

News from the Principal

October 2017

Dear Fruitdale Families,

On behalf of all the staff at Fruitdale, I would like to officially welcome you to another school year. September has flown by with the blink of an eye.

We have a few staff changes. Mrs. Kennon has joined our 1st grade team. Mr. Blanchard has joined our 4th grade team. Miss. Pugsley is teaching a 4th and 5th grade blend. We have welcomed Miss. Fazio to our 2nd grade team. She is an excellent addition to the Fruitdale Staff. Currently, we are getting ready to welcome one more kindergarten teacher as well. This position should be announced during the first week of October. We have also welcomed several new instructional assistants. These assistants are Mr. Henry, Miss. Hernandez, Mrs. Carrera, and Mrs. Mosley.

Please notice the following information:

- 1. Fruitdale will continue to provide a free breakfast and lunch to all students
- 2. Our bell rings at 7:35 on Monday through Thursday, please have your students dropped off by this time. If your child is planning on having breakfast at Fruitdale, please arrive by 7:30.
- 3. Every **Friday** our staff participates in professional development. School will begin one hour later. Please have your students here by 8:35am, when our first bell rings.
- 4. Harvest Festival is October 24. This is a great night of family fun in which we have an evening of pumpkin decorating, harvest themed crafts and a celebration of our garden. Please join us.

I want to thank all of our parents and community members for the tremendous support and continued dedication to the children of our community. I appreciate the opportunity to get to know both you and your child.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Heather Yount
Principal, Fruitdale Elementary School
heather.yount@threerivers.k12.or.us

Parking Lot Safety at Fruitdale

Many of you drop off your student at the beginning of the day and/or pick-up your student at the end of the day. I am sure you are well aware our parking lot is a very busy place. As a staff, we are making extra effort to try and have it flow as smoothly as possible. We continue to need your help to make this happen.

Drop Off:

When dropping off your student in the morning, please use extra precaution. Our student drop off area is located in the front of the building. Please pull all the way forward. We have several parents who stop right at the curve in the front of the office. This causes cars to have to pull around to navigate past the curve. If you pull all the way forward towards the fifth grade hallway, we are able to allow more students to be dropped off at one time.

If you need to escort your child in for any reason or you would like to drop something off in the office, please remember to park inside a parking spot. Our student drop off area is not for parked cars. This will enable the smooth flow of cars in and out of our parking lot. Thank you for being extra cautious regarding this rule.

Pick-up:

Please understand we are trying to release students as safely and quickly as possible. With over 370 students, many of which are picked up, our parking lot at the end of the day is going to take some patience.

When picking up your child at the end of the day, we have several parking spaces available as well as a waiting area for cars in our pick-up zone in the front of our building. These places fill up quickly. If there are no available places inside our parking lot, please pull over on Bill Baker Way, this will enable us to maintain a flow of cars in and out of our parking lot. When picking up your student, please pull over to the curb and pull forward as far as you can. This will enable a lane for cars to still get by.

Above all, I am asking that we are all patient in the parking lot. Our goal is for pick-up and dropoff to run as smoothly and safely as possible.

As always, thank you for all of your support.

All students eat FREE!

All students enrolled at Fruitdale Elementary are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge to you each day this school year! Please check out the menu on our school website.

Important! Transportation Changes

If you child will be going home with another student, we need a note from you as well as the parent of the other child. Notes must include student's full name, (first & last), teacher, date and parent's signature. Please make sure all transportation notes are sent to the office. If you need to call to change your child's transportation plans for the day, the calls need to be made prior to 1:00 PM.

Student Medication

If your child needs to take medication at school it is a State Law that all medicine to be taken at school is to be brought to school by an adult in the original container. We need written instructions from the parent to administer the medication.

Conference Day

Parent teacher conferences are coming up. They are the evening of Monday, November 20 and all day Tuesday, November 21. Information will be coming home with your child for a date and time that works best for you.

Picture Retake's

If you would like your child to re-take their school picture or they were not at school on picture day, Life Touch Photography will be here again on Wednesday, November 11, 2017.

PTO News

The Panther Pack (PTO) has set up their first meeting. The meeting will be held at Fruitdale on October 5, 2017 at 2:15pm. Please plan on attending. We have fun things going on at Fruitdale and we would love your input!

FRUITDALE LIBRARY NEWS – Fall - 2017

Welcome back dear Students and Families! I am so excited to see each of you in the library this year. Students will come in with their classes and families and siblings are welcome to check out books.

This summer I was the lucky winner of a raffle presented by my union, *Oregon School Employees Association, OSEA* and the *American Federation of Teachers,* AFT, with whom we are affiliated. I won 100 brand new books from *First Book*

(https://www.firstbook.org/about-first-book). First Book is a non-profit social enterprise that provides books and learning resources to children in need. The books are mostly hardcover, beautiful and timely.

Please check out the *Library* tab on our school website, there you can search our collection through *Destiny*; find an AR level; access the World Book and National Geographic Online and explore everything from basic computer skill tutorials to practice test for AP courses, the GRE and the SAT at the *Learning Express Library*. Your *BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION* donations are very important. The first collection of the year is October 1. The class that brings in the most will earn a party in the library. Each box top is 10¢ and they can really add up. Please keep them coming.

Fruitdale will, again, participate in the *Oregon Battle of the Books*(http://www.oregonbattleofthebooks.org/). We'll have more information for you soon and the books are available at our library and at Josephine Community Libraries. All children are eligible for a library card at JCL. I have applications or visit a branch library or https://josephinelibrary.org/.

I want your students to be able to check out books. Please make sure that books are returned and fines are paid for lost or damaged items. I am happy to take payments.

If you are a gardener and have the time and inclination please see me. I need help weeding our perennial/butterfly garden.

Thanks

Pumpkin Patch

Our kindergarten class will be going to the pumpkin patch on Thursday, October 27, 2016. The cost is \$6.00. Please check with your child's teacher if you would like to be a chaperone.

5th Grade News

Chocolate Sales Sept. 22nd - Oct. 6th

All money and leftover candy bars must be turned in by Friday, Oct. 6th

Overnight Trip to the Deer Creek Center

Wednesday & Thursday, Oct. 25th & 26th - Sheehan's class and her Pugsley kiddos Thursday, Oct. 26th & Friday, Oct. 27th - McKee's class and her Pugsley kiddos

Wonder Movie Field Trip Friday, Nov. 17th 4th & 5th grade

Dates to remember

PTO Meeting 2:15pm	Oct. 05
Last day for Chocolate sales (3 rd , 4 th , 5 th grades)	Oct. 06
In~service No school	Oct. 13
Harvest Festival	Oct. 24
5 th grade field trip (Sheehan)	Oct.25 & 26
5 th grade field trip (McKee)	Oct. 26 & 27
Book Fair	Oct. 25 ~ Oct. 31
Kindergarten field trip (Fort Vannoy Farms)	Oct. 27
Clerical Day (no school)	Nov. 03
Veteran's Day (no school)	Nov. 10
Picture Re-take day	Nov.11
4 th & 5 th grade field trip	Nov. 17
Evening Conferences. (no school)	Nov. 20
Conference Day (no school)	Nov. 21
District Closure Day (no school)	Nov. 22
Thanksgiving Day (no school)	Nov. 23
Vacation Day (no school)	Nov. 24

