

October 14, 2021

Hello Hogan Cedars Families,

It is hard to believe we are midway through October. We are excited to partner with you in one of the largest and most rewarding jobs, educating your children. Students are coming to school ready to learn and are displaying proper respect toward themselves and others. I have had the opportunity to observe many classrooms and review student work. As a result of these experiences, I have been able to see that quality education is going on at Hogan Cedars.

In addition to providing a strong focus on academics, we also work very hard to make our school a safe, caring environment for both our students and staff. One of the goals of our School Improvement Plan (SIP) revolves around student social and emotional wellness. Our work in this area includes many components. One of the first areas we work on with students involves teaching the expectations at Hogan Cedars. In each area of the school, we have developed expectations teaching children how to Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful. This work is through PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports). We start the school year by modeling and practicing what these expectations look like and sound like. When we observe students who struggle with following the expectations, we have that student 'show it again' to demonstrate the appropriate behavior. We believe that devoting a significant amount of time working on expectations is beneficial to all students.

Now that we have practiced these skills to fluency, we will begin documenting 'reteaching' opportunities that your child may have had. We use the documentation for informing us of additional support students may need to assist them with demonstrating expectations. Occasionally, students may need even more assistance and will require an office discipline referral. Our goal at Hogan Cedars is to provide the support students need to significantly decrease the amount of reteaches as well as office discipline referrals. We at Hogan Cedars want to provide a respectful, responsible, safe, and tolerant climate for everyone by using various methods that will reinforce expected behaviors.

Fall conferences are coming up. This is an excellent opportunity to find out how your child is doing and ask questions. Information regarding your child's conference will be shared soon.

I understand that many staff, parents, and students are excited for Halloween. In accordance with district policy, we will not be having classroom parties, parades, or allowing students to dress in costumes. I appreciate your flexibility and understanding.

Maintaining open and ongoing communication with you is very important to HCES. Please feel free to reach out to me or your child's teacher with concerns or celebrations. It is our goal to serve you and promote a strong school climate that is conducive to learning for staff, parents, and students.

Notes from the office

Kindergarten parents, if you have not provided your child's birth certificate yet, please take a moment and send that to us. You can bring it in and we will make a copy or you can scan and email it to tusow@gresham.k12.or.us. Thank you so much for your help with this.

Please continue to call in your child's absence. If we do not hear from you, an automated call will go out to you. These calls are for safety purposes. We appreciate your attention to this.

Picture day is coming soon. You should find an order packet in your child's backpack today.

You may be wondering about lunch menus. Sodexo is not printing menus at this time because they are having supply chain issues and they were not able to follow a set menu as they have in the past. Students will be offered a balanced healthy choice at each meal but we are not able to tell you what that is. Thank you for your understanding.

Dates to remember:

October 28	Smile, it's Picture Day
November 11	NO SCHOOL--Veterans Day
November 22-23	NO SCHOOL--Parent Conferences
November 24-26	NO SCHOOL--Thanksgiving Holiday

Educationally yours,

Heidi Blakley
Principal, Hogan Cedars