

# Dolphin Byte



## Message From Principal

Hello Smith Families,

I want to start off by reminding you that teacher placement will be live in Family Access today at 4:00. You should receive an email from your student's classroom teacher shortly after with more information.

At Samantha Smith, we have a strong PTSA (Parent, Teacher, Student Association). They are hosting a **Welcome Back PTSA Ice Cream Truck and PTSA Kick Off, TODAY, August 27th.**

*Kindergarten- second grade 3:30-4:00*

*Third grade- fifth grade 4:00-4:30*

**\*\* PLEASE wear your masks!**

**\*\*\*Siblings are welcome to join whichever session needed.**

### **First day jitters:**

The first day of school always brings excitement and some anxiety. We recognize that this year anxious feelings are not just around meeting the teacher for the first time but also the worry of being safe. Please know that our team understands this concern and are doing everything we can to make this a successful and healthy year. Next week, prior to the first day, I will be sending a map of our campus with classroom line up spots. Today, after teacher placement goes live at 4:00pm, classroom teachers will be reaching out to families to welcome students back and to open the line of communication. During your student's Curriculum Night, you will hear from myself along with the rest of my administrative team regarding school specific information. We are here for you and look forward to partnering with you.

### **A day at a glance:**

Given the fact that some of our students joining us this year have either never been here on campus before, haven't been here in about eighteen months or came back to us with a very different look to our day, I want to explain what the day will look like. You may find it helpful to review this information with your student prior to the first day.

- When you either drop your student off or they arrive via bus or walking 8:45-8:50 (schools starts at 8:50), your student will make sure to have their mask on, they will walk directly to their classroom lineup. (Classroom Line Up Map will be emailed early next week)

- When children are welcomed into their classrooms, they will be seated three feet apart to the greatest extent possible.
- Children will wear masks all day unless eating.
- Students will visit specialists such as music, P.E., or library.
- Students will attend recess. Although masks are not mandatory at recess per guidance, I am asking you to **HIGHLY ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO WEAR A MASK WHILE AT RECESS.**
- Snacks will be eaten in the classroom, three feet apart.
- Students will be eating in our lunchroom. Spots are marked for them to sit three feet apart. They will wash hands before entering, enter through a designated door, grab their lunch (if they did not bring their own), sit in their assigned spot, take mask off to eat, then mask back up after finished and exit out another door.
- Handwashing and sanitizing will be a part of the day at many different points.
- When school is dismissed, students will continue wearing masks until they leave our campus. Bus riders must still be masked on the bus.

### **Kindergarten Parents**

If you are a kindergarten parent, you should have received a letter in the mail regarding details for the start of the school year. This year, our Kindergarteners will have a staggered start, meaning your Kindergarten student will start school on **either** Tuesday, Sept. 7, Wednesday, Sept. 8 or Thursday, Sept. 9, with **all kindergarten students attending September 10**. Kindergarten will be conducting a **Family Connection meetings on September 1st, 2nd, 3rd** .

### **COVID Safety & Building Implementation**

We know you probably have a lot of questions regarding the implementation of safety procedures regarding COVID. We believe maintaining school safety is critical and we value transparent communication with students and families regarding adjustments and/or changes of safety practice. Safety plans and procedures will be based on guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Health (DOH), Seattle and King County Public Health as well as state and district directives.

Here is the current guidance:

- Mask requirements throughout the day for both staff and students
- Parents/Families will need to wear masks in our school at all times regardless of vaccination status
- NO daily attestation for your student
- Physical distancing to the greatest extent possible
- Students will be eating in our lunchroom (students will be seated at least 3 feet from each other)
- Masks are required on our buses and seating charts will be implemented
- Handwashing and or hand sanitizing will still be priority throughout the day
- Strict health monitoring and reporting protocols
- Air ventilation systems have been upgraded to CDC standards
- Cleaning protocols implemented throughout the day

### **Upcoming Dates**

August 27th                   Teacher Assignment Posted on Skyward, classroom teacher will email families  
 August 27th                   PTSA Ice Cream Truck and PTSA Kick Off- at school outdoors  
 September 1st                First Day of School (**1st – 5th grade**)  
                                       Coffee and Conversation under the covered area (**9:00 am**) **\*\*Please wear**

**your masks**

September 1st – 3rd       Family Connection Conferences (**Kindergarten ONLY**)  
 September 2nd            Virtual Curriculum Night- see times below, teacher will send Teams invite  
 September 6               No school - Labor Day  
 September 7th – 9th      Staggered Start (**Kindergarten ONLY**)  
 September 10th          First day for all kindergarten students together.  
                                       Parent Coffee and Conversation under the covered area (**9:00 am**) **\*\* Please wear**

**your masks**

**Thursday, September 2nd: Curriculum Night**

Due to safety concerns, we will be hosting Curriculum Night virtually again this year.

*Grades 3, 4, 5, 4/5 Quest from 5:30-6:30pm*

*Grades K, 1, 2, 2/3 Quest from 6:30-7:30pm*

Your teachers will send information regarding accessing this meeting via Teams.

**Information about student lunches:**

All students will be eligible for free lunch during the 2021-22 school year. Hot lunches will be served, which include a main entrée, fruit, vegetable and milk or juice. Students who bring their own lunch from home can purchase milk or juice for \$0.50. Students must have enough funds in their lunch account if they want to purchase a milk or juice.

Fourth & Fifth graders have the option to purchase an extra entrée (in addition to the free lunch) for \$1.50. However, students must have enough funds in their lunch account to make the purchase.

Each student automatically has a lunch account set up in their name. Funds can be added to the student's account online at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). You can also send in cash or check (**payable to LWS D, with student's full name and teacher's name on the check**) to the main office at Smith Elementary. Cash and checks will be deposited into the lunch account within 1-2 business days.

