

Ashbrook Compass



This week we celebrated Read Across America by spending extra time reading at school! This isn't really anything out of the ordinary at Ashbrook as literacy is embedded throughout every subject, all day long, starting in preschool. By the time our students get to middle school, they are often reading several grade levels ahead, and we even have 7th and 8th grade students reading and comprehending college-level material! What is most unique about Ashbrook students, however, is that they LOVE to read. When you give our students extra class time to read or hold a class celebration by having a "Read-In", they are joyful and thankful for the chance to dive back into the book they've been devouring. What more could you ask for?

During Read Across America week every year, our teachers gather the nominated Patricia Gallagher award books to read to their classes. The students get a chance to vote on their favorite book! If you'd like to read some of these books at home with your student, you can access a virtual read-aloud here: <https://www.oregonread.org/projects-and-grants/patricia-gallagher-awards>

Happy reading!

Rachel Sechler
Interim Head of School

CHALLENGE – NURTURE – CARE - 2021

Next Week:

March 8 -- 4th and 5th grades return
March 12 -- Grade Day, NO SCHOOL

Upcoming Dates:

March 15 -- 6th grade returns
March 16 -- Founder's Day
March 17 -- MS Concert

March 18 -- Half day, DISMISSAL at 12 noon, Conferences 1-6 pm (no after-care for K-3)

March 19 -- Conferences 8 am - 2 pm, NO SCHOOL

March 22-26 -- Spring Break, NO SCHOOL*

March 29 -- (tentative) 7th and 8th grades return

Updated -- [2020-21 School Year Event Calendar](#)

New -- [2021-22 School Year Event Calendar \(DRAFT\)](#)

*Per OHA guidelines: If you plan to travel out-of-state or out of the country over Spring Break, we expect your student to be quarantined for 14 days upon return, as it is the safest option to prevent the spread of Covid-19 to others. However, they may come back to school after 10 days if they do not experience any symptoms or after 7 days if they receive a negative test result from an antigen or polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test that was conducted within 48 hours of the end of the 7-day period.

Continuing Return to School Update

The 4th and 5th grade students will be starting in-person classes on Monday, March 8th! We are on track to continue to follow our projected timeline for returning the 6th graders on March 15th and the 7th/8th graders on March 29th. Mrs. Sechler is meeting with each grade level a few days prior to their return date to talk through some of the new routines to expect. She has also created a parent version of the new routines to be shared with each grade level as their return date approaches. If you would like a sneak peek of what is being covered, see the following slides: [Student Slides](#) [Parent Slides](#)

Also, if your student has seasonal allergies:

- what symptoms to expect must be documented for your student since allergy symptoms mimic some of the COVID Primary and Non-Primary symptoms. Otherwise your student must remain home and be symptom-free for 48 hours. Email Carol with student name and symptoms.
- please administer any needed medications at home to limit Staff contact with your student.
- if medication must be administered at school, [this form](#) must be completed and dropped off with the medication in the bin outside the front doors.

Chromebooks and Chargers Needed Back

As your student returns to the building (or if they already have), please return any Chromebooks and chargers borrowed from Ashbrook. We will need those computers for in-person middle school classes. You can drop them off in the box by the front door.

Enrollment Season has begun!

We look forward to seeing all of our PS-7 students again in the 2021-2022 school year, and you should have received an email with information regarding re-enrollment. If you did not receive it or cannot find it, please email Ms. Tynon and she will resend it.

Links:

[Family Handbook](#)

[Enrollment Contract](#) (now available to sign electronically!)

[Preschool Through 8th Grade Payment Options Grid for 2021-2022](#)

Deadlines:

4/2 - All changes submitted - MSP billing of deposit

4/9 - [Financial aid](#) applications due (accepted 2/23-4/9)

4/23 - Financial aid awarded

4/30 - Deposit due

6/15 - Early bird discount for lump sum tuition payments due

6/30 - Lump sum tuition payments due

8/2 - 10-month payment plan begins

Recommend Ashbrook and Receive \$100 as a Thank You

Do you know families that are interested in joining the Ashbrook community? We know your recommendation, based on your child's experience at Ashbrook, is the #1 reason other families come to Ashbrook. We love hearing that our families are bragging about us! If you refer a family to Ashbrook and they go through the Admissions process, we will give you a \$100 credit toward your tuition or a \$100 gift card to your favorite store as a thank you for helping reinforce our enrollment efforts!

