



BILLIE NEWS!



www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us

Vision Statement: Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Pleasant Hill Elementary

36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, Or 97455

Phone: (541) 736-0400 Fax: (541) 736-0446 Attendance Line: 541-736-0411

Office Hours: 7:30—4:00 p.m., Mon. - Fri.

The beginning of the 2020-2021 school year has been one filled with surprises and excitement. It is hard to believe we have been in school 16 weeks as of this week.

Thank you for supporting your student either online or those attending K-3 on-site instruction, a blend of on-site and distance learning and now 4 / 5 LIPI, supplementary instruction. We appreciate how each of you ensures your student attends zoom classes or on-site classes and complete their daily class assignments. Those sending students on-site, thank you for making sure your student comes to school daily wearing their face covering, reinforcing physical distancing and the practice of good hygiene, washing of hands or sanitizing frequently.

Today as I write, I need to let you know the Oregon Department of Education has provided all schools with guidance we may need to move to comprehensive distance learning with our K-3 Exemption, Safe Harbor clause, on-site students due to rising case numbers. Please be watching for a letter from the Superintendent, Wednesday, December 16th for the latest information, as we are awaiting a final decision.

Music is in the Air!

Holiday time is upon us and it is time to celebrate! Because of this, Mr. Strong will be hosting a Holiday Sing-Along! Students and families are invited to join us for a fun-tastic evening of singing our favorite holiday songs virtually on Zoom. I encourage students to invite their families to join in and participate in our Holiday Sing-Along. We will be dancing and singing holiday classics that we have all been learning in class on-site or virtually. This live, virtual Holiday Sing-Along will be on Thursday, December 17th @ 5:00 pm (PST).

For those of you who are unable to attend the live Holiday Sing-Along, you're in luck! I will be videoing the whole Holiday Sing-Along for those of you unable to attend to watch so that you still get a fantastic holiday send off.

You will find a link to the Virtual Music Room below. Click on it and you will be transported to a joyous holiday music room where you will find how to get to the live Holiday Sing-Along as well as the recording. I'm looking forward to seeing all of your wonderful faces on Zoom. If you have any questions, please email Mr. Strong at rstrong@pleasanthill.k12.or.us. I am excited to see you soon!

Virtual Music Room: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10S-zCPtZNoR4KPSffE8wAfO-ErQxcmzqGzOrIa11x5k/edit?usp=sharing>

Winter Break Chromebook Updates

With winter break around the corner, please remember during the break your school issued Chromebook are basically designed to run the programs and apps the district has selected to use this year. Any added apps and

extensions such as wallpapers, games, virtual pets, etc. interfere with the Chromebooks ability to run at maximum capacity. So, that your Chromebook is school ready, please do not add any additional apps or extensions.

Don't forget your Chromebooks need to be restarted at least weekly. This updates apps (Zoom, etc.) and operating systems (Chrome OS) to the newest and best for the systems. (Just closing the lid does not accomplish this)

Step 1: Press and hold the *Power* button.

Step 2: The screen dims, and a pop-up appears. Click the *Power Off* button.

Step 3: Press your Chromebook's *Power* button to restart.

It's Cold Outside!

It's a little chilly outside. Our students go outside for recess / p.e organized games and activities daily rain or shine. All students are encouraged to wear a jacket.



Please label the inside of your child's jacket. If you write your child's name inside their coat, should they become separated from their coat we make every effort to return it to them.

Immunizations

Just a reminder now is the time to make sure your child's immunizations are up-to-date. State law requires that all children in public schools either have vaccinations or a religious or medical exemption.



Letters will be sent home soon if your child's immunization record shows that he or she has not received the required vaccinations. Children will not be able to attend school starting Feb. 17th if their records show missing immunizations.

Families are advised to contact their health care provider or the local health department. No one can be turned away from a local health department because of the inability to pay for required vaccines.

School Attendance on Zoom or In-Person Matters!

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But we also know that when students miss too much school— regardless of the reason - it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent—which means missing 18 or more days over the course of an entire school year.



Research shows:

- Children chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3rd grade.
- By 6th grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.
- By 9th grade good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8th grade test scores.

Absences can add up quickly. A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every month!

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school either for on-site instruction or zoom classes every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a daily routine.
- Students attending school on-site lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your children goes to school every day unless they are truly sick
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for school on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school! If you have any questions or need more information, please contact either your child's classroom teacher or Mrs. Stoneberg.

When Should I Keep My Child Home?

Student's Symptoms or Illness	Student May Return to School When*
Fever: temperature by mouth greater than 100.4 degrees	No fever for at least 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine.
Skin rash or open sores	Rash is gone; sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage; or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
New Cough illness	In general, when symptom-free for 72 hours. If pertussis (whooping cough) is diagnosed, after taking 5-day course of prescribed antibiotics, or when cleared for return by local public health authority. If COVID-19 is diagnosed, with orders from local public health authority.
Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in one day OR newly not able to control bowel movements	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
Vomiting	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
Headache with stiff neck and fever; OR with recent head injury	Symptom-free or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Jaundice: (new) yellow color in eyes or skin	After orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
Red eyes or eye discharge: yellow or brown drainage from eyes	Redness and discharge is gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.

Up Coming Events

December 16th - Special Letter from the Superintendent updating families on the status of our K-3 Exemption, Safe Harbor Clause, on-site instruction.

December 18th - Distance Learning Day for All, be watching for a Seesaw message from your teacher.

December 18th - Last Day of School before Winter Break.

December 21st - January 1st - Winter Break

January 4th - Teacher In-service Day

January 4th - 7:00 p.m. School Board Mtg., check the district website for the link

January 5th - Classes Resume either on zoom or On-site. Watch for a follow up letter from the Superintendent of Schools if the Oregon Department of Education has not provided clear guidance as to the status of K-3 Exemption, Safe Harbor Clause, on-site instruction.

January 12th - 6:30 p.m. PTO Mtg, Zoom link will be sent via Seesaw the day before the meeting

January 18th - Martin Luther King Observance / No School

January 29th - Grading Day / No School