



# Tuesday Take Home - October 15, 2019

Gordon Russell Middle School Weekly Newsletter

Phone: 503-667-6900

Web Address: <http://russell.gresham.k12.or.us>

<https://twitter.com/GRMSTBirds>

<https://www.instagram.com/gordonrussellthunderbirds>

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Wednesday	October 16, 2019	Fundraiser Ends	
Wednesday	October 16, 2019	SSA Community Gathering @ GRMS	4:15 PM
Wednesday	October 16, 2019	Fall Choir Concert @ SBHS	7:00 PM
Monday	October 21, 2019	JV1 Volleyball vs. HB Lee	5:00 PM
Monday	October 21, 2019	Varsity 2 Volleyball vs. HB Lee	6:00 PM
Monday	October 21, 2019	Varsity 1 Volleyball vs. HB Lee	7:00 PM
Tuesday	October 22, 2019	Principal Recognition	3:00 PM
Wednesday	October 23, 2019	JV2 Volleyball @ Dexter McCarty Middle School	5:00 PM
Wednesday	October 23, 2019	Varsity 2 Volleyball @ Dexter McCarty Middle School	6:00 PM
Wednesday	October 23, 2019	Varsity 1 Volleyball @ Dexter McCarty Middle School	7:00 PM
Thursday	October 24, 2019	Academic Student of the Month	3:00 PM
Thursday	October 24, 2019	PTC Meeting	7:00 PM
Friday	October 25, 2019	Spirit Day - Costume Day!!	*see below
Monday	October 28, 2019	7th & 8th AVID Grade College Fair	
Monday	October 28, 2019	JV1 Volleyball vs. Floyd Light	5:00 PM
Monday	October 28, 2019	Varsity 2 Volleyball vs. Floyd Light	6:00 PM
Monday	October 28, 2019	Varsity 1 Volleyball vs. Floyd Light	7:00 PM

## FUNDRAISER ENDS TOMORROW

The fundraiser will end tomorrow October 16th. Please make sure to turn in order forms at the table in the commons before school. Thank you in advance for your support of this important activity.

## PARENT TEACHER CLUB

The Parent Teacher Club of PTC will be meeting on Thursday, October 24th at 7:00 PM. This parent group is involved in a variety of activities designed to support students and staff at Gordon Russell. We hope that you will be able to make it!

## SPIRIT DAY-COSTUME DAY-OCTOBER 25TH

Friday, October 25th will be our Spirit Day for the month. Hats are okay on these days, but should be related to the theme and removed during class if the teacher makes the request. Please remind your student of the guidelines for "Costume Day".

- Costumes should be in good taste (i.e. not revealing or too gory) and should be related to the theme of the day.
- No toy or look alike weapons.
- Costumes should not endanger the safety of others.

- Costumes should not disrupt instruction.
- **Facemasks are NOT permitted.**
- **Facepaint, make-up or hairspray should be applied at home and not brought to school.**
- **In light of the social environment, clown costumes will not be allowed.**

## PROGRESS REPORTS

October 10th marked the end of the first 6 weeks Progress Reports. We will be mailing student grades home around October 21st. Please review the information with your student. Be sure to celebrate successes and discuss strategies where improvement is needed. If you have questions, please contact the appropriate teacher. Additional information will be communicated during Parent/Teacher conferences scheduled for November 25th & 26th. Please mark your calendar with these dates.

## AFTER SCHOOL ATHLETIC SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS

We are pleased with the parent and student support provided at our after-school games. When it comes to maintaining a game environment that is supportive of athletes and comfortable for all spectators, there are a few guidelines that Russell students should keep in mind.

While attending an athletic event, student spectators need to respect the other spectators attending the event. Movement in and out of the gymnasiums should be restricted to quarter, half, and between game breaks. The doors leading to the hallway are the only doors available for entry and exit. DO NOT use the doors that lead to the football field. These are emergency exits only.

Students attending after school events are expected to be spectators in the stands. Students are not to be roaming around the hallway or areas outside of the gymnasium. These areas, including the covered play area, are off-limits to student activities during our games. Skateboarding and riding bicycles are also prohibited in these areas when after school events are taking place.

Again, we appreciate student spectators at our after-school athletic events. We expect our spectators to behave in a manner respectful of athletes and other spectators. Students and spectators unable to follow our guidelines will be removed from the event and restricted from after-school activities.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Volunteers needed for fundraising dates! On 10/16 and 10/17, we will need volunteers from about 8:15 through around 10:15. On Monday 11/5, we will need volunteers starting at around 1:30 through 4:30. Please contact Mr. Bonifacio at [bonifacio@gresham.k12.or.us](mailto:bonifacio@gresham.k12.or.us) or 503-667-6900 if you are willing to help.

### **HEALTH CONCERNS AROUND VAPING**

Over the past few years I have seen an increase of students using and talking about vaping in school and at home. GBSD middle school principals have felt it necessary to draft a combined letter to parents about this topic. Please see the attached letter and as always, please call if you have any questions - Rolland Hayden.

### **SCHOOL WIDE BINDER SYSTEM**

Organization is one of the most important parts of being an effective student. Management of time and energy and learning to set priorities can make the difference between success and failure at school. This year GRMS will be teaching and promoting the uses of binders as an organizational tool. Teachers will use the binder as a part of instruction to better keep students organized and help them manage their time and energy. Thank you for your support in this area.

