. The uniform is a white shirt or blouse and navy blue pants or skirts. Only students in Kindergarten – Grade 2 may wear shorts to school when it is hot out. When it's cold outside, you may wear a navy blue school sweater or your own navy blue sweater.

Dress shoes or sneakers may be worn. Students are not to wear jackets, hooded sweatshirts, coats, or any outer clothing in the school. Hats are not permitted to be worn in the school.

Let's remember…"You are preparing for college today".

- A more detailed Uniform Policy can be found in the Icahn Charter Schools Parent Handbook.

Conduct

At all times, children are expected to behave properly. This includes:

1. Showing respect for fellow students
2. Showing respect for adults
3. Showing respect for our school
4. Taking care of school books and property

Did anyone ever call you a name that upset you? Did anyone ever tell you something that made you feel bad? Would you want to make other children feel that way? Do you speak properly to the other children? If we treat other children properly, we will have more friends who want to play and share with us.

Can you think of three (3) ways to show respect for other children?

Our school has many adults who take care of us. They make sure that we are safe, healthy, eat well and learn all things there are to learn. The adults in our school are here because they care about us. Many of them have children in our school. We should treat them with respect at all times.

Can you think of three (3) ways to show the adults respect?

Our school is beautiful. It is shiny, clean and safe. Our responsibility as students includes showing respect for our school. Let's all try to do some nice things that show our respect for the school.

Can you name three (3) ways to show respect for our school?

Our books and materials were bought to help us learn all we can. All students are responsible for the taking care of the books and property. We learn better with books that are in good condition. The balls and ropes are fun at recess. The jungle gym is fun to climb on and slide down. It is our job to take care of the equipment so that all children have a good time.

Chromebooks

Icahn Charter schools go to great expense to ensure that our students have all necessary and up to date texts, as well as each child having their own computer, called a Chromebook. Unfortunately, in the past, a few children vandalized and thereby destroyed their Chromebooks. Parents had to reimburse the school to replace the Chromebook. This is a reminder that **parents will be responsible** for ensuring that their child takes proper care of all school materials.



Homework

Homework is very important. It is the way in which we show our teachers how well we understand what they taught us. If we miss our homework, our teachers do not know if they need to teach the lesson again or go to the next lesson.

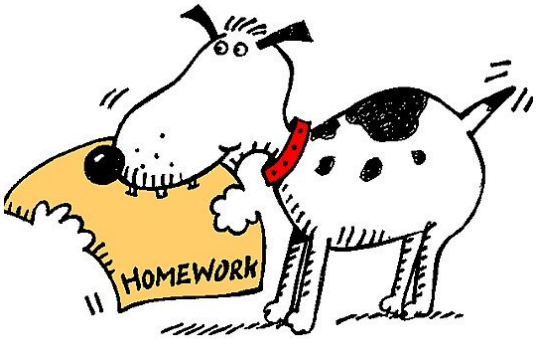
Homework is our responsibility. That means that no one should do our homework for us. It is okay to make a mistake on homework.

Why do you think this is true? What happens if an adult does our homework?

Homework must be completed every night. It should be neat and clean and brought to school the next day.

The best homework is done…

- In a quiet place at home
- Without a television or radio on
- On a table or desk with a light
- Before it is to late at night



Tests

The way in which we can show how much we know is by taking a test. It also shows what we need to learn. Tests are easy when we know what the teacher has taught us. We do well on a spelling test when we know the words that our teacher has taught. We do well on a mathematics test when we pay attention in class, study at home and do all our homework.

Sometimes we take tests that are different from the tests that our teacher gives us. All children in our grade take the same tests. This is our chance to show how much we have learned and studied. We should try very hard to do as well as we can on all tests.

Our score on tests tells our teachers if they need to go over the lesson again.

We will be in school for many, many years. All schools will give us tests. Homework assignments are almost like tests. The better we do our homework, the better our test scores will be.

Can you name three (3) ways to do well on a test?



