



# Chief Joseph Elementary School Family Bulletin

09/17/2024

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

## All-School News

The school year is off to a great start! We are thrilled to announce that we are fully staffed with special teachers in place. We welcome Joy Schuett-Hames to the CJES team teaching music. In addition, George Gostovich will be back at Chief Joseph Elementary School teaching art next Friday, September 27th.

We are very excited about our upcoming **Open House** on Thursday, September 26th from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. During the Open House we invite you to come into the school to meet CJES teachers, specialists, and community partners. You will also have the opportunity to sign up for your students first quarter conferences that will take place in November.

The PTO has lined up three food trucks to join us at the Open House. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

- [Gourmet on the Go](#)
- [Taqueria La Merced](#)
- [Rosa's Churros](#)

### Reminder of Early Release - 9/25/24

Our first official early release day is on Wednesday, Sept 25th. All early release days are on the [PPS academic calendar](#). Take a moment to get these dates on your family calendar so you are prepared to pick up your student, or coordinate care.

What to know about early release days:

- Lunch is part of the regular schedule on early release days, so students can bring their home lunch or have school lunch.
- Students will be released by classroom teachers at

### September Emergency Drills

- **Fire Drill**
- **Lockdown**
- [Summary of Drills](#)
- [Parent Emergency Resources](#)

## Upcoming Events

- 09/24 - Schoolwide Lock Down Drill - 9am
- 09/25 - Early Release Day 11:50am
- 9/26 - CJES Open House 5:00pm - 6:30pm
- 10/03 - Picture Day
- 10/9 - Walk and Ride to School Day - more information coming

11:50am from their classroom's dismissal location.

- 10/10 - Fun-d Run

## Breakfast

We are all still adjusting to the new start time and this year the time for students to eat breakfast is very condensed. If you are dropping your students off for breakfast please have them go to the south side cafeteria doors at 7:45am to allow them 10 minutes to eat. The first bell rings at 7:55am, and students should be in their classroom ready to learn by 8:00am.

## Nutrition Services

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

## Lockdown Drill

In the month of September, we are required to do a Lockdown Drill, this will occur on **Tuesday September 24th at 9:00am**. In preparation, our School Counselor, Shoshana Weed, will be delivering trauma-informed lessons on safety drills in all of our K-2 classrooms. These lessons are instrumental in empowering our students to perform and understand this emergency action in an age appropriate and trauma informed way. For more information about the emergency drills, please see the link on the first page of the bulletin (right hand side of the page).

**Dogs** - We would like to remind everyone that dogs are not permitted on school grounds during school hours or at school-sponsored events. This policy is in place to ensure the safety and well-being of all students and staff.

While we understand that many of us are passionate about our pets, we must prioritize a safe and focused learning environment. Allergies, phobias, and potential distractions are all important factors that contribute to this decision.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in adhering to this policy. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

## Rhythm Roundup with Ms. Joy

Hello Chief Joseph Community!

I'm Joy Autumn, and I'm excited to be the new music teacher. I'm a music educator, piano teacher, film composer, and singer-songwriter, and I'm thrilled to bring my love of music to Chief Joseph! Here I am with my cat Alfie!





This week, we had a great time exploring “In The Hall Of The Mountain King” and “The Tetris Theme” using Boomwhackers.



Coming up soon, our 4th and 5th graders will dive into music production with [Bandlab](#), a program that lets students create their own music for a video game I’ve composed for. They’ll even get to test out a prototype of the game in Unity. It’s an incredible chance for them to see their musical ideas come to life! If your child is passionate about music production, Bandlab is a free tool they can use at home. I also suggest checking out GarageBand and eventually the professional-grade [Logic Pro](#).

Our 2nd and 3rd graders will start a fun ukulele unit, learning both single-note songs and



chords. I hope to have some extra ukuleles available for students to check out who want to practice at home!

Kindergarten and 1st-grade students will explore [Saint-Saëns' "Carnival of the Animals,"](#) discovering different instruments and musical elements like tempo, dynamics, and timbre through engaging songs about animals. Look out for details about a "Carnival of the Animals" costume party at the end of the unit!

I'm here Monday through Wednesday each week and would love to connect with you. Feel free to reach out anytime. I'm looking forward to making music together!

Best,

Joy Autumn - Chief Joseph Community Music Teacher

[jschuetthames@pps.net](mailto:jschuetthames@pps.net)

## School Nurse

Welcome back to school! As we begin this school year I wanted to share the following information. If your child has a head injury (at school or at home) and goes to see a doctor, they may not return to school until the school health team has reviewed their after visit summary. This is so that we can adhere to any accommodations or restrictions ordered by the physician and communicate them to all staff. Head injuries, such as concussions, can take time to recover from and can become worse if not treated properly. We want to keep all of our students healthy and safe!

Kind regards,  
Susan Rhedmon RN, MESD School Nurse

## Counseling Program Update:

### Donate to the Resource Closet during the Open House on 9/26:

The Counseling Room now has a Resource Closet to help our students and families access school supplies, non-perishable food, and hygiene items. Families can contact the School Counselor, Shoshana Weed to access these items. At the CJES Open House on 9/26, we are holding a drive to collect essential items that will help us keep this resource closet stocked. Here is a list of [High Priority Items](#) we hope to stock in the Resource Closet. Families who wish to donate can bring these items to their students' classroom or the cafeteria during the event. We appreciate your support and involvement!

