



Chief Joseph Elementary School

Family Bulletin

11/12/2024

Translation is done by Google Translate. There may be errors. Please call the PPS Language Line at (503) 916-3589 if you need support with translation.

A strong, diverse and respectful community where we make learning creative and fun!

All-School News

The month of November is shaping up to be a busy month with a lot of things happening!

November is Native American Heritage Month, a time to honor the rich cultures, histories, and diverse stories of Indigenous peoples. At Chief Joseph Elementary school we will be celebrating their resilience, traditions, and vital contributions to our nation while acknowledging the challenges they face and reaffirming our commitment to respecting tribal sovereignty.

Ask your child about the bulletin board outside of the cafeteria that showcases Native American Heritage. It will highlight Native American students in our community and historical influential figures. Our school also integrates honoring Native American Heritage into our classrooms and it will be the focus of our school-wide assembly next week.

Coffee with the Principal - November 14th 8:00-8:30 am

We would like to invite families to join Principle Amber in the library for our first coffee with the Principal. We will provide coffee and a treat, and we hope that you can join us for this informal event. Ms. Amber can provide updates on what is happening in the school and also be available to answer questions that families may have.

Ruby Bridges Walk To School- Thursday, November 14th

- 7:35 am: Families gather at the [Peace Lutheran Parking lot](#)
- 7:40 am: Students and families walk to school in support of Ruby Bridges' Journey and Education Rights
- 7:45 am: Students can enter the cafeteria to have breakfast or go to their grade level doors to wait for the bell.

November Emergency Drills

- **Fire Drill**
- **Secure the Perimeter**
- [Summary of Drills](#)
- [Parent Emergency Resources](#)

[PPS Academic Calendar](#)

Upcoming Events

- 11/13 - PTO Community meeting
- 11/14 - Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day
- 11/14 - Coffee w/ the Principal 8-8:30am in the Library
- 11/15 - Picture Retake Day (am)
- 11/20 - Early Release - 11:50am

If you have additional questions, please reach out to Ms. Whitaker by email at jwhitaker@pps.net

Six-year-old Ruby Bridges stepped into the history books on November 14, 1960, when she became one of the first students to integrate William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans, becoming a national icon for the civil rights movement. Today her story continues to inspire the next generation of leaders to end racism together one step at a time. Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day (RBWTSD) is the perfect opportunity to teach children about the civil rights movement and make connections to today's collective efforts for change. RBWTSD gives children the opportunity to celebrate Ruby's courage by walking to school. We are still finalizing the meeting location and time, more information will be sent out next week via Remind.

- 11/25 & 11/26 - Parent Conferences
- 11/25-11/28 - No School

Nutrition Services

- [Breakfast](#) & [Lunch](#)

Report Cards

Your student's report card is now available online through [ParentVue](#). In addition, this week we are sending home benchmarking data that took place in September. We want you to have time to review the data along with your students' report cards before conferences. You will get a chance to review both the benchmark reports and the report cards with your student's teacher during fall conferences which will take place on November 25th and 26th. If you haven't already booked your conference time, please reach out to your student's homeroom teacher to schedule an in-person or virtual conference.

If you do not have ParentVUE set up, or need assistance with access or a password reset please email [Ashley](#) or call the front office (503) 916-6255 and we can assist with getting you access. If you would like a printed copy of your students report card please contact [Ashley](#) in the office.

More information on the PPS report card: [PPS guide for K-5 Report Card](#).

Successful Schools Survey

It's the time you've all been waiting for....The Successful School Survey begins November 1st! For more information and information on completing the survey please click [here](#).



Picture Retakes:

If your student missed picture day, or needs a new picture plan on having them photo ready on Friday this week! We will have volunteers come to each class to escort any students that need their picture taken. Families can order their students picture packages online through [Dorian](#). In the spring, all students will get a class composite picture free of charge.

Cold-Weather Wear

Our teachers work hard to get students outside even if it is raining or a little chilly. As the season changes, we ask that you ensure your child brings a coat to school each day. Please remember to label your child's coat with their name to help us reduce lost and found items. If your student is in need of a coat, please reach out to [Michelle](#) or [Ashley](#) and we'd be happy to get them one.

After School Plans

As a reminder, If your students regular after school plan changes, please:

- Communicate changes with their teacher the day before the change if possible.
- Let the front office know when:
 - It is a change for the same day, and the teacher might not get a message in time
 - It is a long term, and regular change
 - If it will change their bus riding schedule
- If your student attends the neighborhood house after school program and you plan to pick them up right after school please consider picking up your student from staff with neighborhood house at the cafeteria doors. This helps neighborhood house manage the changes and account for students with alternate plans.

We work to try and make the end of day release go as smoothly as possible so knowing plans ahead of time is extremely helpful!