Monthly Syllabus

All children will receive a list each month that tells our families and us what we will learn. This is called a syllabus.

A syllabus is very important. If we look at the syllabus, we will know what we will learn in science, social studies, mathematics, reading, art, music, geography and all the other subjects.

Did you know that all the children in your grade have the same syllabus?

Who do you think we write the syllabus for?

Progress Reports

We all worked very hard. We listened carefully to our teacher, finished all our assignments and completed all our homework. Because of that, we did well on our tests. And now, it's time to let everyone know how well we did.

You will receive a Progress Report six (6) times a year. A progress report tells our families how well we are doing in school. It also tells them about our attendance and conduct. All children must bring the progress report home and then back to school after our families have read it and signed it.

Promotional Requirements

Icahn Charter Schools follows a rigorous Core Knowledge curriculum in all subjects. The curriculum is supported by the McGraw-Hill Reading and Mathematics programs.

Promotion to the next grade requires satisfactory performance in the following areas:

- Attendance ... children are required to be present in school 90% of the school year, unless absences are certified by a doctor, or an emergency existed.

- Class work ... children are required to perform at a satisfactory level of proficiency level for all subject areas. In addition, students in Grades 3-8 **must achieve level 3 or higher on NYS English Language Arts and Mathematics exams**. A level 3 or higher is also required on the NYS Science Exam.

- Teacher judgment will be given serious consideration if the teacher believes that the actual performance level is higher than test scores, and that the child will be able to perform satisfactory on the next grade level.

Responsibility of Students

Respect for learning:

- We always come to school on time
- We complete all of our homework every night
- We do our work neatly and carefully
- We listen when the teacher or classmate is peaking
- We raise our hand when we wish to ask or answer a question

Respecting the feelings of others:

- Be polite and friendly to others
- Never tease anyone
- Never call anyone by a name that is hurtful
- Try to help someone when they make a mistake

The use of appropriate language at all times:

We never use curse words

We talk to each other with respect at all times

We do not call people names that hurt their feelings

Trip and neighborhood walk safety:

- We always wear our nametags on trips and walks
- We stay on line with our partner
- We do not run
- We sit still on busses or trains
- We walk quietly so that we do not disturb others
- We always take a partner when using a bathroom

Respect for the property of others:

- We do not take anything from someone without asking
- We treat other people's property with respect
- We always return things we borrow

Respect for school property:

- We never write in library books
- We do not tear pages from any book
- We do not write on walls or desks
- We do not throw books or school property
- We behave properly in the bathroom
- We keep our school neat and clean
- We pick up something that we dropped
- We do not touch student displays

Getting along with other children:

- We do not yell at other children
- We never hit other children
- We talk to someone about our feelings
- We ask a teacher to help us if we have a problem

Following directions from school staff:

- We never leave the classroom without permission
- We stay with our class at all times
- We always talk to teachers with respect

Arriving to school on time:

- We always come to school on time
- We come to school ready to learn
- If we are late or absent, we bring a note from our parent/guardian or doctor

Proper ways to solve problems with peers:

- We explain to others how we feel
- We ask a teacher to help us solve a problem
- We stay with our class at all times
- We always talk to teachers with respect

The Dignity For All Students Act (DASA)

New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function.

If you believe you, or someone else, has been the target of harassment, bullying, including cyber bullying or discrimination, please use the bullying incident reporting form to report all allegations. You may also contact one of our DASA coordinators to report information.

- A more detailed explanation of the New York State's Dignity for All Students Act can be found in the Icahn Charter Schools Parent Handbook.



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RECEIPT/REVIEW OF 2020-2021



o STUDENT HANDBOOK: KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 4



I have read the Student Handbook and reviewed it with my parent/guardian. I will do my best to work hard, and to follow the Icahn Charter Schools Code of Conduct.



Icahn Charter School # _____



Student Name _____ **Grade/Teacher** _____



Parent Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____