PTO Mini-Grants

The Ashbrook PTO is proud to offer mini-grants again this academic year! Last year's recipients included:

- Tikes Town playhouse
- Middle School Graphic Novel Library
- Choir Club
- Destination Imagination
- First Lego League
- First Lego League, Jr.
- "Eclipse" (student written/produced play)
- Cascades Raptor Presentation

The final deadline for the 2020-2021 academic year is Friday, April 2, 2021. Click [HERE](#) to download the application.

Congratulations Jin!

Fourth grader Jin and his "Pythagorean Switch" contraption won the 2021 SWE-PSU Rube Goldberg Machine Contest! Jin mainly used Legos to build an overly complicated contraption of more than 5 steps to complete the simple task of kicking a piece of paper into a trash pile. You can see Jin's contraption in action here: <https://youtu.be/R9w5SR02h4g>

Well done Jin!

Congratulations Kai and Elizabeth!

Kai placed 1st and Elizabeth placed 5th in the MATHCOUNTS Chapter Invitational Competition! Only the top 5 competitors in the Chapter qualify to advance to the State Competition and Ashbrook is sending 2 of the 5! We wish them both luck in the State Competition later this month.

Way to go Kai and Elizabeth!

Alumni Update

We received an update from Taylor Hurley, a 2013 graduate of Ashbrook. Check out what Taylor has been up to now on [the Alumni page](#) of our website! If you know of an alumnus who you think should be featured in our social media, on the website, or in the Compass, please have them contact Ms. Tynon.

Explorers Fund Wrap-Up

THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the Explorers Fund this winter! We received 52 donations and raised a total of \$48,694!! Although we missed our match goal of \$60,000, we are thankful the Board of Trustees still donated \$40,000 as promised and our anonymous donor donated the full \$20,000 match challenge, bringing our grand total to \$108,694!!

We cannot express how grateful we are to the following donors who contributed to the Explorers Fund:

Carol Alley, Barbara Balen, Luiz Bermudez & Sally Byrd, Terrance Blackburne & Gayle Christensen, Keith and Beverly Burand, Darald and Betty Callahan, Kendra and Brady Callahan, Michelle Cordova, Daniel and Melinda Croft, Steve and Dawn Duerksen, Lynette and Evan Gottlieb, Melora and Jay Halaj, Diane and Greg Hammerstad, Greg Herman & Thuy Tran, Michael G. Holmes, Jeff Hsing & Susan Lai, Doreen Hughes, Daniel and Jerri Jessop, Amy Kwock, Arthur Lee & Elizabeth McQuitty, Jason and Kathleen Lin, Chiawen Wu & Thomas Lin, Krista and Matthew Lindberg, Daniel Lopez-Cevallos & Megan Patton-Lopez, Chris and Janice Lorenzen, Adam and Anna May, Richard and Kathy May, Travis and Kara Obermire, Christopher Parrish & Deborah Kurnik, Elaine Pettigrew, Anne and Andrew Rice, Elizabeth and Jim Richardson, Aaron and Christy Rivers, Rachel and Charles Roberts, Christel Sanders, Nancy Savage, Christopher and Eileen Schoberl, Rachel and Mitch Sechler, Tom Stahl, B Bond and Marilyn Starker, James Starker, Ron and Susan Stevens, John Teller, Beth and Matt Truax, John and Maria Truax, Kelly Tynon, Maarten van Zee, Hector Vergara & Barbara Leon, Lucky and Bernadette Warwick, Marsha and Edgar Washburn, Dieter and Corine Wehner, Tsuyoshi Yamashita & Zhuqing Zhang;

as well as all of our Board members: Alan and Jennifer Chang, Dave and Cecilia Gore, Jennifer Hamilton, Stephanie and Patrick O'Connor, Lori Tully & Chris Beatty, and Tze-Yiu Yong & Debby Tao;

and the companies Hewlett Packard and Spiritopia.