Library



Our annual [Scholastic Book Fair](#) is coming December 9-13, 2024! Last year we made just over \$7,000 from the book fair, which earned us \$3,000 in books and materials for our school library! This year our goal is \$8,000 which would give the library \$4,000 to use towards books and materials. My goal this year is to add books and materials to the Library with accessible reading levels while offering high-interest content that will keep students engaged and motivated to read! In order to achieve this goal, we are in

need of many volunteers to help the book fair run smoothly; if you would like to volunteer to help Mrs. Hall run the book fair, please sign up [here](#).

Book Fair Hours:

Monday-Friday Before School 7:30-7:55am

Monday-Friday After School 2:30pm-4:00pm

Friday, 12/13/24 7:30-7:55am and 2:30pm-4:00pm and 6:00pm - 7:30pm during the PTO's Family Dance Night

Scholastic has added its version of a gift card as an option for parents; it's called E-Wallet! In addition, if you would like to help purchase books for students who are not able to purchase, you may purchase an E-Wallet for Mrs. Hall or donate at the Book Fair Registers when you check out. You can learn more about E-Wallets in this [video](#).

Please know that there will be no book returns or checking out new books during Book Fair Week.

School Nurse

PPS Fall Immunization Numbers

Vaccines play a crucial role in protecting our students from serious illnesses and help keep our community safe. Parents/ Guardians of students who are due to receive vaccines should receive a letter in the mail. Please check if your child's [vaccinations are current](#), including their recommended flu shot, and contact your medical provider or any of the resources listed below.

[Multnomah County Student Health Centers](#)

[OHSU Wellness Center](#)

[Multnomah County Vaccination Clinic](#) (English)

[Clínica Comunitaria de Vacunación Gratuita](#) (Spanish)

Information about Immunization records:

Hello Chief Joseph families! During the ParentVue yearly verification they request that you bring in hard copies of your child's immunization records. However, unless you have received a letter from MESD's immunization department or have received a phone call from me, the Health Assistant, this is an unnecessary step. You can click that you will do it during the verification process and disregard.

Thank You!

Our student health assistant [Zoe Eberspecher](#) works from 8:30 to 2:30pm. If you have any student health questions or needs please don't hesitate to reach out. You can reach Zoe by phone by calling the main office, or by email zeberspec@mesd.k12.or.us

Exclusion guidelines for this year have changed, please take a moment and review the guidance ([Available in English and Spanish](#)).

Counseling Program Update

Attention, 5th Grade Families

The PPS Lottery Window for Middle School Option Programs will be from November 13-December 15th. Please visit the [Moving To Middle School](#) page to learn more. I gave our 5th grade students two homework assignments last weekend: 1) review the link with their families and decide if they want to attend any of the open houses; and 2) teach their families at least 1 [Middle School Success Skill](#) they want to practice this year, and make a plan for how to practice it.

Classroom Library Organization Volunteer Opportunity

Organizing Classroom Libraries

We are reorganizing our classroom libraries to align with the Science of Reading training that our staff is receiving this year. If you are interested in helping our Instructional Coach Julia Fogg with this project, please email her directly: jfogg@pps.net.

PTO Update:

PTO Community Meeting Wednesday November 13, 2024 Dinner at 6:00, Meeting at 6:30

Mark your calendars! Join us in the cafeteria for dinner and to hear updates on committee work and opportunities to get involved in important ways that support the Chief Joseph community.

Dinner, Spanish translation, and childcare will be provided. A PPS teacher from another school will have art supplies and a movie going in the music room. Students can not run around the building and will need to be supervised in the music room or the cafeteria.

November Fundraiser with Atlas Pizza November 19, 2024

Take the night off of dinner duty and grab pizza from Atlas! A portion of all sales at the Killingsworth location on Tuesday, November 19th will benefit Chief Joseph's PTO.

Fred Meyer Community Rewards

Fred Meyer Community Rewards is another way to support the Chief Joseph community just by doing your normal shopping! Follow [this link](#) to connect your Fred Meyer Rewards account to Chief Joseph.

Grade Level Directories

The PTO put together grade level directories and gave them to teachers to hand out. In the past the PTO created a school wide directory for all grades, but we decided that a grade level directory would suffice. We hope this helps you connect with your students classmates' families for future playdates!

Kids Yoga after school at **Chief Joseph** Winter 2025

In these fun and active classes kids will stretch and energize their bodies and minds through individual and group poses, mindfulness games and creative relaxation techniques. Packed with **playfulness, positivity** and fun, these classes give kids the tools they need to manage their behaviors to lead **happier, healthier** and more **peaceful** lives.

- Improve focus and concentration
- Develop strength and coordination
- Increase confidence and self esteem
- Learn self calming techniques
- Get a healthy body and mind
- Have fun!

