

# NEWSLETTER

*Each Student Learning, Every Day!*

Dear Families,

Happy November! We begin several months of various cultural and historical celebrations. I hope you and your family enjoy these celebrations.

I want to express my appreciation for the following:

- **Julia Giordano** and **Rachel Gardner** for coordinating the Science Expo funded by STARS. What an educational evening! Thank you STARS.
- **Jamie Looney** and **Dawn White** for coordinating our school fun run to coincide with the end of the PTA Orcathon.
- The **PTA** for hosting the annual Harvest Festival, a wonderful community event with special thanks to the PTA Board.
- The **staff** and **students** of Edmonds Elementary for their hard work in support of student learning and achievement. Our school is a 2018 School of Distinction winner. See more details below.

**Safety** is important at Edmonds Elementary. We practice safety drills every month so staff and students know what to do in the event of a real emergency. Our safety drill for November is lockdown. On November 7, individual classrooms will hold a lockdown drill. Teachers will review lockdown safety guidelines during age appropriate classroom discussions. We need to respond if there are unsafe individuals on campus or if there is police activity in the surrounding community.

A Japanese delegation from the Edmonds sister city, Hekinan, Japan, visited school and had the opportunity to talk with students about Japan in support of cross-cultural communication and understanding. Thank you to Karyn Heinekin for her coordination of the visit and serving on the Edmonds Sister City Commission.

**Brett Hagen, Principal**

## Edmonds Elementary Receives 2018 School of Distinction Award

**Let's celebrate!** Edmonds Elementary is one of 91 schools from across Washington State to be recognized as a 2018 School of Distinction. We are the only school in the Edmonds School District to receive this award and are proud to receive the award two years in a row.

The School of Distinction awards are for sustained improvement over a five-year time span in state standardized tests (Smarter Balanced Assessments) in English Language Arts and Math. Schools recognized are in the top 5% of improvement for their levels. The 91 schools comprise of 51 elementary, 20 middle/junior high, and 20 high schools. The schools span all regions of the state, from large urban to small rural communities. **Way to go Edmonds Elementary staff and students!**



Brett Hagen, *Principal*  
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### Attendance Reminders:

*Be at school every day that you are well! Attending school daily is important for student learning. If your student is going to be late or absent, please call the attendance line at 425.431.7374 x.1 before 7:30 a.m., if possible.*

*Students arriving to school after 8:00 a.m. should report to the office for a tardy pass.*

*If your student is scheduled to be away from school for a planned absence lasting two or more days please complete a pre-arranged absence form. The form can be picked up in the main office. Thank you for your help in notifying us of these planned absences.*

**2018**  
**School of Distinction**

One of the 5% highest improving schools in the State of Washington for increased ELA/Math achievement and Graduation Rate over the past 5 years.



## Upcoming Events:



**Thursday, November 8: Veterans Day Assembly, 1:30 pm.** Students and adults involved with service organizations are encouraged to wear their uniforms and everyone is invited to wear red, white and blue to school.

**Friday, November 9: Crazy Hair Spirit Day,** sponsored by Student Council.

**Friday, November 9: Early Dismissal.** School is dismissed at 11:00 am. Milk/hot lunch is served prior to dismissal.

**Monday, November 12: Veterans Day.** There is no school today in observance of Veterans Day.

**Tuesday, November 13 – Friday, November 30: Food Drive.** The food drive is organized by Student Council. All donations benefit the Edmonds Food Bank. Let's fill the food truck! We share because we care!

**Wednesday, November 14: Picture Retake Day.** For students who were absent on picture day or who need photo retakes this is your chance to smile for the camera. Please return photo packages on retake day.

**Friday, November 16: Outstanding Orca Assembly 1:30 pm.** We will recognize students who are Ready to Learn.

**Friday, November 16: PTA Skate Night, 5:30-7:30 pm, Lynnwood Bowl and Skate.**

**Wednesday, November 21 – Friday, November 23: Thanksgiving Break.** Enjoy the holiday weekend!



## What is Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) at Edmonds Elementary?



One important piece of PBIS is to create a set of 3-5 school expectations that are well-known to all students and staff. Our expectations are:

Edmonds Orcas are: **Respectful, Responsible, Safe, and Ready to Learn.**

The Edmonds Elementary Behavior matrix is posted throughout the school. Students learn our school expectations during the first days of the school year and they are reinforced and retaught regularly throughout the school year. We recognize and celebrate students who are following our school expectations in a variety of ways, from high fives, to Outstanding Orcas, to school-wide acknowledgements at assemblies.

Parents are an important part of PBIS. You can support your child by reviewing the behavior expectations outlined in our matrix (provided in your first day packet) and by using the four expectations at home. A common message between home and school creates consistency and a partnership for expected student behavior.

## Updates from the Library

### Choosing Books at the Correct Reading Level

Do you ever wonder if the book your child is reading is too hard? Here are some ways to find out:

Does your child struggle frequently while reading?

Do you hear frequent excuses for avoiding reading?

Try the 5 Finger Test. Ask your child to read aloud approximately 50 to 75 words from a book. Every time your child misses a word hold up a finger. If more than five fingers are up at the end of the passage, it may be too hard for your child to read fluently and meaningfully. You don't have to forget about the challenging book if it is one your child enjoys. This can be a book you read to your child.

### Happy Faces

Our Kindergarten students started checking out books and they are so excited. You can encourage them by reading to them a little each night.

### 5 FINGER RULE

What To Do: Pick a book. Open the book to any page. Put one finger up for each word you don't know.

- 0-1 Too Easy
- 1-2 Perfect Choice
- 4 Give It A Try
- 5+ Too Hard