IT Specialist Update

With Josh Tunnissen moving on to his new position soon, we are thrilled (and grateful) to announce that Mr. Greg Hammerstad has agreed to serve as our Interim IT Support Specialist for the remainder of the school year. Greg previously worked as the IT Support Specialist (among many other roles) for 20 years at Ashbrook before he retired in the fall of 2019. Greg's willingness to step back into the role will allow the administration to run a thorough hiring process for the permanent position. Greg will be starting on March 8th.




Welcome back Greg!

Crafting Supplies Needed

Due to physical distancing requirements, Mrs. Capps' Spring sewing elective is turning into a crafting elective! (The sewing room is too small for the class size.) Mrs. Capps would be grateful for any unused crafting supplies you would be willing to donate, as well as blankets, towels, and clothing (t-shirts, sweatshirts, jeans) that can be repurposed, old wreaths, and drinking glasses that have a smooth surface so students can etch them.

There will be a box by the front door to drop off donations. Thank you!

The 7th graders were prompted to answer the question, "What does your childhood taste like?"

<p>Aaron</p>  <p>The taste of my childhood includes donuts. Donuts, donuts, donuts. So many different flavors so you never ever get bored of them. My personal favorite is the blackout donut. A chocolate donut with chocolate fudge and oreos for the top layer. Dip it in milk and you have a life changing experience. I remember my first time eating a blackout donut. My grandma said I could get a treat for the movie that night and I wanted to try that donut. I ate it and marveled at the taste of it. No donut beats it. If you haven't tried it before you have to. They are magnificent, one of a kind, beautiful donuts.</p> 	<p>Ashlin</p> <p>The taste of my childhood included sushi. Golden California rolls have always been my go-to. The reason sushi is on the taste of my childhood list is mainly because of my dad. My dad is a fisherman in the Bering Sea of Alaska. Of course I could have said just plain old seafood like crab, lobster, or halibut, but there is a reason I didn't. The other reason I put sushi is because there is this local restaurant in Newport (where I used to live) where me and my dad would go at least once a week whenever he was home and just bond and talk about our week. Those were the best days. Me and my dad did that because my mom never liked seafood, so we never got to eat it at home. That's why sushi will always have a place in my heart.</p> 
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Chris

A drink that has an important story to me is my grandma's cocktail/mocktail. It has pomegranate seeds, apricot ice cubes, and ginger ale. We have it twice a year, once for thanksgiving and once at christmas eve. We usually have it before we eat the meal as a "warmer upper". It tastes really good and we even make a special one for the dogs. The one we make for the dogs is dog friendly so don't worry. It's probably my favorite drink because I don't get it often and it combines some of my favorite things.



Ruth

One of the main tastes from my childhood is slightly warm pb&j sandwiches. Now I know what you might be thinking and yes, they were not the best. This pb&j sandwich was pretty basic, consisted of two whole wheat bread slices, peanut butter, and strawberry or raspberry jam/jelly. Every single day from kindergarten to 4th grade for lunch my mom would make me a pb&j sandwich and I didn't (and still don't) like them, so I didn't eat the sandwich at lunch. Then after school when I was playing with my friends on the playground, while my mom was talking with other moms, I would get hungry, so I would pull out my pb&j, which at this point was warm from sitting in the sun for hours, and have it. I still wouldn't like it, but I was so hungry I didn't care. I also remember I would never eat the crust. That is one of the main tastes from my childhood.



No Lunch Program

We had hoped to restart the cold lunch program on Monday, March 1, but sadly, we do not have enough families participating throughout the week to make the program sustainable at this time. If you are interested, please complete [this form](#) so we can add you to our numbers.

No After School Program for Grades 4-8

Due to the staffing requirements needed to keep cohorts separate, we are unable to offer the After School Program for Grades 4-8 at this time. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Please use the NEW Attendance Email

Please use attendance@ashbrookschoool.org for any attendance information about your student - early pick-ups, doctor appointments, and upcoming vacations, including around Spring Break.

Current COVID Metrics

At this time, Benton County is in the yellow category with 184 cases per 100,000 for the 2/14/20 - 2/27/21 time frame.