# Ashbrook Compass



We kicked off the month of gratitude with a delightful gift bag for every staff member beautifully assembled and organized by the PTO. Staff were thrilled to receive the goodies in preparation for conferences and feel very appreciated by our families. Thank you to the families who participated in contributing and organizing these sweet gifts of appreciation.



We have a lot to be thankful for around here and all you have to do to be reminded is spend a few minutes with any of our staff or students to find out! I have asked our students what they are most thankful for about Ashbrook. I will share a few of their responses each week. Here is what they have to say:

"I am grateful that school is better than I thought it would be." - Emma, 5th Grade

"I am grateful for the science education I am receiving." - Abe, 8th Grade

"I love how the teachers are all willing to help me." - Emma, 7th Grade

"I am thankful we have 2 recesses!" - Kellen, 2nd Grade

"I am thankful for art and Mr. Olson is so funny." - Parker, 3rd Grade

"I am thankful for the staff because they just really pull the school together. They are the stitches, we are the fabric. They are the cookbook, we are the ingredients. They are the glue, and we are hearts." - Keira, 5th Grade

"I just like it all!" - Flynn, 2nd Grade

Rachel Sechler Interim Head of School

CHALLENGE - NURTURE - CARE - 2020

#### This week:

November 11 -- Veterans Day; No School

November 13 -- Middle School 'B Week' schedule

# **Upcoming Dates:**

November 19 -- Online Book Fair Starts

November 20 -- Middle School 'A Week' schedule

# Ashbrook Spooktacular 2020

Middle School costume contest and trunk decorating winners!



Mrs. Chen won for Most Creative trunk.

Mrs. Capps won for Funniest trunk.



Mr. Olson won for the Spookiest trunk.

Aaron won the Spookiest category with his Scream costume.

Lenni and Nolan won Best Group with their sushi assortment.

Natalie tied for Most Creative with her octopus.

Jonny tied for Most Creative and Funniest with his Star Wars pez dispenser!

Aidan tied for Funniest with his "Where's Waldo?" costume.

#### **Parent Perspective from the O'Connors**



Pat, Stephanie and Nora (6th Grade) O'Connor

2020 has been a very challenging time for so many; practicing gratitude each and every day is one small thing we can all do to manage these stressful times.

One of the things we are truly grateful for is the stability that Ashbrook Independent School has brought to our family during this time. For the last 6+ years we have been surrounded by a community of wonderful people that share the same passion for a well-rounded and diverse education built on a foundation of strong character development.

We joined the Ashbrook community because we love the small class size, the access to language, music, physical education and the fantastic elective options. We were also excited to be in the presence of innovative, passionate, skilled educators not bound or discouraged by a legislated educational system. Even though virtual learning is not the most ideal learning environment, we feel very fortunate to have the wonderfully dedicated Ashbrook staff delivering quality educational content in a small virtual classroom where every student can get the personalized support they need.

A BIG thanks from the O'Connor family to the Ashbrook staff for living and breathing the Ashbrook mission to nurture our academically capable students every single day!

#### Move-a-thon forms due!

There are just a few days left to submit your Move-A-Thon materials. We have extended collection of the movement tracking sheet, pledge form and donations until NOON on Monday, November 9. Submit everything by this time to be entered into the prize basket drawing (there are 3 baskets up for grabs), a Benny's Donut party and the coveted Golden Shoe Award. Remember ...

- Turning in a movement tracking sheet (with minutes documented), even without collecting pledges = 1 entry into the prize basket drawing
- Turning in pledge money = 1 additional entry into the prize basket drawing per \$25 collected
- The LS (PK 4) and MS (5 8) classes that return the most pledge money on average will receive the Golden Shoe Award and a Benny's Donut Party

For everyone who has already submitted their materials, THANK YOU, and keep moving!

~Ashbrook PTO

## **AmazonSmile Program**

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Ashbrook every time you shop, at no cost to you. Sign up at <a href="https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-1131186">https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-1131186</a> or (new!) activate under Settings in the Amazon Shopping app iOS and Android phones.

Once activated, you'll find the same convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Ashbrook. Amazon does not share any private information with Ashbrook; we only see how much has been raised on our behalf, many eligible purchases were made each quarter and the total number of accounts linked to Ashbrook.

## More pictures from Spooktacular!



Mr. Hunt and Baby Yoda



Mr. Olson



Mrs. Wall



Mrs. Sechler handing out candy

#### **Current Metrics**

Based on the Governor's recommendations, the Oregon Department of Education released updated metrics last week for returning to in-person instruction. The Core Team, comprised of representatives from each department in the school, discussed

the new numbers and the impact on Ashbrook. We agreed that--when we are ready--we would prefer to add grades gradually over the course of several weeks so we can safely adapt our sanitation processes and procedures for the additional students.

In addition, please watch your email next week for a parent survey regarding these new guidelines. We want everyone in the Ashbrook community to feel comfortable with their students returning to in-person instruction.