



# The Bear Essentials

Theodore Judah Elementary Newsletter  
October 2018

## A MESSAGE FROM Mr. Holding

Dear Theodore Judah Families,

Thank you for a successful first month of school and the start of the year. Most of us have adjusted to new routines, and to our new bell schedule. I also want to thank our families who attended Back to School Night to make that strong connection between you and your child's teacher.

By October, our year of teaching and learning is well underway. Any student that arrives late or is absent from school is missing out on core instruction time. Teachers are meeting every Thursday to plan curriculum and also look at student data to respond to learning needs. As a team, we are focused on preparing our students to meet their grade level standards as aligned to Common Core. We are also working on analyzing our assessment data through a Cycle of Continuous Improvement both from the classroom, as well as from the state, to help us inform our instructional next steps.

But, it is not just all about academics. Personal integrity, leadership and character counts at our school. This month's character trait is trustworthy. Students now have the opportunity to earn "Paws for Praise" tickets.

Theodore Judah is a diverse community and we encourage all parents to get in our school events and activities. Thank you for supporting our little neighborhood school. Together, we make a difference in the lives of our children.

Regards,  
Troy Holding  
Principal

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- 🐾 **October 1<sup>st</sup> – Fall Picture Day**
- 🐾 **October 10<sup>th</sup>- Walk to School Day**
- 🐾 **October 19<sup>th</sup>- Farmer Jerry, Kinder only  
Harvest Festival, 4:30-7:30PM**
- **October 31<sup>st</sup>- Costume Parade, 10:30am-  
11:00am**

### 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)

Orange for Project Kindness

### Harvest Festival

To celebrate the turning of the season as a community, we will hold our annual Harvest Festival on October 19<sup>th</sup>. There will be lots of activities and food trucks. The proceeds from this event support our classrooms with increased budgets for supplies and field trips. It is a fun night to spend with friends and family. If you have any questions, or are interested in volunteering, please contact the PTA

## Annual Costume Parade

On October 31, we will hold our annual costume parade. As families prepare costumes, please be advised of the following guidelines:

- Please make sure that costumes do not portray gore or violence. There are many fun costume ideas that also set a positive tone.
- Please make sure that costumers are not too messy (e.g. fake blood, lots of glitter, slime)
- Please do not bring head masks or head coverings that block a child's vision.

Each child is expected to come to school in regular clothes with their costume in their backpack or bag. (Only Kinders may come in their costumes for the day.) When it is time to prepare for the parade, students will change at recess, and they will change back after the event. If you do not wish for your child to participate in the parade, please inform your child's teacher so an alternative activity can be arranged.

All Halloween candy needs to be enjoyed at home and not at school.

## School Safety

**Please make safety your priority. Be sure to follow our school's drop off and pick up procedures and help us provide a safe school environment.**

### Fall Picture Day

On October 1<sup>st</sup>, we will take our fall student portraits. This photo will be the one that appears in the yearbook.

Families may purchase picture packages, if so desired. For those interested, please see the options on the forms that went home at the end of September.

## September's Citizenship Theme: Trustworthy

Students who are trustworthy are honest and can be trusted. They are also fair and do the right thing, even when it is hard, or even when no one is watching. Being trustworthy is an important trait to build in our children. And, they must also see it modeled by the adults in their lives.

### District Sponsored Sports Program

#### FLAG FOOTBALL

The Warriors have begun their season. Tryouts were a huge success and we have a great team of athletes representing our school. Games are held every Wednesday at Kit Carson Middle School. Please refer to our school website for all the information. [www.theodorejudahelementary.org](http://www.theodorejudahelementary.org)

- We are still in need of a basketball coach. The basketball season will begin directly after football. Please see Mr. Holding for details.

#### STRIDE PROGRAM

All students will begin to participate in a school-wide walk, run, skip program during lunch recess. Mr. Joey is our school coordinator. Flyers will be going home soon with more details.

### 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%.