



WINTER/SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends of the Orion School,

We are now midway through our fifth year as one of the only schools in Atlanta with a dedicated profile educating children ages 5-13 who have social and emotional challenges; including ADHD. This spring we are expanding the complementary services we offer the community; including Soccer Saturdays and a Parent Support Group. We have also started enrollment for Camp Orion 2011 which is open to non-Orion students. Join The Orion School Facebook or check out the ADDed View blog postings - both are designed to give helpful information.

Please read through the newsletter and feel free to share with anyone who may benefit from reading it. Thank you for your continued support,

Warmly,

Laura Markson
Director, The Orion School
director@theorionschool.org

Plan A Visit to Orion!

Prospective parent tours are on: 03/18, 04/15 and 05/20. More tours may be scheduled as needed.

Tours are from 9:00-10:30. To attend a tour call Cristina at 404-551-2574

SCHOOL ADMISSION

We have a rolling admission process and accept applications throughout the school year for the following academic year.

Join Us For Camp Orion 2011 This Summer!



Camp Orion is an active day camp for children ages 5-13 who have social and emotional challenges - including ADHD. The focus is on self regulation, social and emotional intelligence, and most importantly, self esteem. The camp provides the novelty within structure that curious and energetic campers need to succeed.

Each camp week includes:

*A day camp designed to ensure a successful typical camp experience for non traditional campers.

- *A 1:4 teacher to camper ratio.
- *A camp organized and staffed by Orion teachers.
- *A lively thematic focus with high interest camp activities such as art exploration, crafts, gardening, cooking, yoga, recreational games, and field trips.
- *Skill building activities designed to foster growth in areas including problem solving, managing frustration, expressing emotions + understanding social cues

Current school year admission is based on limited availability.

Please call 404.551.2574 to apply for admission.

Quick Links

[The Orion School Web Site](#)

[The ADDed View Blog](#)

Find us on Facebook 

Listen to Karen Powell's radio show [Education Forum](#) as we discuss *The Orion School*. (View the 02/17/10 edition)

[The Special Guide](#) - great resource guide by and for the Atlanta special needs community.

Earn a TAX CREDIT and Sponsor Orion Scholarships

Taxes can't be avoided...so let some of the money be redirected towards Orion scholarships. If you donate to [Apogee Georgia School Choice Scholarship Fund](#) this year, you can get up to a \$1,000 TAX CREDIT for next year's taxes. A tax credit is an item that reduces your actual tax and differs significantly from a tax deduction what only reduces your taxable income. Donors receive a "dollar-for-dollar" Georgia tax credit for donations to the Scholarship Fund in turn Apogee provides eligible students with scholarships.

The paperwork only takes a few minutes and any Georgia taxpayer can participate; so please spread the word to your friends, relatives, and colleagues.

Four 1-week thematic sessions offered:

June 6th - 10th Sensory Sensitive Adventures (*campers will have a blast exploring senses and developing relationships*)

June 13th - 17th Building Friendships (*lego my lego day, construction, team building & connecting friends*)

June 20th - 24th Old School Camp Friends (*nostalgic camp fun - incl. camp buddies, tents, s'mores & mock campfires*)

June 27th - July 1st Wacky Water Week (*no pool needed -water balloons & relays, slip 'n slide, and team splashing*)

hours: 9:00am-3:00pm Monday - Friday

The fee is \$395 per week

Before & After Care available for an additional fee applications are at www.theorionschool.org under "camp"

Orion School In The Community...

We recognize that a private specialized school can not be the choice for everyone. We are still committed to be a resource for the community and when possible, we offer complimentary or reasonably priced programs that non Orion families can also participate in.



Soccer Saturdays offer a positive team sport experience as well as an opportunity for families to connect and socialize. The goal is for participants to build self confidence through participation in a guided recreational activity. The Orion School is sponsoring these mornings for the community so all families can participate for free. Jason

Teufel who is our Sports Enrichment Coordinator will engaged participants in a variety of drills and scrimmages. Just bring treats and drinks to the Orion field to share with everyone! **Spring dates are: March 19th, 26th, April 16th & 23rd - all starting around 10:30am.**

Orion is sponsoring a complimentary **Parent Support Group** to offer connections, understanding, support and information. The evenings provide an opportunity for interested parents to work through strategies, exchange resources, relax and build relationships with other parents on the same path. Refreshments will be served. **All meetings start at 6:30pm.** The remaining dates are:

Wednesday, March 9th 2011

Monday, April 11th 2011

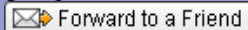
Wednesday, May 11th, 2011

Club Orion is open to all children in grades K-6 who have social and emotional differences and need a more supportive after school option. The teacher to student ratio is 1:4. While some families use Club Orion as a childcare option, other children attend one or two days a week to build friendships and confidence in a nurturing and structured setting. The hours are Monday through Friday from 2:30-6:00. The 2011/2012 fee for Club Orion is **\$4,000** (\$400 per month). Call Cristina for the day per week option fees. Applications

are under "Club Orion" on our web site.

Share Newsletter!

Thank you for sharing this newsletter with interested parents, professionals and groups.



The
Orion
School

Participates in the [Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Program](#) (SB-10) Please click on the link to learn more about how this program can help bridge the gap from public to private school.

The Orion School is an accredited, non-profit, private school located in midtown Atlanta. Our complex students all have social and emotional challenges that prevent them from succeeding in traditionally structured classrooms. We use a disability perspective and a strength based approach to teach students in grades age's 5-13 strategies to succeed. High interest multisensory learning activities are integrated into the fabric of a novel yet structured school day. The teacher to student ratio of 1:4 is kept with small classes of four students. Programs included in the tuition are Handwriting Without Tears, a literature based social and emotional literacy curriculum, team building classes, ongoing assessments, a positive behavior support plan, tenants of How Does Your Engine Run, occupational therapy, drumming circle, recreational hiking, art, photography, weekly field trips and swimming, tennis, & rock climbing at The Athletic Club Northeast - with our older students participating in weekly fencing. We also provide our families with parent support and education.

