



TUKWILA ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

A Note from Principal, Ms. Nur...

Hello Tukwila Tiger Families,

November is in full swing at Tukwila Elementary, and we're heading into one of our busiest, and most exciting times of the year! 🍁

We have family conferences right around the corner. For families with multiple siblings, we're working hard to streamline the process so that all conferences can happen on the same day whenever possible. Your child's teacher will be reaching out to help coordinate schedules and make this process easy and convenient for you. 📅 Stay tuned—conference sign-ups are on the way!

Exciting News! Project Warm is Coming!

Project Warm will be coming to our school on November 12! We're so fortunate to have this opportunity, every child at Tukwila Elementary will receive a free winter coat.

Our team is coordinating with Project Warm and classroom teachers to make sure coats are distributed in an orderly and smooth manner.

You can help us by completing the photo consent forms. Participation is optional, and we have a clear process in place for families who prefer that their child not be photographed. Thank you for your continued support! What an exciting time to be at Tukwila Elementary!



Character Trait of the Month: Gratitude

This month, our Tiger Scholars are learning all about gratitude, what it means, how to express it, and how it can look different for everyone. We encourage families to continue the conversation at home by sharing examples of gratitude together, whether that's saying "thank you," helping a neighbor, or appreciating small daily moments. 🌻





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More from Principal Nur...

Lockdown Drill – Tuesday, November 18

As part of our ongoing commitment to student safety, we will be conducting a lockdown drill on Tuesday, November 18th. While these drills can sometimes feel a bit unsettling, we take great care to explain to students that this is just a practice, much like a fire drill, and it helps everyone feel more prepared and confident.

To support you in talking with your child at home, here are a few helpful talking points:

1. 🗨️ Remind your child that safety drills are about being prepared, not scared.
2. ❤️ Talk about how practicing ahead of time helps us stay calm and confident in emergencies.

Thumbs Up 3 Reminders

During safety drills, our students focus on these three simple actions:

👍 Voices Off

👁️ Eyes Looking

👂 Ears Listening

These cues help students move safely and calmly to our designated safe zones. Please take a few moments to review the Thumbs Up 3 with your Tiger Scholar at home so they feel ready and confident during our next practice.





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Get to know Kindergarten Teacher, Ms. Chu!

How many years have you
been teaching?

8 years

How long have you been at
Tukwila Elementary?

This is my first year!

What did you want to be
when you were younger?

A Teacher

What's your favorite
candy?

Kinder Bueno

If you could meet anyone,
who would it be?

G Dragon

If you could only watch
one show for the rest of
your life, what would it be?

Game of Thrones

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Nov. 5: Early Dismissal at
12:40pm & Teacher Conferences

Thursday, Nov. 6: Early Dismissal at
12:40pm & Teacher Conferences

Friday, Nov. 7: Early Dismissal at 12:0pm
& Teacher Conferences

Monday, Nov. 10: Veterans Day
Assembly, Gym, 9:30am

Tuesday, Nov. 11: No School, Veterans
Day Holiday

Wednesday, Nov. 12: Project Warm

Tuesday, Nov. 18: Lockdown Drill

Wednesday, Nov. 19: Early Dismissal at
1:55pm

Wednesday, Nov. 26: Early Release at
12:40pm

Thursday, Nov. 27: No School -
Thanksgiving Holiday

Friday, Nov. 28: No School -
Native American Heritage Day





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Kindergarten

Hello Kindergarten Families!

We've been having a wonderful time learning and growing together! Here are a few important reminders and updates for the upcoming weeks.

Shoe Reminder

Please send your child to school wearing Velcro (or other non-laced) shoes if they do not yet know how to tie their laces. This helps your child be more independent and saves valuable classroom time. Once your child is ready to practice tying, we will help and cheer them on!

What We're Working On

We are continuing to practice:

- Writing our names (with correct capitalization!)
- Recognizing and saying letter names and sounds
- You can help at home by encouraging your child to practice writing their name daily and pointing out letters while reading or during everyday activities.



Firefighter Visit!

We're excited to welcome our local firefighters for a special visit on November 3rd! They'll teach us about fire safety and show us some of their gear and equipment. Please talk with your child about fire safety at home, too!

Staying Healthy

It's the start of the sick season, and we're working on healthy habits in the classroom. We're reminding students to:

- Cough or sneeze into their elbow, not their hands.
- Wash hands often with soap and water.
- Use tissues and throw them away right after.

Thank you for helping keep our classroom healthy and happy!

Thank You!

