The MINK TIMES



Keeping our Calhoun Community Connected

August 2026

Welcome back, Calhoun Minks! We are excited to begin another wonderful school year filled with learning, growth, and school spirit. Our teachers and staff have been working hard to prepare for an amazing year ahead. We look forward to partnering with our families to make 2026-2027 a successful and memorable year for every student!



FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Mink families,

I hope you had a great summer break. We are excited to welcome our students back for another wonderful year at Calhoun School! We have many exciting events planned for this school year. Make sure to read this newsletter each month and follow us on our official Calhoun School Facebook page. This year, our teachers will also be communicating exclusively through Class Dojo. Many of you already are connected through it, but if you haven't, go ahead and download the free app to your phone. You can also access it on your computer.

I would like to welcome two new teachers to our team: Mrs. Sierra Rutherford joins us as a Kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Rutherford has 4 years of teaching experience in Hamilton County. She is a native of Polk County and is excited to be a Mink. Miss Gracie Hixson joins us as our new 5th and 6th grade math teacher. Miss Hixson spent last year teaching math at Stuart Elementary School in Cleveland. She lives in Riceville and is excited to be teaching in her community. Please welcome these ladies the next time you are in the building.

Finally, I would like to encourage you to get involved with our PTO this year. They will have many opportunities for you to serve our students and teachers throughout the year. Look for information on how to get involved soon.

I am looking forward to another successful year at our school. As always, my door is open to meet with you. Don't hesitate to call or stop by at any time. Go Minks!

Jon Franks
Principal
Calhoun Elementary School
423-336-2974

Mr. Jon Franks



THE MINK TIMES

AUGUST

2026

Minks

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 Open House 4:00-6:30 Taste of China	5 Students' First Day Dismissal @ 10:30	6 ELECTION DAY No School	7 First Full Day of School	8
9	10	11 Dine to Donate @Dos Bros	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Basketball Car Wash 9-1
23	24	25 Fall Pictures & 8th grade Cap & Gown Pictures	26	27 Dine to Donate @Buffalo Wild Wings	28	29
30	31					

ONE TEAM. ONE MINK NATION.



CALHOUN MINKS

AUGUST 2026 MENU

All Students receive breakfast and lunch each school day at no charge.
A la Carte sales are available in each school and extra menu items may be purchased.
Milk, Juice and Fruit will be included in each breakfast meal.
A cold lunch is available daily.

REMEMBER TO START YOUR DAY WITH **BREAKFAST!**

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

Check link below for your school menu

https://familytitan12.com

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	**4**	**5** BREAKFAST ONLY Fruit Milk Muffin/Cheese Stick	**6** NO SCHOOL	**7** Pizza Sticks Marinara Sauce Seasoned Corn Leafy Green Salad Fruit Milk Sausage Biscuit
10 Chicken Nuggets Creamed Potatoes Broccoli w cheese Baked Roll Fruit Milk Pancake Pup	**11** Taco Meat w baked tostitos Chopped Trimmings Salsa Refried Beans Fruit Milk Poptart/Cheese Stick	**12** Hamburger on bun Fresh Trimmings Baked Fries Fruit Milk Donuts	**13** Chicken Casserole Creamed Potatoes Green Beans Baked Roll Fruit Milk Yogurt Parfait	**14** Cheese Pizza Seasoned Corn Leafy Green Salad Fruit Milk Bacon Biscuit
17 Chicken Tenders Creamed Potatoes Broccoli w cheese Baked Roll Fruit Milk Minni Pancakes	**18** Chili Cheese Fries Chopped Trimmings Baked Roll Fruit Milk Chicken Slider	**19** Chicken Sandwich Fresh Trimmings Baked Fries Fruit Milk Muffin/Cheese Stick	**20** Spaghetti w meat sauce Green Beans Veggie Pickups Bread Stick Fruit Milk Bagel w cream cheese	**21** Pepperoni Pizza Seasoned Corn Leafy Green Salad Fruit Milk Gravy & Biscuit
24 Chicken Nuggets Creamed Potatoes Broccoli w cheese Baked Roll Fruit Milk Pancake Pup	**25** Taco Meat w soft shell Chopped Trimmings Refried Beans Fruit Milk Poptart/Cheese Stick	**26** Hot Ham & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Trimmings Baked Fries Baked Beans Fruit Milk Donuts	**27** Orange Chicken w rice Mixed Vegetables Glazed Carrots Baked Roll Fruit Milk Yogurt Parfait	**28** Pizza Sticks Marinara Sauce Seasoned Corn Leafy Green Salad Fruit Milk Sausage Biscuit
31 Chicken Tenders Creamed Potatoes Broccoli w cheese Baked Roll Fruit Milk Minni Pancakes				

