

Parkwood Elementary

November 2020



Principal's Message

It's hard to believe November is here and Thanksgiving break is only three weeks away. I'd like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we learn to navigate teaching students virtually. We have finally settled into a fairly consistent routine. Thank you to our parents who have attended parent conferences. Parent conferences will continue the first week of November. Conferences serve as one of the communication components that will assist you in your child's success. You are a vital partner with us and the information you receive is part of the process towards working together. I continue to be proud of our students. They are trying academically and their behavior reflects PAWS--positive actions, accountability, work ethic, support. Thank you parents for your support to ensure your child reaches their full potential.

Upcoming Events

11/4

Lunch Distribution; 11:00-12:30

Material Distribution - 1st grade
and 2nd grade only; 11:00-12:30

11/11

Veteran's Day - No School

11/12

Lunch Distribution; 11:00-12:30

11/18

Lunch Distribution; 11:00-12:30

Awards & Material Distribution;
11:00-2:00

School Site Council Meeting;
3:30

ELAC Meeting; 4:00

11/20

Progress Reports Home

11/23-27

Thanksgiving Break - No School

Important Reminders

Red Ribbon Week - Thank you to all our students, families, and staff who participated in our Red Ribbon Week dress-up days and activities as well as those who sent pictures to your child's teacher. Prizes for students whose names were drawn can be picked up Wednesday, November 4 in the parent drop-off zone during meal distribution. If you are not able to make it that day, please bring your child and come to the office on Thursday, November 5 or Friday, November 6 during office hours (7:30-4:30) to pick up their prize.

Box Tops - Our school is participating in Box Tops for Education this year. Use the Box Tops app to scan your store receipt, find participating products, and instantly add cash to our school's earnings online. Please click on the [Box Top Letter](#) link for more information.

Awards Assembly - Awards assemblies for the first quarter will be held virtually and posted on Google Classroom and Parent Square the week of November 9. Certificates will be available for pickup on Wednesday, November 18 during meal distribution in the parent pick-up/drop-off zone.

Confidential Family Survey - If you haven't done so already, please fill out the Confidential Family Survey. The survey was sent to families new to the district or returning students who have not been in the district for multiple years. Families who need to fill it out should have received the survey via Parent Square. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Material Distribution - Material distribution days will be based on grade level needs and will be held on Wednesdays in conjunction with meal distribution. Your child's teacher will contact you if their grade level will be scheduling material distribution.

First and second grade will be holding material distribution on Wednesday, November 4 from 11:00-12:30 in the parent pick-up/drop-off zone. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

We will hold a material distribution on Wednesday, November 18 from 11:00-2:00 in the parent pick-up/drop-off zone. The following items will be available for pick-up.

- Awards certificates - All grades
- Chromebook cases - All students in grades 3rd-6th and students in TK-2nd who have not picked up their case.
- Materials for all TK/Kinder students
- PE equipment - All students in grades 3-6

Meal Distribution - Meal distribution will take place on Wednesdays from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm in the bus loading zone. Each box contains 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches. If meals cannot be picked up during the day, families can also pick up boxes at Child Nutrition on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00. Limited boxes are available. Children do not need to be present to pick up meals. There will be a one time change due to Veteran's day. We will serve on Thursday, November 12.

Reminders for Distance Learning

- Attendance is key for distance learning. Please be sure you encourage your child to be in their Zoom/Google Meet classes as much as possible and on time. If your child is marked absent, you will receive a Parent Square absence notification that evening at 6:00 pm. You are able to click on the link and send a note to the office stating the reason why your child was absent. If for any reason your child is not able to log on, please contact your child's teacher or the office.
- Please ensure your child is ready for their Zoom/Google Meet classes on time. Being ready means that they are logged on, have removed distractions from the learning area, and have the needed school supplies ready to go.
- Students should keep their computer on mute until they are ready to speak or unless the teacher asks them to have their microphone on. Keep in mind when their computer is not on mute, the entire classroom is hearing all the noises from your phone. Family discussions can be distracting.
- Student attendance is determined by students' completion of the class participation for the day. This also includes Wednesday where students are required to complete assignments independently.

Tech Support - Here are some steps if you need tech support.

Connectivity/Internet

Don't have internet or internet connection is unstable? Please contact the Parent Resource Center at 416-5879.

Zoom/Google Classroom/Instructional Apps

Please contact classroom teachers during non-instructional block time via Parent Square or email.

