



PERIMETER SCHOOL  
A Covenant Christian Community

## PERIMETER SCHOOL LINGO

### Terms Used Around Perimeter School

Here at Perimeter School, we want to be thoughtful and intentional in our language. However, there may be times when we throw out a word or phrase, and our new families have no idea what we are talking about! We apologize for any misconceptions or ignorance in defining these terms. We hope the definitions below help your transition into the Perimeter School family.

As always, if you have any questions about life within our walls, please reach out to your room parents, your teacher, or the school receptionists.

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**1:17 Program** – Classes in grades 3 through 5 that serve our covenant students with diagnosed dyslexia. See [perimeterschool.org/117](http://perimeterschool.org/117) for more information.

**4<sup>th</sup> Wall** – Parents are the primary educators of their children and serve as the main three walls of their children’s well-being. Perimeter School adds the fourth wall of educational and spiritual support to families.

**Atrium** – The main entrance to Perimeter Church. Morning and afternoon carline happen at the Atrium Entrance. In the Atrium, parents can meet, work, or enjoy the café; students should always be supervised while in the Atrium.

**Bridge Program** – Perimeter School’s academic support program for middle school students, which includes executive function training and study skills. See [perimeterschool.org/bridge](http://perimeterschool.org/bridge) for more information.

**Campus Meetings** – These evening events happen three times a year and are for all parents with students at Perimeter School. Although these meetings are mandatory, they are engaging and informational, including school vision, equipping, pertinent updates, worship, and even celebration. See [Calendar](#) for dates.

**Casual Enrichment Attire** – See “Dress Code” under “Helpful Resources” at [perimeterschool.org/dress-code](http://perimeterschool.org/dress-code).

**Charlotte Mason** – Perimeter School’s curriculum is rooted in Charlotte Mason's philosophy, outlined in “For the Children’s Sake” by Susan Shaeffer Macauley. Because of Charlotte Mason’s belief that children are persons to be nurtured and not products to be manipulated, the result of her principles and practices are students who love to learn and use their gifts to glorify God and enjoy His creation.

**Chick-fil-A Day** – Pre-ordered and purchased Chick-fil-A lunches are served at school. Ordering takes place on [Family Portal](#) (formerly ParentsWeb) at the beginning of each semester.

**Covenant Community** – Christian parents recognizing and acting on their responsibility not just to teach their own children but to serve all children of fellow believers. Parents serve in classrooms and pray for each other’s families, linking arms in the raising of their children.

**Covenant Fund** – This important fund supports covenant families for scholarships, staff development, and more. Our goal every year is 100% participation, no matter the amount given. Learn more at [perimeterschool.org/giving](http://perimeterschool.org/giving).

**Covenant Phone Call** – The goal of these confidential conversations between parents is to shepherd students in encouragement or mediation of an issue. These conversations may be on the phone or in person.

**Dressy Enrichment Attire** – See “Dress Code” under “Helpful Resources” at [perimeterschool.org/dress-code](http://perimeterschool.org/dress-code).

**E-Days** – These are really called “Friday Enrichment Days.” These are Friday opportunities for parents to teach a pre-selected topic in the classroom in grades 1 and 2.

**Enrichment Day Sign-Up Meeting** – This daytime meeting happens at the beginning of the school year for parents in grades 1 and 2 to schedule the Friday Enrichment Day assignments and other parent serving opportunities for their class. Only one parent must attend and can sign up for both parents’ serving assignments. Make sure you bring your calendar!

**FACTS** – This online system provides parents a simple online way to pay tuition and fees. This can be accessed through [Family Portal](#).

**Family Portal/ParentsWeb/RenWeb** – These interchangeable terms are the [Perimeter School secured database](#), which includes family directories, class information, order forms, student grades, schedules, and the school calendar. For added accessibility, download the RenWeb Home app.

**Family Serve Day** – A day designed for our covenant families to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Each family has the opportunity to choose a project or plan way to serve.

**Friday Enrichment Day Training** – This mandatory informational meeting for grade 1-2 parents, held at the start of the school year, provides tips and resources on how to effectively prepare and manage your instruction on Friday Enrichment Days.

**Georgia GOAL Scholarship (GOAL)** – This is a simple way to redirect your state tax dollars to Perimeter School for scholarships. Learn more at [perimeterschool.org/giving](http://perimeterschool.org/giving).

**Habits** – Perimeter School strives to come alongside parents in helping students form practical and godly habits that help to train a child’s will. These habits are timeless and include the habits of attentiveness, alertness, kindness, thoughts of God, completion, generosity, respect for authority, orderliness, and self-control. See “Habits” under “Helpful Resources” at [perimeterschool.org/helpful-resources/habits](http://perimeterschool.org/helpful-resources/habits).

