



DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

TUKWILA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MS. NUR...

Hello Tukwila Tiger Families,

December is always an exciting time at Tukwila Elementary! We're right in the middle of the holiday season, and the joy and energy in the building are definitely growing as we head toward winter break. During this busy time, please continue to engage in conversations with your child about school expectations, staying focused, and finishing the month strong. We are also incredibly grateful to Project Warm, who provided every child in our school with a brand-new winter coat. What a beautiful example of community care and generosity! 🧥

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Recently, we've noticed an increase in families picking up students in unsafe areas during dismissal. Our team has been working hard to ensure dismissal is safe, smooth, and completed in under 10 minutes, helping families get home quickly and efficiently. With your partnership, we can keep this going! Here's how you can support a safe dismissal:

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

🚗 Don't want to wait in line? You are welcome to bypass the line and park in the lot.

🚗 Please remain in your car if you are in the pick-up loop – we will bring your child to you!

🏢 All pick-ups MUST go through Mrs. Boline.

Our designated pick-up zone begins only after you enter the school loop.

Mrs. Boline is your guide – if you see her, you're in the right spot!

👤 If a family member is picking up your child, they cannot return to the car in the unsafe zone. They must walk to the parking lot or the designated pick-up area before returning to the vehicle.

Thank you, families, for your continued support and teamwork. ❤️ Your partnership helps us keep our students safe and ensures our routines run smoothly every single day. We appreciate you! 🐅

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MORE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL, MS. NUR...

CHARACTER TRAIT OF THE MONTH: EMPATHY

This month, our Tiger Scholars are learning all about Empathy, what it means, how we show it, and why it is essential for building a strong and caring school community. We encourage families to continue the conversation at home by talking about feelings, practicing active listening, and noticing moments when empathy shows up in everyday life.

YOU MIGHT TRY ASKING YOUR CHILD QUESTIONS LIKE:

“How can we show care when someone feels sad or frustrated?”

“What does it look like to step into someone else’s shoes?”

“What is one empathetic thing you did today?”

We appreciate your continued support!

SHELTER-IN-PLACE DRILL - HAZARDOUS WASTE

As part of our continued commitment to student and staff safety, we will be conducting a Shelter-in-Place Drill this month. This practice focuses on what to do in the event of a hazardous waste or environmental concern in our surrounding area.

We explain to students that this is just a practice, similar to a fire drill or earthquake drill. These routines help everyone feel prepared, confident, and calm should an unexpected situation arise.

HERE ARE A FEW HELPFUL TALKING POINTS TO GUIDE DISCUSSION AT HOME:

-  Reassure your child that safety drills are about being prepared, not being scared.
-  Explain that sometimes we stay inside to keep the air clean and safe.
-  Practicing together helps us move with confidence and follow directions quickly.

Thank you for all your support!





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GET TO KNOW OUR ECEAP COORDINATOR, ROMINA MUNOZ-MACIAS!

How many years have you been teaching?

I have been a ECEAP Family Support for 10 Years and a ECEAP paraeducator for 5 Years.

How long have you been at Tukwila Elementary?

5 Years

What did you want to be when you were younger?

A teacher

What is your favorite candy?

Any chocolate with any type of nuts

If you could meet anyone, who would it be?

Frida Kahlo

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

Ted Talks

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, 12/3: Early Release, 1:55pm

Friday, 12/5: Picture Retake Day

Monday, 12/8: Mr. Bille Field Trip, 9:15am

Tuesday, 12/9: Mr. Ibrahim Field Trip, 9:15am

Wednesday, 12/10: Early Release, 1:55pm

Thursday, 12/11: Health Screenings, all day

Thursday, 12/11: Movie & Craft Night, 6:00pm

Friday, 12/12: Health Screenings, all day

Monday, 12/15: Mrs. Fisher Field Trip, 9:15am

Tuesday, 12/16: Mrs. Bautista Field Trip, 9:15am

Wednesday, 12/17: Early Release, 1:55pm

Friday, 12/19: Holiday Sing-a-long, 9:30am

Friday, 12/19: Report Cards sent Home

December 20 - January 4: WINTER BREAK
SEE YOU ON MONDAY, JANUARY 5!

NEWS FROM OUR SOCIAL WORKER, MS. ALEXIS

Hello everyone, my name is Alexis Nevins, and I'm the school social worker here at Tukwila Elementary. I am passionate about supporting our students' social and emotional growth, and I truly believe these skills help them feel confident, connected, and ready to learn. I am excited to partner with our staff, families, and students to build a caring community where every child can thrive. I cannot wait to help in any way that I can!



