School Days

Inspiration From Yesterday, Today And Tomorrow

(NAPSA)—This year, children of all ages will be wearing both new and retro trends, including dresses and jumpers for girls and polo/rugby shirts for boys. Overall, the focus is on clothing that is fashion forward, yet comfortable.

For Her

Dresses are far from simple. Look for ruffles, prints, wraps and hoods in bright colors such as cobalt blue and deep purple. Baby doll and kimono looks add stylish flair; the plaid jumper makes a strong comeback and knit dresses are true comfort. Everywhere there is a vintage feel that is "oh so modern." Hemlines start at mid-thighand never go below the knee-a throwback to the Mod Squad days of yesteryear. For the smaller set, try the sneaker dress—a printed look with a hoodie, paired with rolled leggings-great for the classroom or the playground.

Sweaters that feature "fly-away" detailing (top buttons) are just right for layering over camisoles, T-shirts and tank-tops. Bermuda shorts, skimmers with rolled cuffs and capris are in. The athletic look goes to school in knit bottoms and sweatpants—often worn rolled up at the bottom.

For Him

Old-fashioned polos and rugby shirts are the staple of choice, with the "two-fer" top as the new player. Fleece makes a comfort statement on the inside of hoodie sweatshirts. Active wear features sports team T-shirts, jerseys and long wind pants found in darker colors such as black, navy and charcoal. The newest color on the teen boy's scene: apple green.

Accessories And Footwear

According to T.J. Maxx Fashion Spokesperson Sonya Cosentini, some of this year's top trends include:



Bright colors and retro looks highlight this year's school fashions.

- Headbands with tails (wraps that tie underneath) in a wide variety of patterns, stripes, polka dots and colors.
- Oversized totes in nylon fabrics featuring holograms and bold designs. Lunch totes with comic book and cartoon characters top the popularity lists.
- For teen girls, the ballet flat is the "must-have." Comfortable and stylish, the flat is everywhere in glitter, soft leather and suede, animal prints, plaids and even with ceramic embellishments.

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