Be sure to visit our website at <https://smith.lwsd.org/> for more school specific information such as school newsletters, contact information, Safe Arrival Attendance email, etc. If your family needs before or afterschool care, please visit this link. We are lucky to have the local YMCA back to help out our families. [School Enrichment | YMCA of Greater Seattle \(seattleymca.org\)](http://School Enrichment | YMCA of Greater Seattle (seattleymca.org)). School starts 8:50am- If you are dropping your child off be mindful that there can be traffic. We allow students on campus starting at 8:45am.

In all of my years in education, I have never been so excited to welcome students back into our building. Thank you for partnering with us.

Warmly,

Jamie Warner  
Principal  
Samantha Smith Elementary  
Lake Washington School District  
[jwarner@lwsd.org](mailto:jwarner@lwsd.org)  
(425)936-2710



## From the Office

### **School Supply lists**

The school supply lists can be found on our school website

### **Important reminders about Samantha Smith Elementary campus:**

- Samantha Smith Elementary playground and fields are closed for public use during school hours
- Dogs are not allowed on school grounds property between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. on any school day. At all other times dogs must be leashed and controlled by owners in accordance with King County Code 11.04.230. Owner must clean up after their dogs and remove waste from district premises

### **Attendance**

if your child is going to be absent or late to school, please email our attendance line at [SmithEsAttend@lwsd.org](mailto:SmithEsAttend@lwsd.org).

### **New student online registration**

Families may now register one or more of their new students online using Skyward, the district's student information system. To do so, you will need a login (username) and password.

Please note, this is only for new students to the district. Current students don't need to go through this process. [Visit the district website for more information.](#)

If you know of someone, a friend, a neighbor who has not registered their child yet, please spread this word



## PTSA News



## Dates to Remember

**September 1st-First Day of School Grades 1-5**

**September 7, 8, 9-Staggered Start for Kindergarten**

**September 10th-First Day for all Kindys**

**September 6th-No School-Labor Day**

**September 20th-Picture Day**

**October 11, 12 and 14-Conference Days Early Dismissal at 11:50**

**October 15th -No School- LEAP Day**

**November 11th- No School-Veteran's Day**

**November 24-Early Dismissal at 11:50**

**November 25-26 Thanksgiving Break**

**December 20th -December 31st-Winter Break**

**January 17th-No School- MLK Jr. Day**

**January 25,27 and 28th Conference Days Early Dismissal at 11:50**

**February 17th-21st-Mid-Winter Break**

**March 11th- No School LEAP Day**

**April 4th-8th-Spring Break**

**May 27th-No School-LEAP Day**

**May 30th-Memorial Day**

**May 31st-Snow Makeup Day**

**June 15th-Full Day of School**

**June 17th-Last Day of School**



## Counselor Corner

Dear Smith Families,

Samantha Smith Elementary desires that all students, regardless of background or financial abilities feel welcome and able to participate in all activities and programs that we offer. To support this desire, there are several programs and opportunities throughout the school year that help families who are facing financial hardship. If your family is in need and you would like to be considered for these types of programs or services, please complete list below with a return note to Katie Arena, school counselor or fill our Microsoft Forms Survey link (<https://forms.office.com/r/m2tB7Gq0Zp>). Your privacy is important to us, and

therefore all information that is collected from the survey will be kept confidential. If you have a school-related need that is not mentioned in this survey, please email Katie who will work with you to try and fulfill.

Sincerely,

Katie Arena  
School Counselor, Smith Elementary  
kepstein@lwsd.org  
(425) 936-2710, ask for Katie

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**School Supplies:** We would like to sign up for free back-to-school supplies and backpack for the fall.

**Pantry Packs:** We would like to be part of the Pantry Pack program that provides packs of kid-friendly food for students to take home each Friday.

**Operation School Bell and Clothing Resources:** We would like to be considered for Operation School Bell, a program that provides vouchers for students to go shopping at a local store. We would also appreciate clothing resources as well.

**Holiday Resources:** We are interested in hearing about holiday resources in our area.

**Holiday Assistance:** We are interested in being considered for food, gifts, or gift cards that may be available to Smith families during the school year.

**Child or Family Counseling:** We are interested in hearing more about free or low-cost counseling that may be available to our family.

**Field Trip and Smith Activity Scholarships:** We would like to be considered for scholarship money for grade-level field trips and activities.

**PTSA Extras:** We would like to be considered for receiving a free-of-charge yearbook and/or article of spirit wear.

Is there anything else you would like to share or ways Katie can help your child(ren) and/or family?

Family/Guardian Name(s):

Contact Email:	Contact Phone:	
Child's Name:	Grade:	Teacher:
Child's Name:	Grade:	Teacher:
Child's Name:	Grade:	Teacher:
<b>Child's Name:</b>	<b>Grade:</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>



## Contact Information

Samantha Smith Elementary  
 23305 NE 14th Street, Sammamish, WA 98074  
 Office-425-936-2710  
 Fax-425-836-8258  
 Attendance/Safe Arrival-425-936-2711  
 Attendance Email [SmithESAttend@lwsd.org](mailto:SmithESAttend@lwsd.org)  
 Principal:[Jamie Warner](#)  
 Associate Principal:[Rebekah Westra](#)  
 Office Manager-Gary Wilson [gwilson@lwsd.org](mailto:gwilson@lwsd.org)  
 Secretary/Registrar-Kellie Eaton [keaton@lwsd.org](mailto:keaton@lwsd.org)

**Smith Elementary:** <http://www.lwsd.org/school/smith>

**LWSD:** [www.lwsd.org](http://www.lwsd.org)

**PTSA:**<http://smithptsa.org/Home>

**Peachjar:**[Community fliers](#)

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