
BEACON ELEMENTARY NEWS

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October 2016

Complete Forms on Skyward Family Access

Beacon Elementary is utilizing Skyward Family Access to verify student information and complete start up forms. These forms include health information and emergency treatment authorization that **must be complete in order for students to attend field trips**. If you have not already done so, please log on to Skyward Family Access and complete this required information before October 3. Paper forms will be sent home in boomerangs with students who do not have this information complete. Parents may choose to fill out the paper forms or complete the information online (preferred method).

The link to Skyward Family Access is located on the Montesano School District website at www.monteschools.org. If you need assistance with your user name and password, please contact the office at 249-4528. Thank you for cooperating to help us keep your child safe at school by keeping your child's information up to date. ❖

Highly Capable Program Referrals

Beacon Elementary will be offering the Highly Capable Program for students in grades K-2 for the 2016-17 school year. The Washington State definition of Highly Capable Students can be found on our website. Qualifying students will receive differentiated instruction in their regular classrooms and participate in a weekly Extended Learning Program. If you would like to refer a student for evaluation for this program, please complete the referral form and return it to the school office by **Friday, October 7th. Referrals turned in after the deadline will be considered for the following year.**

Referral forms are available in the school office or on our website at www.monteschools.org. Parent permission is needed to release students from class to participate in the testing. For more information, please contact Julie Aldrich, Highly Capable teacher, at 249-4331. ❖



Pumpkin Reading Challenge

Beacon students will participate in The Great Pumpkin Reading Challenge October 6 - 27. The challenge is designed to promote reading, and the goal is to create a special "Reading Pumpkin Patch" in each classroom. The pumpkin patch is created when students read at home (or the younger

students are read to) and parents sign a reading participation pumpkin. This pumpkin is then added to the patch when a student brings it with a signature from home. The number of minutes students read will be recorded in each classroom. If students are successful in creating a worthy pumpkin patch, as indicated by the total number of minutes read, the class will receive a Great Pumpkin reward party at the end of the month. As the Reading Pumpkin Patch grows, The Great Pumpkin will be watching and visiting. Students should look for signs that The Great Pumpkin has visited their classroom. So read at home, and make those pumpkin patches grow!

Halloween

Although Halloween brings the excitement of candy and dressing up, please remember that **costumes are not allowed at school.**

Only commercially prepared or prepackaged food items are allowed for classroom treats. To reduce the risk of food borne illness, please do not bring homemade food items for sharing with your child's class. Nutritious party snacks are encouraged.



Dates to Remember

October 6	Reading Challenge Begins
October 7	Hi-Cap Referrals Due
October 10	Fire Prevention Presentations (1 st & 2 nd Grades)
October 13	PTO Fundraiser Begins
October 14	No School – Teacher Training
October 26	PTO Meeting, 8:00 a.m., Beacon Library
October 26	PTO Fundraiser Ends
October 27	Reading Challenge Ends
October 27	Family Fun Night, 6:00 p.m., Simpson Elementary
November 4	Early Release, 12:00 p.m. – Report Cards
November 7-10	Early Release, 12:00 p.m. – Conferences
November 11	No School – Veterans Day
November 15	Picture Retake Day
November 23	Early Release, 12:00 p.m. – Thanksgiving Break
November 24-25	No School – Thanksgiving Break

Picture Alert

If you post pictures of your child at school activities on social media, please only include your child (and friends with parental permission). There are children in our school whose parents do not want pictures on social media for safety reasons. Thank you for helping us to keep kids safe.

Absence Reminder

The school is required to track excused and unexcused absences. Parents should inform the office whenever their child is not at school. To excuse an absence, parents may call the school at 249-4528 or send a note stating the reason for the absence upon the student's return to school. Parents may also excuse an absence online using their Skyward Family Access account.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school – and themselves. Start building this habit now so they learn right away that going to school on time and every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work. For more information, visit www.attendanceworks.org.



PTO News



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The PTO Fall Fundraiser will be October 13 through October 26. This fundraiser provides major support for activities sponsored by the PTO throughout the year, such as FREE Family Fun Nights, field trips, and teacher grants. The PTO is utilizing a new company this year, Charleston Wraps. All fundraiser packets and money need to be turned in by October 26. Merchandise will be delivered by early December. If you have any questions or need additional order forms, please email Aleesha Erickson at aleesha.erickson@yahoo.com.

It's Halloween Costume Bingo Time! This Family Fun Night will be held on Thursday, October 27, at 6:00 p.m. in the Simpson Elementary Multipurpose Room. Families are encouraged to dress in costume and enjoy a game of bingo. All bingo games, prizes, and snacks are free. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Don't miss out on the fun!

Monthly PTO meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8:00 a.m. at Beacon Elementary. If you would like to volunteer to help at an event and/or receive email updates from the Montesano PTO, please email aleesha.erickson@yahoo.com.