

BIG SKY ELEMENTARY

NOVEMBER 2018

KIM BEATTY, PRINCIPAL



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Regular school attendance is the key to success.

Tardies and absences will greatly affect your child's ability to achieve at grade level and a good rule of thumb to remember is

"The key is only 3."

As a family, we encourage you to commit to no more than 3 absences or tardies per trimester.

Inside This Issue . . .

ATTENDANCE

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

MORNING DROP OFF

MANNER OF THE WEEK

11/13 ~ PTA MEETING @ 6:00

11/16 ~ PICTURE RETAKES

11/21-11/23 ~ NO SCHOOL

THANKSGIVING

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

NOVEMBER 7TH, 8TH, AND 9TH

KIDS DISMISSED AT 12:00 NOON



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

NOVEMBER, the month of Thanksgiving, brings many things to feel thankful for, including information you learn at Parent-Teacher Conferences. After meeting with your child's teacher this month, use the report card you will receive in December and discussion from the conference as a roadmap for the school year. It's easy just to set aside the report card until the next report card shows up, yet it's helpful to think of it as a daily reminder of what can be targeted for improvement. Hanging it on the refrigerator is a great visual for what needs to be focused on each day.

Families are busy, but please make it a priority to read with your child daily, practice math facts and spelling of words, and support his/her class activities, so your child sees your interest and investment in education.

Along with academics, encourage your child to practice making stronger social connections. The sense of belonging is a basic need, so ask questions about how he/she is trying to make friendships feel stronger.

Continued on next page



We know that the traffic flow at Big Sky during peak times can be frustrating. We ask for your patience and diligence to keep our kids safe. When you drop your kids off, please be aware of bus lanes, handicap parking, and the driveways & mailbox areas of our school neighbors.

At our morning drop off area just south of the playground, please pull forward as far as possible, make sure kiddos are ready to hop out quickly, and have children exit on the passenger side of your vehicle if possible. Do not allow children to exit vehicles by the short black fencing at the entrance of the drop off area. If we all work together, we can help the traffic flow and keep our kids safe. Thank you!!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER (Continued)

Examples of SOCIAL SKILLS for you to discuss:

- * Sharing with others
- * Letting others explain ideas without interrupting them
 - * Intentionally looking for how to help others
- * Knowing how to enter and finish a conversation
 - * Initiating relationships & social interactions
 - * Requesting help from others in a polite way
 - * Having the ability to deal with moodiness
 - * Giving genuine compliments
 - * Being able to take turns in a selfless way
 - * Saying please and thank you
- * Displaying good sportsmanship at recess & in class
- * Paying attention to what others are saying & doing
- * Having the ability to deal with conflict appropriately
- * Following the flow of a conversation & staying focused
 - * Using coping skills when feeling angry or frustrated
- * Showing a sense of humor & using it at the right time
 - * Developing empathy for others
 - * Using good body language & gestures
- * Being able to read body language & facial expressions
 - * Responding in a fair, caring, respectful way



MANNER OF THE WEEK

Each week at Big Sky, we focus on a Manner of the Week. I include this manner in our Monday morning announcement, and the teachers talk about and reinforce these manners in the classroom. This can be a great conversation starter as you gather at the dinner table at night. Our manners for November and December are:



- November**
- 5: Do not bully, threaten, or intimidate
 - 12: Speak when spoken to and don't interrupt others
 - 19/26: Think before speaking: Is it true? Is it kind? Does it need to be said?
- December**
- 3: Arrive to school and appointments on time.
 - 10: Return borrowed books, permission slips, and phone calls
 - 17: Write thank you notes for gifts received

**REMINDER: THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY THE 21ST,
THURSDAY THE 22ND, OR FRIDAY THE 23RD
AS WE CELEBRATE THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

