



# The Bear Essentials

Theodore Judah Elementary Newsletter  
November, 2019

## A MESSAGE FROM Mr. Holding

Dear Theodore Judah Families,

We ended our month with an amazing Harvest Festival. Thank you to the PTA and all our volunteers who came out and to all our friends and families that participated in an evening of fun and games. It was a great event!

It's hard to believe that the first trimester ends on 11/22. Our scholars continue to work hard and our teachers are getting ready to meet with parents when we return from our Thanksgiving break.

As we reflect on the many things for which we are thankful, I want to take this opportunity to share just a few of them with you: We are thankful for our students who come to school every day ready to learn- they give us all a daily reminder of what is important and why we are here. We are thankful for the support of the parents in creating an outstanding partnership for our students. We are thankful for teachers, instructional aids, bus drivers, office staff, classified staff, lunchroom aids and custodians who really care about student achievement and have the best interests of our students at heart. We are also thankful for our volunteers who enthusiastically contribute so much to our school.

In these most difficult and challenging times, we see dedicated and tireless individuals going above and beyond to make sure that great things happen at our school. You do make a difference, and our children benefit from all that you do. Most importantly, we are thankful for our parents that keep believing in our neighborhood school. You continue to share your most valuable possession, work hard and advocate to be a partner in your child's education, safety and well-being. For this we are ever so grateful. Together we make this school a special place for children to learn and grow.

I would like to wish all of you and your families a happy, healthy and relaxing Thanksgiving and holiday break.

Respectfully,  
Troy Holding

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- **November 11<sup>th</sup> No School/veterans Day**
- **November 20<sup>th</sup> Turkey lunch/caferteria**
- **November 21st Jog-A-Thon**
- **November 25<sup>th</sup>-29th: No School Thanksgiving Break**
- **Teacher/parent conferences 12/6-12/13**
- **Annual School Tour 12/13/auditorium**

## Theodore Judah Spirit Days

Show your school spirit every Friday by wearing the following:

- Your favorite TJ shirt ("Bear Wear")
- Blue or Gold (our school colors)
- Bear Wear order forms will be coming out soon!

## Teacher/Parent Conferences

Beginning Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> through December 13<sup>th</sup> you will be opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. Our teachers look forward to taking the time to meet with you to discuss your child's social/academic progress. Your child's teacher will be reaching out to arrange a time and date to meet.

## Safety is our Priority

To ensure adequate supervision of our students, please be sure that your child **does not enter campus prior to 7:30 AM for breakfast, or stay longer than 15 minutes after dismissal. There is no scheduled adult supervision before 7:45AM, or after 2:27 PM (M, T, W, F) and 1:27 PM on Thursdays.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

### Parent Drivers:

- Take time to legally park your car.
- Do Not park and/or drop your child off in the red zone or in the middle of the street
- Please drive your car all the way forward to allow for others to pull in behind you.
- Do Not make U-turns in the front of the school or in the middle of the street**
- Be a good neighbor. Do not park in neighbor's drive ways, or move their trash cans
- Drive like your children go to school here, because they do! Please represent our community well.

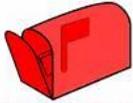
## November's Citizenship Theme: Gratitude

This month we recognize what it means to show gratitude. Someone who shows the character trait of gratitude recognizes with all honesty and humbleness that there have been others who have helped them, encouraged them, and invested a part of themselves into their life, helping them to become the person of character they are today.

How do we instill this trait of gratitude into our children? Below are a few examples of things anyone can do:

- Verbalize our gratefulness to others. A heartfelt "thank you" is not only an appropriate thing to say, it also shows that you recognize their kindness.
- The art of writing "thank you" cards, letters, emails are another way of reinforcing the attitude of gratitude in our children.

### Contact Information Changes



**PLEASE NOTE THE  
NEW ADDRESS &  
PHONE NUMBER**

**Your contact information is very important to us in case of an emergency. If any information should change, please notify the school office so that we can update the information in our system.**

### Daily Attendance is Important

One of the basic foundations for success in school is regular school attendance. Additionally, teaching our children that regular attendance to school is important helps send the message that education is important. It also teaches the importance of keeping one's responsibilities. Our monthly attendance goal is 97%.

To that end, please be sure to stay home only when truly ill, or due to a real family need. See the attendance section in our school handbook for additional guidance. Remember to schedule appointments outside of the school day when possible, or to return to school when finished. Minimize early dismissals. Family vacations are not excused absences. Thanks to everyone for supporting daily attendance!

### PTA Funded Enrichment Programs

Students are attending Science Alive, Garden, Music and Art classes as part of the many enrichments that Judah offers at your neighborhood school. Check out all the great artwork on our hallway bulletin boards throughout our campus. These programs are fully sponsored by all the hard work and efforts of our school PTA. We appreciate all that you do!