



# The Bear Essentials

Theodore Judah Elementary Newsletter  
December, 2017

## A MESSAGE FROM Mr. Holding

Dear Theodore Judah Families,

As we end 2017, I would like to thank you for your commitment to Theodore Judah Elementary and to the belief of public education. The success we have experienced since the opening of the school year owes a great deal to parents/caregivers and families like yours. As we approach a more extended winter break, I wish you health and happiness and hope the winter break provides you with a myriad of opportunities for you and your children to do things you might not be able to accomplish when school is in session.

At Judah, we believe in the importance of family traditions and holiday and sharing them with one another at school. We welcome families to teach us about their heritages, thus strengthening the connection between home and school. We like to involve the children in hands-on activities that celebrate who we are as a community.

This holiday season, I hope you will join me in taking a few moments to reflect on the positive impact our students, parents, teachers and staff all make each and every day at Theodore Judah and to each other. I am very proud of the strong emphasis we place on relationships and caring in our school. Our compassion and support of one another gives us much hope for reaching our goal to enable all learners to succeed and contribute their full potential to the future.'

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my own wishes of peace, love, joy and hope, to each member of the Judah community. Have a wonderful holiday season, with time for celebration, relaxation and joyful experiences with family and friends.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- November 30- December 8<sup>th</sup>- Minimum Day Schedule/ Parent/Teacher Conferences
- December 15<sup>th</sup>- Community Tour

**December 23<sup>rd</sup>- January 7<sup>th</sup> – Winter Break**

### 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!

### Teacher/Parent Conferences

Beginning Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> through December 8<sup>th</sup> you will be opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. Our teachers look forward to taking the time to meet with you to discuss your child's social/academic progress.

Your child's teacher will be reaching out to arrange a time and date to meet.

Minimum Day Schedule for these days:

Primary Grades (1-3): 8:15am- 12:39pm

Intermediate Grades (4-6): 8:00am- 12:39pm

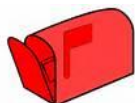
## Safety is our Priority

To ensure adequate supervision of our students, please be sure that your child **does not enter campus prior to 7:45 AM, or stay longer than 15 minutes after dismissal. There is no scheduled adult supervision before 7:45AM, or after 2:27 PM (M, T, W, F) and 1:27 PM on Thursdays.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

### Rainy Day Arrival Procedures:

- Students report to the cafeteria during rainy days.
- Teachers will pick up their classes in the cafeteria during their scheduled bell time
  - Students will be escorted to classrooms by classroom teacher.

### 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.**

## PTA Funded Enrichment Programs

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!

## December's Citizenship Theme: Persistence

This month we recognize what it means to show persistence. Persistence is the ability to continue to get up no matter how many times you've been knocked down. It requires will power, flexibility, strength of character, **determination** and a **desire** to succeed at all costs. If there was one common denominator that could be applied to **successful** people, it would be persistence.

Here are a few ways to teach your kids to be persistent:

1. Nurture a hobby
2. Give them opportunities to succeed
3. Give your child responsibility
4. Resist rescuing your child from meltdowns
5. Remind them of their successes

Things you can say to encourage persistence:

- "Look at all of your hard work"
- "Good for you, you didn't give up"
- "The more you practice, the better you get"

### 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!