We appreciate your continued support at home. Your partnership helps our little learners grow in big ways!

Warmly,

The Kindergarten Team





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Grade 1

Hello 1st Grade Families,
We have finished up our review of Kindergarten skills and have moved on to 1st grade material. This month we start our second math unit where we will be adding and subtracting within 20. We will work with teen numbers, find the total of three addends, and use 10 as a benchmark number when subtracting. In literacy, we will continue to introduce new sight words, work on short vowel families, blends, making connections to the text we are reading, and sequencing.

In social studies we will be learning about different cultures, their traditions, and holidays.

Grade 2

We can't wait to meet with families for conferences! Please be sure to confirm your date and time with your child's teacher. In math students are working on solving different types of word problems. Students continue to strengthen and spiral important skills in reading lessons. Everyone is enjoying the new UFLI phonics curriculum! We look forward to seeing everyone at conferences.

From the School Office

Is your student sick?
Are you going on an extended vacation?
Do you need to pick them up early?

Call the office!
(206) 901-7500





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Grade 3

Third grade has been working on multiplication, division, place value, and addition/subtraction. Our focus in reading has been spelling, phonics, and comprehension. Writing has focused on the fundamentals of writing i.e. topic sentences, adding detail, elaboration, and expanding sentences. Third grade students also participated in art creating guitars based on the Mexican movie Coco.



Grade 4

Fourth graders are finishing up the place values unit in math this month. Unit 2 will focus on multiplication and algebraic thinking. The 4th grade teachers have set growth goals for our students to show proficiency in identifying factors and multiples. In reading, fourth graders are continuing to read narratives and look closely at character's actions, thoughts, and dialogue to understand their feelings, motivations, and relationships. In writing, we're working on essential skills and writing in a variety of genres for different purposes.



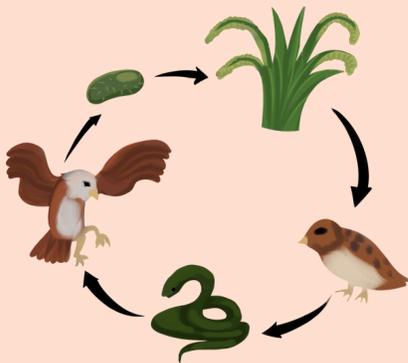


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Grade 5

Hello, it is a wonderful day to be a 5th grader. Currently, students are working hard in math learning different ways to multiply numbers. In addition, students are learning how to find quotients and estimate quotients. In literacy, students are working to understand inference and find evidence to support. Also, in writing students are working hard to write their narratives and understand the structure needed to write a proper narrative. Finally, in science students just finished up learning about food chains and food webs and why they are important.



MLL

The MLL department began working with our students in October. We are meeting with students daily and supporting them inside their classroom. We are excited to be collaborating with teachers to better support Math, Writing, and Science. Looking forward to an awesome month learning right alongside our students.

S.T.E.A.M.

November in STEAM is an exciting month! Kindergarten and first grade will be working on fall science as well as coding. Second grade will be exploring the science of wind using parachutes. The third graders will be learning about electricity. The fourth and fifth graders will be starting multiple projects dealing with engineering and robotics. Please visit the STEAM lab during conferences and see what your child is working on!





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Physical Education (PE)

During November, Kindergarten will be developing their coordination using a variety of different equipment like jump ropes, cup stilts, hula hoops, scooters, and hop balls. First and second grade classes will be working on improving their basketball dribbling skills and playing games like Tunnel Tag, Rescue Tag, Rock Paper Scissors Battle, and Mousetrap. Third, fourth, and fifth graders will be developing their teamwork and sportsmanship skills by playing games such as Medicine Tag and Pizza Pizza.



Music

We are keeping busy in the music room! November will be full of thankfulness, harvest and autumn themed songs and activities. We have learned songs to honor our Veterans, which we will sing in an assembly on November 10th. We will also learn some songs in honor of Native American Heritage Month. We are focusing on keeping a steady beat and playing rhythms accurately. We have begun using percussion instruments and are working on appropriate instrument technique and care. I am always looking for music that represents the diverse cultures here at Tukwila Elementary. If you have music from your culture to share, I would love to hear it.

Happy Fall,
Mrs. Littlefield





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From the Health Room

Head Lice

We are continuing to find students with head lice. This is an increasing problem throughout the country. For your family's protection and to prevent spreading lice to others, it is recommended that parents check their children about once a week.

Who Gets Lice?

Anyone. Frequent, regular shampooing does not prevent lice. Younger children seem to catch them more frequently because of more close contact with one another. Animals do not carry or contract head lice.

