



Message From Principal

Hello Samantha Smith Families,

Do not forget today, Wednesday the 24th is a half day ending at 11:50am. This is not a normal Wednesday early release. We hope your family is able to enjoy the long weekend. If you celebrate Thanksgiving, Happy Thanksgiving.

Our staff members are not required to check their emails during the evening or on the weekend. **If you need to communicate a positive Covid case, please email me (Mrs. Warner) directly at jwarner@lwsd.org** . Please note that all positive cases are reported to the school by the Department of Health. We ask for your partnership in letting us know as soon as you know, to help keep others safe.

Remote support for students required to quarantine or isolate due to COVID

Over the first quarter of the school year, we've been partnering with the Lake Washington Education Association to evaluate how we support students who are required to quarantine or isolate due to COVID. We've recently updated the directions we provide to teachers and shared with families at the start of the year about how teachers are to support students required to quarantine or isolate due to COVID.

These updated directions are based on the latest guidance from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) that defines levels of support that teachers and schools are to provide when students are absent due to COVID. We also considered the experiences of our students, families, and teachers so far this year when updating the directions

The supports in the OSPI guidance and our updated directions include:

- Synchronous online educational opportunities using Microsoft Classroom Teams such as simulcasting live instruction (i.e., look-ins), or facilitating live, or two-way interactive

communication online. Teachers are to determine if and when to use a Classroom Teams meeting for their students who are required to quarantine or isolate. In some cases, other approaches are more suitable for a student. If using Classroom Teams meetings, teachers should let students know, in advance, the schedule for the week, including time to participate in the class via Teams.

- Asynchronous instruction that may include activities through Microsoft Classroom Teams, district-approved digital tools, the recording of lessons, or videos. If a teacher cannot make these options available to students, hard-copy packets may be used; however, teachers are strongly encouraged to ensure plans minimize reliance on this approach. If using asynchronous instruction only, teachers must contact the family each week via email, Classroom Teams or phone, and the student via Classroom Teams.

In addition, to the supports identified in the OSPI guidance, our Special Education, English Learner, and Highly Capable Programs teachers are expected to provide services directly and/or in coordination with students' general education classroom teacher.

Finally, we are now providing direct support for students who are required to quarantine for more than 14 days. This support includes live, remote instruction each day provided by one of three remote support teachers at the elementary level, and assistance with schoolwork from support teachers at the secondary level. In these cases, the classroom or remote support teacher will reach out directly to families and students to provide information about the support including the schedule.

In partnership,

Jamie Warner

Principal

Samantha Smith Elementary

Lake Washington School District

jwarner@lwsd.org

(425)936-2710



From the Office

Student Mask Update:

Update on student masks during the upcoming winter months-November is bringing more rainy/windy weather to the PNW. Our students are outside during recess multiple times during the day and their masks are getting wet. Please pack an extra one or two reusable or disposable masks in your student's back pack everyday so if theirs gets wet outside, they have dry back up ones to wear for the rest of the school day. Thank you!

Karen Cox

Health Room Office Professional

Samantha Smith Elementary

karcox@lwsd.org

425.936.2713

.Cul De Sac Drop off and pick up

Please do not drive up into the SE 233rd Place cul de sac for drop-off and pick-up (this is to the south of Smith campus). If arriving from this direction in car, please drop your student off on NE 10th Pl. We have a crossing guard out there in the morning and afternoon.

Late coming to school:

Parents, if you are bringing a child late to school, please make sure that you bring them into the office to get a slip to get them to class. Thank you

Change of plans at the end of a school day:

Parents, if your child needs to go home a different way than normal, please call the office so that we can make sure to get a note to the teacher. 425-936-2710

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.

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



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

Principal:[Jamie Warner](#)

Associate Principal:[Rebekah Westra](#)

Office Manager-Gary Wilson gwilson@lwsd.org

Secretary/Registrar-Kellie Eaton keaton@lwsd.org

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

LWSD: www.lwsd.org

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

Peachjar:[Community fliers](#)



PTSA News

The PTSA Board wishes all Smith families, teachers, and staff a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday!

****EVENTS & PROGRAMS****

Student Directories are here!

All Smith PTSA families receive the Student Directory! Please reach out to membership@smithptsa.org for more information.

Winter Wonderland – decorate on Nov 29-Dec 1 for event on Dec 2

Smith PTSA is celebrating the winter holidays with a **drive-thru light display and toy drive on Dec 2 at 6pm**. The display will be across from the basketball area to share about the different cultures during the winter holidays! We have holiday-specific banners and would love for families to sign up to bring any additional lights (battery operated), decorations, and symbols to go around the large sign! We are excited to learn about everyone's holidays and traditions. Decorating starts Nov. 29-Dec. 1 - sign up [here!](#)

Calling all Mathlets – 2021 Math Challenge Tournament on Dec 11

Student Registration is **now open** for the 2021 Math Challenge Tournament (MCT) - [here](#). Please use the 3-digit code school code (**222**) while registering each student. The MCT is **on Dec 11**. Detailed information can be found [here](#). Please email the Math Challenge Committee at mathchallenge@smithptsa.org.

Yearbook Cover Contest – submissions due Dec 15

It's time to enter the Yearbook Cover Contest! This year's theme is ***Dive Into A New Year***. Please follow these instructions: use plain white 8.5 x 11" paper; erase all stray marks; use lots of color; spell correctly; put your name and teacher on the BACK of the paper. To submit your entry, either drop off in the front office with Mrs. Eaton -or- send as a jpg or png file to yearbook@smithptsa.org with the student's name, grade, and teacher. Submissions are **due Dec 15 at 2pm**. Questions? yearbook@smithptsa.org.

Legacy Project for 5th Graders – complete survey by Jan 2022

****For families of Smith 5th Graders**** A Legacy Project is a gift that the 5th grade Dolphins will leave behind for future students and staff of Samantha Smith Elementary School. The idea is for the project to last a long time. Over time, with these Legacy Projects, the school has become a colorful, arts-rich, inviting space that students and the school community love being part of. Learn more [here!](#)

****ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES****

Volunteers on Watch Program

This year, we're replacing our Watch Dogs program with **Volunteers on Watch**. Volunteers are invited to help out during drop off and recess. You will need to show proof of vaccination, be a [registered volunteer](#), and wear a mask. Learn more and register [here](#).

Explore Art Program

Explore Art is a volunteer-based art program to support our continued effort in encouraging students to develop their own creativity and divergent thinking. Learn more and sign up here – [LINK](#).

Room Parents

We are looking for 1-2 volunteers per classroom to: check in with the teacher to see if anything is needed; pass on information to your class regarding your teacher's favorite things, teacher appreciation, finding Explore Art volunteers, or any other needs that may arise. Please sign up if interested! – [LINK](#)

Connect with the PTSA!

- Join the [Smith PTSA](#)
- [PTSA Facebook](#) Page
- [Smith Volunteers Facebook Group](#)



Counselor Corner

Hello and Happy November!

During this time of year, many families face financial hardships. If you or someone you know is in need of support this holiday season, there are several local organizations that offer confidential resources to families in need. Please see link below if interested in learning about local holiday gift and meal resources for your family. Please also feel free to reach out to me with questions or if in need to resources outside of this list.

Link: [Resource List - Holiday Gift and Meal Support.docx](#)

Katie Arena, School Counselor

kepstein@lwsd.org

Katie Arena

School Counselor and Administrative Designee

Samantha Smith Elementary School

(425) 936-2710 (ask for Katie Arena)

kepstein@lwsd.org



Dates to Remember

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