**Home Meetings** – These Parent Meetings are held at a family’s home, providing a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, classroom updates, and prayer. See [Calendar](#) for dates.

**Late Start** – On these days, the school day begins at 9:15 AM. Teachers have in-service training on these mornings. See [Calendar](#) for dates.

**Missions Day** – Now called “Dress Down Day,” students are free to wear a non-uniform outfit with a \$3 donation to school ministries we partner with in Guatemala and Tanzania. There is a \$10 maximum donation per family. See [Calendar](#) for dates.

**Narration** – Students recall (narrate) what they have read or heard. This practice is designed to improve auditory processing skills, comprehension, vocabulary development, synthesis skills, and ability to sequence.

**National Teacher Appreciation Week** – Perimeter School recognizes National Teacher Appreciation Week, which is typically observed the first week of May. The school will not lead this effort but rather encourages parents and students to express their appreciation for their homeroom teachers, subject area teachers, specials teachers, tutors, etc. in a manner that is meaningful to both parties during National Teacher Appreciation Week. This can be done individually or in partnership with other families.

**Nature Study** – Students are guided in a study of the natural world, utilizing observation, a devotion, and dry-brush painting techniques. Students begin a sketchbook in lower elementary that will accompany them until eighth grade.

**New Parent Coffee with the Head of School** – A time for Head of School Brendon O’Dowd to get to know new Perimeter School parents, answer any questions, and hear feedback.

**Parent Alert System** – Texts only used for emergencies/school closings.

**Parent Meetings** – These evening meetings are held in the classroom and include important class updates from the teacher and room parents, prayer, and fellowship. See [Calendar](#) for dates.

**Parent Prayer** – Every Tuesday at 8:15 AM, covenant parents meet for corporate prayer and devotions led by a school leader. This is held in the Perimeter Church Prayer Room, and all parents are invited and encouraged to attend.

**PCS** – This is an in-house term from days past when our school was called “Perimeter Christian School.” Even though we now go by “Perimeter School – A Covenant Christian Community,” many people still refer to us as “PCS.”

**PEARL Rules** – Perimeter School’s ground rules of behavior (Polite, Example, Attitude, Respect, Listen). See “PEARL Rules” under “Helpful Resources” at [perimeterschool.org/helpful-resources/pearl-rules](http://perimeterschool.org/helpful-resources/pearl-rules).

**Perimeter Childcare** – This is on-site childcare during Campus and Parent Meetings. The link for sign-up and payment can be found in the *Week at a Glance* e-mails. Pre-registration is mandatory.

**Perimeter School Covenant Family Page** – This is a private Facebook group page for current and past Perimeter School families. This is not an official Perimeter School page and should not replace direct communication with the administration of the school. This page provides a terrific forum for helpful resources, requests, and leads. It is maintained by the School Ministry Team. Search for the group on Facebook and request to join.

**Perimeter School Marketplace** – This private Facebook group is for covenant families to sell items in a safe and friendly online environment. It is maintained by the School Ministry Team. Search for the group on Facebook and request to join.

**Pizza Day** – Pre-ordered and purchased pizza is served at school. Ordering takes place on [Family Portal](#) (formerly ParentsWeb) at the beginning of each semester.

**Poetry Recital** – Every year, students in grades K through 5 recite classical poetry selections, followed by a reception of light refreshments. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to attend.

**Rising Grade Level Information** – Information sent every summer for parents to learn more about what’s ahead for their student the following year.

**Room Parents** – Each class has a designated couple to lead and serve the teacher and families in the class, providing communication, organizational structure in parent serving assignments, and even shepherding to families in need.

**School Supply Sale** – An optional program benefitting Perimeter School, which includes almost all items on each grade’s school supply list; there could be some items still needed for purchase.

**Service Projects** – These ministry opportunities are led by parents. Most of these projects happen off-site at chosen nonprofit organizations in our community.

**SMT** – This is short for “School Ministry Team.” This group of leaders consists of the head of school, school principals, and nine parent couples who are given authority by the elders of Perimeter Church to serve its covenant families with vital leadership. This team sets policy for the governance of the school and provides direction for the future. There are committees charged with shepherding our covenant families, caring for our faculty, managing our resources, facilitating enrollment, and promoting a vibrant school life through social events, fundraising, and supplementary activities.

**Student Support Program** – Perimeter School’s program for educational therapy and tutoring. See [perimeterschool.org/student-support](http://perimeterschool.org/student-support) for more information.

**Week at a Glance** – This weekly school email includes a blog written to equip and encourage you in your parenting, important dates, and enriching school and covenant family information. This is a must-read every week!