How do you get Head Lice?

They walk, they do not fly or hop. They travel from person to person directly (two heads touching) or are transferred via personal articles (i.e. combs, brushes, hats, pillowcases, etc.)

Facts about Head Lice

The adult louse is a wingless insect less than 1/8" long and is a pale brownish-gray. Lice do not carry disease. They bite the scalp causing itching. They move quickly and avoid light so they are often difficult to see.

The female louse lays 3-6 eggs (nits) per day and may live up to 30 days.

Facts about Nits

The nits (egg sacs) of lice are cemented to human hair with nature's own superglue. The nits appear as small, silvery oval-shaped specks that look like dandruff. But they are very difficult to remove. The nits hatch in 7-10 days.

Students with head lice will be excluded from school until they are properly treated.





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More from the Health Room

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD COMES HOME WITH HEAD LICE

Don't panic. Don't blame. Anyone—adult or youngster—can get head lice. Head lice are passed from person to person by direct contact or on shared objects (pillows, combs, hats, towels, etc.). It has nothing to do with cleanliness and does not reflect on you as a parent. The problem is easily managed. Just follow the instructions below:

1. Check every member of the family.

Look for tiny silvery egg sacs (nits) on hair shafts, near the scalp, especially at the nape of the neck and behind the ears. Head lice are small brownish-gray insects without wings. Any family member with lice or nits must be treated.

2. Head lice treatment.

A two-step process involving 1) the use of a medicated pediculicidal product and 2) combing out all nits. Proceed as follows:

a. Remove child's shirt and provide a towel to cover the eyes. (This is essential.) Do not treat in the bathtub or shower, but have the child lean over the sink (this confines the lice product to the scalp/neck).

b. Use one of several louse remedies (pediculicidal product) available at your pharmacy. Some are available by prescription, some over the counter. All these products must be used carefully, o (1) Consulting your obstetrician if you are pregnant or nursing (whether treating yourself or others); consulting your physician before treating anyone with extensive cuts or scratches on the head or neck, or anyone using other medications.

(2) DO NOT USE THESE PRODUCTS ON INFANTS.*

DO READ ALL PACKAGE INFORMATION BEFORE USING THESE PRODUCTS. ** AVOID PERSONAL LICE SPRAYS.

c. Although it can take time and sometimes be difficult, "nit picking" or removing all nits will insure complete treatment. Louse products do not kill all the nits, and survivors will hatch into crawling lice within 7-10 days, generating a cycle of self-reinfestation. Even dead nits will cling to the hair and cause uncertainty about reinfestation. Nit removal can be accomplished with a special metal combing tool manufactured for this purpose or by picking them out with the fingernails.

Note: Nit combing is best accomplished with hair which is dry or slightly damp. Discard nits into plastic bag and seal for disposal.



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More from the Health Room

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD COMES HOME WITH HEAD LICE, continued

3. Following nit removal, have child put on clean clothing.
4. A daily nit check is advisable for at least 10 days following treatment and then check should become part of routine home hygiene. You may have to retreat in 7-10 days if there is evidence of new nits or newly-hatched lice. (Regardless of precautions taken at home, reinfestation from others can still take place.) Treatment itself can cause itching; do not treat again on the basis of itchiness alone.

TREATMENT OF PERSONAL ARTICLES AND ENVIRONMENT

1. Machine wash all washable clothing and bed linens which have been in contact with the infested person during the last three days. Use hot water and dry in a hot dryer. Non-washables such as stuffed animals, sleeping bags, headphones, helmets, etc. can be vacuumed, dry cleaned or stored in tightly sealed plastic bag at room temperature for two weeks.
2. Vacuum everywhere. Rugs, upholstered furniture and mattresses, even car seats should be carefully vacuumed to pick up any living lice or nits attached to fallen hairs. Discard vacuum bag into sealed plastic bag for disposal. The use of insecticidal sprays is not recommended and strongly discouraged as it may be harmful to family members and pets and is of questionable benefit.
3. Soak combs, brushes, etc. in hot water 5-10 minutes. Also soak hair barrettes, ribbons, head bands, etc.

Reporting Cases

Don't be embarrassed to notify your child's school (daycare, camp, etc.) so other parents can be alerted to a possible outbreak. Also notify your child's playmate's parents. Parental cooperation will help protect all children including your own.

* Lice/nits on infants should be removed manually.

Package directions for prescription NIX suggest it is not necessary to remove nits. The Health Department recommends nit removal following treatment with all products.

