



# The Bear Essentials

Theodore Judah Elementary Newsletter  
January, 2020

## A MESSAGE FROM Mr. Holding

Dear Theodore Judah Families,

I would like to extend a warm welcome back and Happy New Year to all families. May this year bring you, and your family, great joy, peace and harmony, good health, and prosperity. We thank you for your caring support and partnership in working together with your children.

The New Year is a wonderful time for families to discuss their own family values and how to make a difference in the lives of others. Discussions will set the tone for effective communication throughout the New Year. Families are encouraged to seize the opportunity to celebrate personal achievements and to set individual and family goals.

As always, January will be busy at Judah. Each class will explore new units of study using a variety of methods to further develop each students' 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills to the highest level through: Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Creativity and Innovation, Collaboration and Leadership, Cross- Curricular Understanding, Communication, Digital Literacy, and Personal Management of one's learning.

We continue to enjoy working with you, and your children. Let's keep doing the great work together; may our differences make us stronger.

"Make each day your masterpiece! Live the story you want to tell the world."  
~ John Wooden

Sincerest Regards,  
Mr. Holding  
Proud Principal

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- School visitation/January 10th
- MLK Day/January 20th/No School
- TK/Kinder Registration 1/14-1/28th

### Theodore Judah Spirit Days

Show your school spirit every Friday by wearing the following:

- Your favorite TJ shirt ("Bear Wear")
- Blue or Gold (our school colors)
- Bear Wear order forms will be coming out soon!

### Lost and Found

Please remind your children to take home their belongings at the end of each day. The Judah lost and found is growing to capacity again.

### Flu Season

With cold and flu season upon us, please keep the following guidelines in mind when deciding whether or not to send your child to school. This will help to control the spread of infectious diseases at school and allow your child to be available for learning. Students should remain home for the following reasons:

- For temperatures greater than 100 degrees. Children should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school and not taking fever reducing medication to control symptoms.
- If diagnosed with a strep infection. Students need to be on an antibiotic for a minimum of 24

hours, fever free, and feeling well before returning to school.

- If your child has vomited or had persistent diarrhea during the night or in the morning before school.
- If your child has a heavy, moist productive cough, chest congestion, or discolored nasal drainage.
- If your child has pinkeye (conjunctivitis). Students need to have completed 24 hours of medication, and have no visible redness or discharge before returning to school.

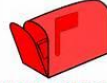
## **School Safety: Arrival and Dismissal**

There have been several concerns raised regarding the consistency and cooperation during our drop-off/pick-up times in the morning and afternoons.

- First and foremost, we **must respect** our neighbors and **not block or park** in any of their driveways.
- **Please adhere to the signage and not park your cars in undesignated areas. There is a possibility that you will be ticketed from the traffic department. It also slows the process down in the morning and creates unwarranted chaos.**
- Please move your car all the way forward in the drop-off area as to leave room for others. We are trying to make this a seamless process.
- Have your child ready to depart from vehicle when you arrive.
- The red zones are not a parking spots.
- Refrain from doing U-turns in front of the school during this time. It creates an unsafe environment.
- Be sure to cross at the cross-walk as this would be the safest route to get from one side of street to the other.
- Children are not allowed to play with balls, Frisbees, etc. in front of the school. Too many times they have ended up on the street. This is not safe. Please talk with your children.
- Any child that is not participating in our afterschool programs, clubs, or enrichment activities should not be on campus after dismissal. They are not being supervised and this becomes a safety concern.

**Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we want to maintain a safe school environment.**

## **Contact Information Changes**



**PLEASE NOTE THE  
NEW ADDRESS &  
PHONE NUMBER**

**Your contact information is very important to us in case of an emergency. If any information should change, please notify the school office so that we can update the information in our system.**

Students are attending Science Alive, Garden, Music and Art classes as part of the many enrichments that Judah offers at your neighborhood school. Check out all the great artwork on our hallway bulletin boards throughout our campus. These programs are fully sponsored by all the hard work and efforts of our school PTA. We appreciate all that you do!

## **January's Citizenship Theme: Enthusiasm**

This student can put themselves in your place and understand how you feel. If you are in a bad mood they'll give you space and cheer you up. They look for ways to make everyone feel like they belong.

### **Daily Attendance is Important**

One of the basic foundations for success in school is regular school attendance. Additionally, teaching our children that regular attendance to school is important helps send the message that education is important. It also teaches the importance of keeping one's responsibilities. Our monthly attendance goal is 97%.

To that end, please be sure to stay home only when truly ill, or due to a real family need. See the attendance section in our school handbook for additional guidance. Remember to schedule appointments outside of the school day when possible, or to return to school when finished. Minimize early dismissals. Family vacations are not excused absences. Thanks to everyone for supporting daily attendance!