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KINDERGARTEN NEWS

This month, we are practicing letter names and sounds, learning more sight words, working on counting, making 5s, and explaining our thinking using complete sentences. Students are also doing partner work to build collaboration skills. Please help your child practice tying shoelaces or use Velcro shoes. We also highly recommend reading with your child for at least 15 minutes each day (in any language) to support comprehension and a love for reading.



GRADE 1 NEWS

Hello First Grade Families!

Here is what we are working on this month...

Math: We continue our work in Unit 2 of our math curriculum. We are practicing different strategies for adding and subtraction within 20. Please talk with your child about their favorite addition or subtraction strategy. We are also looking to build fluency with their math facts. Any extra practice at home is always helpful!

Literacy: In phonics, we will finish up our work with short vowel word families and move on to long vowel patterns. We will also continue working on beginning blends. In grammar, we will work on plural nouns, pronouns, and verb tenses.

Social Studies: We will be learning about different types of families and cultures as well as the holidays and traditions that we celebrate.



GRADE 2 NEWS

Hello Families!

Thank you for coming to conferences last month. We enjoyed meeting with you and discussing your child's progress. This month, students are working on adding double-digit numbers with regrouping ($45+36$). We will also be starting double-digit subtraction. Any extra practice you can do at home would be helpful! Students have started checking out books from the school library! We usually go once a week. Please help your child remember to bring their book back each week!



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GRADE 3 NEWS

Greetings from Third Grade!

Students in third grade are currently learning their multiplication facts, working with arrays and word problems.

Students should be reading every evening at home and studying their weekly spelling words. In writing the focus is on paragraph writing with an emphasis on indenting, capitalization and punctuation.

In December, students will be completing their second round of DIBELS testing. In January, students will be taking the iReady Diagnostic tests in reading and math.

Students will also enjoy learning about science and nature in the Pacific Northwest through guest speakers from Nature Vision that will visit our classrooms.

GRADE 4 NEWS

Fourth graders have started Unit 2 in math, focusing on multiplication and algebraic thinking. The 4th grade teachers have set growth goals for our students to show proficiency in identifying factors and multiples. This will be worked on throughout unit 2. In writing, we are using Mystery Writing lessons to continue to build skills in narrative writing. In reading, fourth graders are working on foundational skills and comprehension strategies. Students can check out books from the library now, and we encourage them to read for at least 20-30 minutes at home each day.



GRADE 5 NEWS

Fifth graders had a wonderful time on our recent field trip to Normandy Park Cove. Students explored a variety of local ecosystems and learned about the life cycle of salmon. One of the most memorable moments was the hands-on opportunity to observe and touch a deceased salmon, which helped students make real-world connections.

In math, students are strengthening their understanding of decimals and fractions, building confidence with comparing, converting, and applying these concepts in problem-solving.

In reading and writing, we are wrapping up our narrative story units. Students have been working hard to develop strong characters, clear story structure, and vivid details in their writing, while continuing to grow as thoughtful readers using theme, summarization and inferences.



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P.E. NEWS

In December, Kindergarten students will continue to develop their coordination and cooperation while participating in a variety of activities in PE such as scooters, red hop balls, toss and catch scoopers, and foam building blocks. First and second grade classes will be working on their foot-dribbling skills and teamwork while playing soccer. Third, fourth, and fifth graders will be focusing on sportsmanship skills by playing games such as Medicine Tag, Pizza Pizza, and Capture the Cone.



MUSIC NEWS

Music classes are focusing on songs for the Winter Sing Along on December 19th at 9:30am in the gym! Students in all grades are learning about the music of Peter Tchaikovsky through the Nutcracker Ballet. We will focus on ballet, the Nutcracker story, the composer, and musical form and instrumentation of several pieces from the Nutcracker through singing, visuals and movement. Within these activities, we always work toward singing in tune and performing rhythms accurately.



S.T.E.A.M. NEWS

December is coding month! Ask your child what robot they have coded in STEAM class. Kindergartners, first and second graders have been using a robot called Indie. They code Indie by placing colored tiles on the floor. The third, fourth, and fifth graders have used Lego Spike Robots and Sphero robots. All students code mazes on the computer as well using a program called Skill Struck. Coding for young students helps with problem solving skills and to understand how computers work. Please contact me for ideas for coding at home.

ricem@tukwila.wednet.edu

MLL NEWS

Greetings from the MLL department. Our school had a very successful week of Parent Teacher Conferences last month. Families were able to connect with teachers, alongside interpreters to get information on how students can be successful learners. During the Fall, Ms. Radzi and Ms. Sisley have been collaborating with teachers to better engage MLL students. We've been working on providing teachers with tools to support language and understanding through visuals and interactive activities.