### Counseling Program Monthly Focus:

This year, The Counseling Program has aligned the PPS Tier 1 Counseling Core Curriculum and the Caring School Community SEL Curriculum to create a school-wide [Counseling Program Monthly Focus](#). Students will receive 1-2 lessons per month that relate to each topic and have opportunities to demonstrate knowledge and skills in these areas throughout each month.

## PTO Update:

We had a great first meeting of the school year, thanks to everyone who joined us. We will post our meeting minutes on our [PTO website](#) once they are approved. We hope that for our next meeting we can possibly find someone to provide childcare in another space. If you know of anyone who would be interested in helping with childcare during PTO meetings please reach out to [info@chiefjosephschool.org](mailto:info@chiefjosephschool.org)

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. The PTO will also be at the open house so please plan on stopping by to meet PTO members and find out ways to get involved.

## PTO Afterschool Programs

While the PTO does not offer any after school programs we do help with coordinating outside organizations to come in and offer after school programming! We currently have three programs offering programs at our school, information below and fliers for each program are at the end of the bulletin.

### Yoga Playgrounds - flier for program below

- Dates: September 24-Dec 17
- Tuesdays from 2:30-3:30pm
- For students in grades K-5

### Northwest Children's Theater: Create your own Play

- Dates: September 13th - Nov 22nd
- Friday's 2:30-3:30pm
- For students in grades 3-5

### Adventures in Spanish

- Dates: Sept 20, 2024 - December 13th, 2024
- Friday's 2:30pm - 3:30pm
- For students in grades K-3rd grade

## Playground Project

The Playground Committee of the CJPTO is on a mission to transform our elementary school yard from a sea of asphalt into an ecologically and culturally vibrant outdoor space for the whole community to use and love. We are cooking up some fun projects for this school year and beyond, so please consider joining the team to share whatever passions and skills you're able to offer.

We'll be meeting monthly on 3rd Wednesdays from 6-7:30PM at [Arbor Beer Lodge](#) unless otherwise noted on our [website](#). This means our **first meeting of the school year will be tomorrow, September 18th!** Topics of discussion then will include:

- The large rain garden project currently being designed in collaboration with [Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership](#) (see #4 on our [Vision Plan](#) map).

- A temporary new futsal field to be installed where a permanent multi-use field is being planned for 2028 (see #5 on the Vision Plan linked above).
- Continuing to grow the [“4 Trees” Project](#) with plantings and potentially more structures.
- Developing murals and other painted art projects.
- Generally keeping the playground vision alive and infusing it with the resources it needs...*parent involvement* being a huge portion of that!

In sum, if you'd like to see more life thriving on the playground instead of asphalt, please join the conversation and find out how you can contribute in whatever way works for you. Email [chiefjosephplayground@gmail.com](mailto:chiefjosephplayground@gmail.com) with any questions, comments, or to get on our mailing list and stay informed. Thanks!

## Backpack Program

The Backpack Program supports our community by providing food bags for weekend days to families experiencing food insecurity. We receive pre-packed bags from [Portland Backpack](#), which contain enough food for 2 days of breakfast and lunch. We add fresh fruit and distribute the bags to classrooms. There are a few different ways you can support this program.

Automated monthly giving is a great way to assist us. You can do this through the [PTO website](#), clicking the Paypal button at the top right and selecting “monthly” and pulling down to select “Backpack Program”.

We maintain a pantry of food items to supplement the standard bags as needed, such as adding food to cover long weekends. The pantry needs a restock for the new school year. If you are able, we would love donations of:

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

Donate fresh fruit! New Seasons generously donates apples every week, but we need additional fruit to meet our goal of providing 2 pieces of fruit per bag every week. If you would like to donate fruit, please [sign up here](#).



Thank you for your support! Please contact [backpack@chiefjosephschool.org](mailto:backpack@chiefjosephschool.org) with any questions.

## Community News

The community waste collection event this year will be on October 12th.

details here: <https://arborlodgepdx.org/waste-collection>

If you would like to help out with the event please [sign up here](#)

## PTO Fliers:



# Kids Yoga

after school at  
**Chief Joseph**  
Fall 2024



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](http://yogaplaygrounds.com)

yoga   
playgrounds

**WHO:** Grades K-5  
**WHERE:** Chief Joseph Elementary  
**DATES:** Sept 24 - Dec 17 (no class Nov 26)  
**DAY&TIME:** Tuesdays 2:30-3:30  
**COST:** \$264 (12 classes)  
**INFO:** [hello@yogaplaygrounds.com](mailto:hello@yogaplaygrounds.com)  
503-807-9720



NORTHWEST CHILDREN'S THEATER AND SCHOOL

## Create Your Own Play! at Chief Joseph Elementary

Sep 13-Nov 22 • Fridays 2:30-3:30 • Grades 3-5

Unleash your imagination with Northwest Children's Theater's Create-Your-Own-Play Class! Now's your chance to play theater games, practice teamwork, and create your very own characters. Together, you and your classmates will transform the stories you tell into a theatrical presentation for friends and family — no script required.

**REGISTER TODAY**

[nwcts.org/drama-club](http://nwcts.org/drama-club)

Teachers were prepared, welcoming, and inclusive. My daughter looked forward to class each day and she felt like a valued member of the group. Thank you for creating a safe and warm space for the students!

— RKL, Parent







## Spanish Classes @ Chief Joseph



NEW DATES!!  
Fall Term Only!



**Dates**  
**Fridays**  
**September 27th - December 13th**

**Time**  
**2:30-3:30 pm**



**[Register Here !](#)**

**[Adventuresinspanish.org](https://adventuresinspanish.org)**

If you have any questions, please contact [admin@adventuresinspanish.org](mailto:admin@adventuresinspanish.org)