### **UPDATING CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please remember us if you or your family's contact information changes. Please call the main office to update your student's records.

### **STUDENT PLANNERS**

An important part of helping our students develop responsible habits that promote success is the effective use of the student planner. The student planners were presented to students during the first week of school. Please ask to see your student's planner and look to see if they are using it to record homework, project due-dates, and important school events. This is a key organizational strategy for continued success.

### **SCHOOL/PARENT COMMUNICATION**

The Tuesday Take-Home is a weekly newsletter that will be sent electronically and/or is sent home with each student on every Tuesday of the school year. The Tuesday Take-Home highlights events, procedures and PTC information and occasionally has important items attached that are to be delivered home.

The GRMS website is an online resource that includes information from both of our newsletters, as well as information related to athletics, lunches, buses, student grades/progress, and more. Check it out at <http://russell.gresham.k12.or.us>.

Student Planner purchased at registration (basic student fee) and will be given to student the first week of school. The planner includes preface pages highlighting school expectations, a calendar overview, and procedures/policies. In addition, this planner will allow your student to communicate daily academic information from every class.

### **FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS**

Free and reduced lunch program applications are assessed by a District Office computer and delivered to the school to verify applicant eligibility. If you feel you might qualify, please apply to potentially gain additional resources to support your student. Processing takes about a week. Families will be notified of their status as soon as possible. We ask that you please be patient with this process.

**\*Applications must be completed every school year to maintain enrollment in the federal program.**

If you have already received notice of qualification, please bring that paperwork with you to registration. If you qualify for the program after registration, you may then bring verification of your eligibility to our office and receive the appropriate refund.

### **MEDICATION REMINDER!**

School personnel may not give children medication without written permission from the parent/guardian and doctor. Parents must bring the medication to the school office and complete the required district form before the medication can be given. Students may never transport medication.

Prescription medication must be prepared and labeled by a pharmacist at the direction of a physician. The district requires a signed permission form and instructions from the student's parent, which includes: name of student, name of medication, route, dosage and frequency of administration will be needed.

Prescription medication must remain in the original container from the pharmacy or doctor's office. Nonprescription medication must be brought to school in original container or packaging and must follow recommended guidelines for dosage. Nonprescription medication means only commercially prepared, non-alcohol based medication to be taken during school hours that is necessary for the student to remain in school.

### **SUN SCHOOL PROGRAMMING**

Our school offers SUN programming. We will offer a range of athletic and interest-based classes including homework support in three sessions throughout the school year. Programming will run Monday through Thursday. An activity bus will be available to transport students to their neighborhood following programming.

Our belief is that by partnering with community programs such as those listed above, as well as others, our middle schools can offer even more after school activities than before. Even better, more students will have the opportunity to participate because the offerings will be much more than a standard athletic program. As we all know, the more students we have engaged in positive after-school activities, the better it is for them, their parents, and our community.

### **FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR GORDON RUSSELL**

While shopping for school supplies (list included) if you purchase supplies at the Office Depot, please give them the GRMS school identification # 70083784, or mention to them that you're a GRMS student, and 5% of your purchase amount will be credited to a merchandise account for our school. Last year we received several hundred dollars worth of supplies as a result of this program. (The GRMS Supply List is posted on our school website and will be available at registration.)

to cross the street. We will be adjusting the crossing guard times to meet the needs of the students. To start with we will have a crossing guard on duty from 8:40 – 9:00 am and 3:35 – 3:50 pm.

### **DAILY ATTENDANCE AND NOTIFICATION**

Gordon Russell Middle School continues to use an **every period attendance system**. This will not only allow us to more closely monitor students in the building, but will also

enable us to communicate student attendance more effectively with families. We will be making calls to parents throughout the day to ensure an open line of communication while students are at school, or confirming that they have an excused absence.

### **NEWS FROM THE CAFETERIA**

Good News! This year breakfast is FREE for everyone! That's right! Free, Reduced and Paid students all receive a free breakfast during the 2019-2020 school year! The Kitchen staff is looking forward to seeing you for breakfast before school! A friendly reminder from the Kitchen. Please remember to ask your student about their lunch balance or have them ask the Lunch Ladies about their account balance. You can access it through the school website with Mealtime Online.

### **STUDENT STORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Our student store would like to open soon, but we are in need of parent volunteers. This is a great way to help support GRMS! There are several different days and shifts available. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Caryn Brown at 503.502.8295

### **SAM BARLOW ATHLETIC EVENTS**

We appreciate and look forward to your attendance at Sam Barlow High School Athletic events. We wanted to let you know that the football season is underway and that there has been a change in attendance rules. All middle and elementary aged students must be accompanied by an adult in order to be admitted to the game. This policy has been put in place by the Mount Hood Conference and is designed to help us host a safe event. We look forward to seeing you at our athletic events, and Go Bruins!

### **COUNSELOR INFORMATION**

To help you all contact the counselor who works with your students please read the following information. Ms. Dixon works with 6th and 7th grade and Mrs. Bootzin works with 8th grade. Ms. Dixon works Monday through Friday, while Mrs. Bootzin works Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. If an emergency or need arises, Mrs. Dixon is always willing to work with any family. Thanks for contacting the right person to get the best support for your student.