

Dragon News

Southgate's monthly parent newsletter

December 2017

Dragon Notes

Dear Southgate families,

It's December 2017, and soon it will be 2018. It seems like time flies. Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season.

Our Dragon conferences ended not too long ago, and thanks for a great turnout. Research suggests that a strong partnership between home and school leads to improved student learning. It was a real treat to talk to many of you at conferences, and I hope you and your family have enjoyed our school events! The Carousel and Reading evening along with the Cup Stacking Event were well attended—and a lot of fun! This year's Book Fair was terrific—thanks for your support.

Our after-school program, Dragon Support, continues to assist students with reading and mathematics in a small group setting. I'm so pleased that we have this opportunity to help students make gains in their learning.

December is a busy month, and we will begin our winter break soon. However, learning can continue over the break with reading each night for 20 minutes. Our holiday program will be scheduled soon, and I hope you will join us.

Thank you for:

- Being patient and safe in the parking lot. Please use the crosswalk on 19th for safety and walk your son or daughter to your car. I appreciate you choosing to park on Keller Street or in our parking lot. Please do not park in the Davita or Kadlec Medical parking lot—they need those spaces for their patients.
- Pulling as far forward as possible in our loop. This allows us to move more cars safely and efficiently. Our parking team is here to help, and thank you for kindly honoring their directions—we all want to be safe.
- Turning right out of the parking lot after school—be sure and watch the crosswalk for children and safety patrol—allows us to move more cars through the parking lot. I realize this may result in more travel time to home, but it really helps.
- Using our new southgate.attendance@ksd.org e-mail systems for absences. It is working and you can send an e-mail or call if your child will not be in attendance. This helps us because we call on every absence.
- Making sure your child is dressed for the weather. It's cold outside, and we have outdoor recess most days. We, as a rule, go to recess when the temperature is 20° or warmer.
- Checking your child's backpack each evening for important school communication. Check the planner or the folder.

Together we can continue to make a dragonruffic difference!

My best,
Dr. Bob Smart

Brrr.... It's cold outside!

With the cold weather, please make sure to dress your child appropriately.

Be sure to label any coats or jackets with your child's name. Check our Lost & Found periodically as it fills up with lost coats, jackets, sweatshirts through the school year. Items not claimed are donated to those in need a few times during the school year.



Happy
Holidays



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3121 W 19th Ave
Kennewick, WA 99337
222-5900 Fax 222-5901
Dr. Bob Smart,
Principal



2017 Southgate Calendar

December

20 **Early Release at 11:27 for
Winter Break**



No School for Winter Break

December 21—January 2, 2018



January

15 **No School—Martin Luther King Jr Day**

22 **No School—Semester Break (Possible
snow make-up day)**

Attendance Phone Line

If your child will be absent from school or late to school, please call Southgate's attendance line at 222-5902 by 9:00 a.m. or e-mail us at southgate.attendance@ksd.org to excuse your child's absence. Please leave your child's name, room number, the date of the absence and the reason for the absence.
Thank You!



If you wake up to snow or ice....

Information about any school closures or delays caused by bad weather can be obtained by visiting the school district's web page at www.ksd.org or by listening to your favorite media outlet, including television and radio. You can also sign up for school messenger by logging into your PowerSchool for Parents account at www.ksd.org and clicking on the School Messenger link on the left side menu. If you do not know your PowerSchool login, contact the Southgate office.



Quote

“Hope lies in dreams, in imagination, and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams into reality.”

~ Jonas Salk



School Messenger

Kennewick School District lets parents control how they want to be notified about school news (including early release reminders, no school reminders, upcoming events), emergency alerts (including school closures and delays due to severe weather), attendance, and low meal balances through PowerSchool. Our hope is to be able to better communicate with you about special events, early release days, etc. Here is how to get set up:

Get notified in 3 easy steps!

1. Log into your [PowerSchool for Parents](#) account at [www.ksd.org](#) or from your school website and click the **School Messenger** link on the left side menu. If you don't know your PowerSchool login, contact your school office.
2. Click on the **Contacts** tab at the top of the page and then click **Edit** on the right-hand side of the screen.
3. Choose if you want to receive alerts by phone, email or text/SMS and click **Save** at the bottom.

Thank you to Yoke's Fresh Market for providing Southgate with our Dragon Dough Ice Cream!



Hi! We could use your help. Davita is one of our neighbors and friends. They have a limited number of parking spots, and when we park in their lot their patients struggle to find a spot to park. Please respect our neighbors and their parking lot by finding a different place to park. You can park on Keller Street before and after school if the parking lot is full.

Thank you very much,
Dr. Smart and our friends at Davita



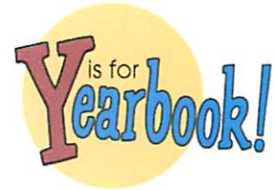
*Happy Holidays!
Have a wonderful winter break; make sure to read 20 minutes a day!*



Merry & Bright



School success starts with attendance



We will once again be selling yearbooks this year. Information about ordering will be sent home by the end of January.

Volunteer

Please remember if you are going to be helping in your child's classroom or chaperoning any events, you need to have volunteer paperwork on file. Paperwork should be turned in at least one week before the event or day you will be volunteering.

Volunteer paperwork needs to be filled out each school year.

We have the best volunteers and we appreciate your commitment to Southgate's students!

Cold Weather Recess Guidelines

Children can be especially susceptible to the dangers associated with inclement weather. Their youthful enthusiasm often takes over when common sense and safety should prevail. Even if they are cold, wet, or exhausted, they often are not conscious of the potential impact these conditions pose. Southgate staff wants to be sensitive to the dangers inclement weather can pose to our children and establish guidelines regarding outside recess.

Cold temperature and wind chill guidelines are as follows (temperatures include wind chill factor):

- 10 degrees F. above zero or lower – indoor recess
- 10-20 degrees – shortened recess, 10-15 minutes
- Above 20 degrees – normal time
- Below 50 degrees, children should bring a coat out for recess (coats may be left near their classroom doors if they choose not to wear them).

We will use these guidelines and bring students into the gym in the morning to wait for school to start rather than waiting in their lines outside.