WE ARE KIND · WE ARE RESPECTFUL · WE ARE RESPONSIBLE · WE ARE CALHOUN

Welcome to CALHOUN Kindergarten



August 4: CES Open House

All families are encouraged to attend! See Flyer for details

GROUP SCHEDULE

Aug. 7–12:	Group #1 Last names A–L attend
Aug. 13–18:	Group #2 Last names M–Z attend
Aug. 19:	All students attend

Doors open	Class begins	Free breakfast &	Students are expected
7:30	8:00	lunch served daily	to be in class by 8:00

School dismisses 3:00

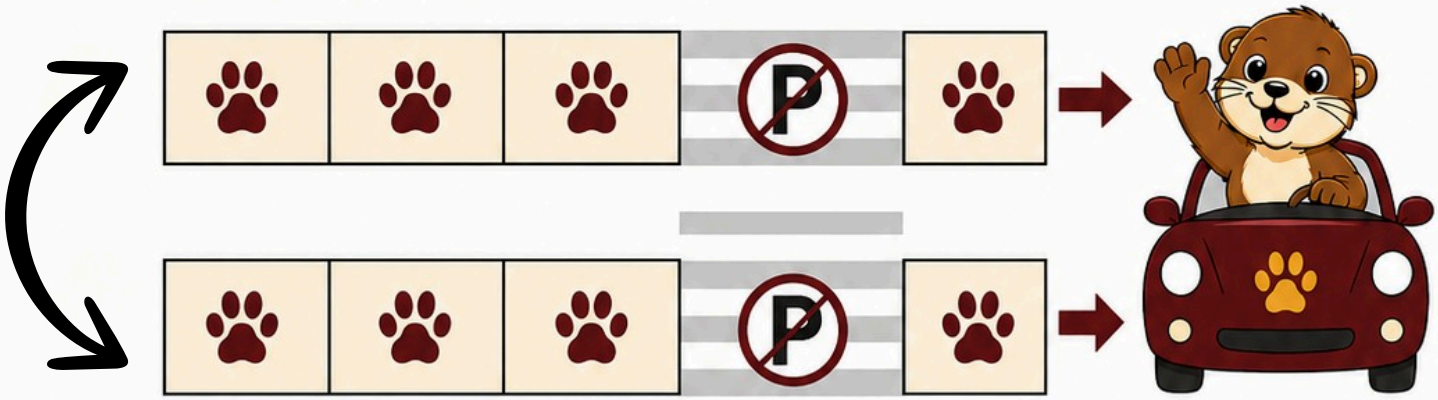
Reference information from teacher about which group your child has been assigned, and please see drop off and pick up procedures on additional page.

LOWER GRADES

CAR DISMISSAL

1 PULL ALL THE WAY FORWARD

into a parking spot on either row.



2 WHEN ALL 8 CARS ARE LOADED

and the teacher signals:

- **LEFT ROW GOES FIRST.**
- **RIGHT ROW FOLLOWS.**



WHAT TO DO

PUT YOUR CAR IN PARK.

While you are waiting in line, remain in park.

IF YOUR STUDENT(S) ARE NOT PRESENT AND READY:

Move forward when cars are released, park in a spot, and stay in your car. We will call those students after all cars are loaded.

IF YOUR CAR RIDER NUMBER IS NOT DISPLAYED:

Park in a spot and stay in your car. We will call your student(s) after all other cars are loaded. .