Hardware/Other

If the Chromebook won't turn on, login, charge, damaged, or other related issues please contact the office.

Instructional Blocks - Please click the [Parkwood Instructional Block Schedule](#) to access the document with instructional time blocks.

Students are expected to log on for live instruction at the start of each instructional block. Instructional blocks include both live instruction and independent practice. Also, there is school every Wednesday. Students do not participate in live instruction, unless pre-arranged with the teacher, but they should be logging on to Google Classroom to complete assignments for the day.

Stay In Touch - There are several ways to make sure you are keeping up with all the activities and events at Parkwood. Please join them all so you don't miss out.

- Parent Square - Please contact the school if you are not signed up for Parent Square and they will be able to assist you.
- Parkwood Facebook page
- Parkwood website - <https://www.madera.k12.ca.us/parkwood>

Preschool - IT'S NOT TOO LATE!! If you have a child who turns 4 years old on or before December 1, 2020, and the family qualifies under income guidelines, please come by 1816 Howard Rd to register your child for the State Preschool Program. Please call the office at (559) 675-4490 for income guidelines and if more information is needed.

[Enrollment Flyer](#)

Parent & Community Engagement Virtual Conference - The 4th Annual Parent & Community Engagement Virtual Conference is from November 17 - 20, 2020. A variety of workshops will be provided in English and Spanish. The conference will kick-off with the English Keynote Speaker Demontray "Dee" Hankins on November 17 and Mike" Dr. Mike" Longoria on November 18 for our Spanish-speaking audience. The workshops sessions will take place on November 19-20 with session times of 9 am, 3 pm, and 5:30 pm. We hope you can join us! Click on the [Workshop Schedules](#) for more information.

Birthdays - Birthday messages are available for purchase for marquee display. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Counselor's Corner

Helping a frustrated student.

Go easy on your child and yourself, and focus on trying your best.

What a difficult and frustrating time coronavirus school closures have created for parents and school-aged children. As a parent, you may feel the need to help multiple children with remote learning, maintain household responsibilities, and in many cases, complete your own work from home commitments. Just remember to try your best and encourage the same for your child. There may be days when your child does not complete all their assignments. That's okay!

When your child gets frustrated with an assignment, stop and support them.

If your child is frustrated, be proactive about supporting them.

Encourage them to stop what they're doing, change their activity or subject, or take a short break from schoolwork.

When frustration is high, try saying something to child your like, "I get that you are upset. Let's go on the swing, go for a walk or shoot some baskets. When we return, let's make a plan. We both know that you have to do schoolwork, just like I have to do my work, but I don't want us both to get this upset. Maybe Grandma, Aunt, Uncle, Cousin, can teach us both how to solve these math problems."

In years to come, your child will not remember if they completed their math work. Instead, they will remember the dynamics in the house during this time and how supportive you were and how you made them feel.

Stay positive – and keep up the good work.

Be sure to manage your own stress and role model self-care so that your child doesn't sense your frustration. Here are simple strategies for parents:

Take a break,

Call/face time/zoom a loved one,

Workout (run, walk, gym, jumping jacks etc....)

Read a book

Put on some music and dance

Create celebrations or events to look forward to.

Remember it's okay if you can't help with every lesson. The goal is to help where you can, work on making memories and remember the fun times.

The U.S. recently celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week – and it's fair to say that this year, more than ever, there is a special place in everyone's heart for classroom teachers. Homeschooling will one day be over and teachers will pick up where you left off when school resumes. You can do this! You've got this! Don't give up!

Health & Wellness - All children ages 7 years and older are eligible to receive their Tdap booster. It is required to enter 7th grade. This vaccine helps to prevent the following:

- **TETANUS (T)** which causes painful stiffening of the muscles. Tetanus can lead to serious health problems, including being unable to open the mouth, having trouble swallowing and breathing, or death.
- **DIPHTHERIA (D)** which can lead to difficulty breathing, heart failure, paralysis, or death.
- **PERTUSSIS (aP)**, also known as “whooping cough,” which can cause uncontrollable, violent coughing which makes it hard to breathe, eat, or drink. Pertussis can be extremely serious in babies and young children, causing pneumonia, convulsions, brain damage, or death. In teens and adults, it can cause weight loss, loss of bladder control, passing out, and rib fractures from severe coughing.

If your child has not received this immunization and is 7 years or older, please call his/her physician to schedule a visit. As soon as the vaccine is given, please bring the updated record to the health office so we may enter it into the health record. Please call the health office if you have any questions.