REGISTER ONLINE!
yogaplaygrounds.com

WHO: Grades K-5
WHERE: Chief Joseph Elementary
DATES: Jan 7 - Mar 18 (no class Jan 28)
DAY&TIME: Tuesdays 2:30-3:30
COST: \$240 (10 classes)
INFO: hello@yogaplaygrounds.com
503-807-9720

yoga playgrounds

After-school Programming Opportunity

Yoga Playgrounds is offering Kids Yoga for the winter term on Tuesdays (January 7th - March 18th (no class Jan 28)) from 2:30-3:30pm for K-5 Chief Joseph students. Please find details and registration link below.

[Winter Yoga Registration Link](#)

As always, please take a moment to learn more about the PTO by visiting our [website](#) and checking out the calendar of events on the bottom of the page. Questions or feedback? Connect with us at info@chiefjosephschool.org

Backpack Program

The **Backpack Program** supports our community by providing food bags for weekend days to families experiencing food insecurity. If you are able, we would appreciate donations of:

- Canned tuna or chicken

- Pop top soup/chili
- Peanut butter
- Granola bars
- Applesauce cups
- Instant oatmeal
- Macaroni and cheese

Thank you for your support! Please contact backpack@chiefjosephschool.org with any questions.

OBOB

OBOB (Oregon Battle of the Books) is getting closer!



This week student permission slips go home with all 3rd-5th graders. Students who want to participate will create a team of 4-5 students and a coach (parent, guardian or other adult). Forms are due on **Friday, December 6!** It's not too early or too late to start reading the books, all of which are in the Chief Joseph school library.

<https://www.oregonbattleofthebooks.org/2024-2025-titles/>

OBOB is a voluntary competition where teams across the state read the same books and then compete in battles to see who knows the books best. It's open to 3rd, 4th and 5th graders.

If you have questions, reach out to Eve, this year's coordinator: evebernfeld@gmail.com (subject: OBOB).

Playground Project

The Playground Committee, as a group of parent volunteers, works to support and enhance the vitality of the school grounds in a variety of ways.

- Last month, it sponsored a fall planting party to give much needed attention to the 13 year old native garden under the Chief Joseph mural and honor the significance of both to the Native American community (see photos below). Big thanks to Melissa Adams and Juliet McGraw for leading and providing supplies for the event!
- The design process for a stormwater retrofit project in the NE quadrant of the blacktop is currently underway! Stakeholder input will be sought later this year once initial concepts are released.
- Early planning conversations with NoPo Soccer Club around the installation of a (hopefully near) future sports field are also happening. To support and learn more about the Fields Project, please consider attending their [Kickstart the Future Launch Party](#) this Thursday, Nov. 14th.

If you have any questions or want to get involved in the Playground Project, email chiefjosephplayground@gmail.com.



Community News -

Kenton Free Clothing Exchange November 17, 2024 2-4pm

The North Portland Free Clothing Exchange is a free community event held every month at the Kenton Church - 2115 N Lombard Street. Everyone is welcome. All sizes of Men's, Women's, and Children's clothing are exchanged. No donation is required in order to receive clothing.

They exchange books too! Bring your books for all ages that are in good condition and that you'd be proud to share...and take a few new stories home with you. As with the clothing, no donation is required in order to receive.

Kenton Library November Programming

Below are the Kenton Library's free programs for November:

- [Queer Youth Club](#) - Queer Youth Club is a weekly youth-run club that unites LGBTQIA+ and allied youth. It is a safe place where ALL youth are welcome to be themselves. Find support, eat snacks, get creative, discuss favorite books, play games and more! Bring a friend, or make a new one. **All youth are welcome.** *Thursdays, 4:30-5:30pm*
- [Tween Council](#) - Help your librarian choose the best books, movies, comics, programs and events for you and your friends. Be part of a fun team, work on special projects, meet new friends, and make your library even better! **For kids aged 9-12.** Snacks provided! *2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 4:30-5:30pm*
- [Pokémon Club](#) - Are you a Pokémon fan? If so, join us for some Pokémon free-play. There will be time for sharing, trading and playing Pokémon TCG. This is for kids new to Pokémon and experts. The Pokémon Club is a great opportunity to meet new friends! **Ideal for Grades 3-8, but all Pokémon-loving kids (and their grownups who want to learn more) are welcome! First come, first served.** *1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays of each month, 4:30-5:30pm*
- [Lego Club](#) - Join us for fun and imaginative LEGO building sessions. We'll provide the blocks, you bring the creativity! **Ideal for Grades K-5, but younger and older siblings are welcome!** *2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, 4:30-5:30pm*
- [Link to all the programs](#) available at Kenton Library!