THANK YOU! LET'S KEEP OUR DISMISSAL SAFE AND SMOOTH.

Calhoun School
MORNING DROP-OFF

01 — **CAR RIDER**

Circle the entire building and enter front circle after buses unload at 7:30.

02 — **BUS**

Obtain route driver info from office. Contact driver to arrange pick up

03 — **WALKER**

Enter through front doors beginning at 7:30 after carefully crossing road and driveway.

04 — **PRE-K**

Park in lot behind the gym. Adult must accompany student. Doors open 7:50

Drop off from the road or parking spaces on Sherwood Avenue **is not permitted.** This is dangerous for students and impedes the traffic flow.

AFTERNOON PICK UP

PREK	PreK dismissal is at back of gym at 2:00. Adult on pick up list is required to sign student out daily.
K-3 CAR RIDERS + OLDER SIBLINGS	Enter circle drive that passes by playground in 2 parallel lines. Remain in vehicle at all times. Do not block cross walk or pass gate before 3:00 p.m. Families will be issued a car rider number within first month of school. Display number in dash. Students may only be released to those on approved pick up list, and identification may be requested. Student will be walked to your car. Any students remaining after 3:20 will be walked to bus duty for pick up at front of building.
4-8 CAR RIDERS	Students in grades 4 – 8 WITHOUT younger siblings will dismiss to the gravel parking lot. These students are NOT assigned numbers. Please back in to spaces. Faculty and staff will dismiss students in orderly manner, but please be mindful of safety and understand that we may ask for identification. Students remaining at 3:10 will be walked to bus duty for pick up at front of building.
WALKERS	Students walking home will be dismissed from front doors.
BUS RIDERS	Early route #66 leaves school when car riders are dismissed. Driver will inform you if your student is on this route. All other routes dismiss from school after buses arrive from high school around 3:40.



MCMINN COUNTY SCHOOLS • P.A.T.T. BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

MCMINN COUNTY SCHOOLS

No Cost Before & Afterschool Care

McMINN P.R.E.P.

CALHOUN ELEMENTARY

CALHOUN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MINKS

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Ms. Gerri Le or Mrs. Kaitlyn

GERRI LE CANTRELL
gcantrell@mcminnschools.com

KAITLYN BARLOK
kbarlok@mcminnschools.com

423-336-2974

BE ON THE LOOK OUT *for more info!*

Mark Your Calendar!

PICTURE DAY

is coming up!

Fall PICTURES

AUGUST 25TH

Fall pictures will be taken on August 25th.

8TH GRADE Cap & Gown PHOTOS

AUGUST 25TH

8th Grade Cap & Gown photos will be taken on August 25th.

Thank you!

FCA PERMISSION FORM

WELCOME TO THE 2026–2027 SCHOOL YEAR! WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES (FCA) WILL BE MEETING MONTHLY FROM 3:15 TO 4:30 PM. PLEASE NOTE THAT NO TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED, SO STUDENTS MUST BE PICKED UP PROMPTLY BY 4:30 PM. TO PARTICIPATE, IT'S ESSENTIAL TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE PERMISSION FORM TO KELLIE WALLACE BY SEPTEMBER 4, 2026. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED FURTHER INFORMATION, FEEL FREE TO REACH OUT TO KELLIE WALLACE AT 423–336–2974 OR VIA EMAIL AT KWALLACE@MCMINNSCHOOLS.COM. WE LOOK FORWARD TO A FANTASTIC YEAR AHEAD!

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Allergies or Medical Alerts: _____

_____

_____

Dine TO DONATE

EAT WINGS. SUPPORT MINKS.

JOIN US FOR A *delicious* WAY TO GIVE BACK!

DATE:
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

TIME:
OPEN TO CLOSE

LOCATION:
BUFFALO WILD WINGS
CLEVELAND, TN

WE'RE SUPPORTING
CALHOUN SCHOOL *Athletics!*

BASKETBALL & CHEER



JUST TELL THEM YOU'RE SUPPORTING CALHOUN SCHOOL, AND A PORTION OF SALES *comes back to us!*

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MINKS!