

Ashbrook Compass

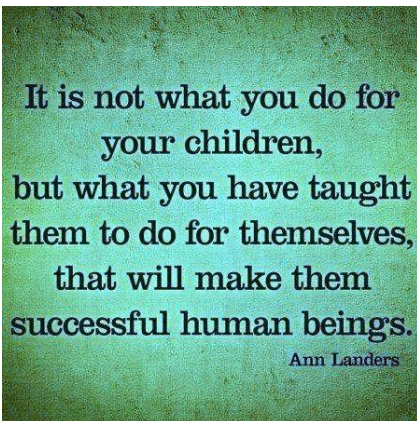


May 21, 2021

Dear Parents,

Over the last few weeks I've had the pleasure of watching the teachers at Ashbrook perform their magic. As I reflected on a few recent interactions in the classrooms, I saw a common thread from beginning school all the way through middle school: one of the hundreds of skills our teachers are instilling in your children is the gift of independence.

Picture this: 3 and 4 year olds at various interest areas throughout the classroom. As one student wanders to her cubby to pull out some watercolors she realizes she needs to fill a cup with water and so she proceeds to take a cup to the sink to fill just the right amount and head back to start her project. Another student decides she would like to start a puzzle, so she selects a puzzle off the shelf, begins problem solving, and soon after a friend joins in. Three students join together to build a structure out of magnetic tiles, deciding if the animals should live inside or outside their structure. After 20 minutes, the student doing water color decides she is finished, empties her water cup in the sink, puts her tub of materials away, and proceeds to find a new station of interest. All of this taking place without requiring teacher direction. At this young age, our students have been given a foundation of problem-solving, confidence, and self-awareness skills that has set them up for a life of independence.



Head on down the hall to the science lab. 6th graders are finishing an engineering unit where they were challenged by Dr. Steckler to create a system using simple machines to safely transport some circus elephants who need to be rescued. As teams collaborated on this challenging task, they were experiencing problem-solving at its finest. Trial and error, collaboration, and determination were all necessary skills to accomplish this task. As they worked to create and demonstrate their solution, things didn't always go as planned the first time around. Never did you hear any student ask the teacher to tell them how to fix their problem. Never did you see any student give up and decide it was too big a challenge. This is independence. I am happy to say all of the elephants were safely rescued!

You can fully expect by the time your child graduates from Ashbrook that they will have developed a level of independence far beyond their peers outside Ashbrook. Year after year, Ashbrook Alumni tell us how thankful they are that they were taught the skills at Ashbrook to be independent and to feel confident advocating for themselves in high school. What a gift it is to send our students out into the world with the skills to be successful on their own.

Rachel Sechler
Interim Head of School

CHALLENGE – NURTURE – CARE - 2021

Next Week:

May 24-27 -- Spirit Week (see below)

May 26 -- Celebration of the Arts video released (see below)

May 28 -- Teacher In-service; **No School**

Upcoming Dates:

May 31 -- Memorial Day; **No School**

June 2 -- PTO meeting via Zoom

June 16 -- Field Day

June 17 -- 8th grade graduation

June 18 -- Last Day of School; half-day, dismiss at 12 noon

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

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

Ashbrook Mask Policy

While we acknowledge that there have been a lot of changes to the statewide mask policy, **masks will continued be required at Ashbrook** through the end of the year. We will continue to monitor the situation over the summer and determine best practices for next fall in late August.

Spirit Week is next week!

On Monday, pull out your best mismatched outfit. Mismatch means to combine as many patterns and colors as you can.

Tuesday is crazy hair or hat day! We can't wait to see the creative styles you choose.

Wednesday is Buddy Day, so we are going to match with our buddies! 5th-8th students will match the color listed for their advisory teacher! Kindergarten, Miss Kelley and Mrs. Washburn's Advisory will be wearing RED. 1st Grade and Dr. Steckler's Advisory will wear BLUE! 2nd Grade, Pre-K, Pre-School, and Mr. Wilson's Advisory will wear ORANGE! 3rd Grade, Mrs. Capps and Dr. Gottlieb's Advisory will wear GREEN! 4th Grade and Mr. Hunt's Advisory will wear GREY!

Thursday is sports day! You can wear your favorite sports gear or represent your favorite team.

We can't wait to see you dressed up next week!

Celebration of the Arts next Wednesday

Keep a close eye on your email and the Ashbrook Facebook page next Wednesday so you don't miss the virtual Celebration of the Arts! Our celebration video will include a peak into PE, a school wide composition project in Music, samples of student artwork from Art, and excerpts from "The Wizard of Oz" radio play! The specialists can't wait to share your talented students with you!

MATHCOUNTS Nationals

Kai Yamashita and three other top mathletes from Oregon recently competed in the National MATHCOUNTS Competition. Because Kai placed first in Oregon, they asked Mr. Hunt to act as the Lead Coach of the Oregon Team. With the help of Yoshi Yamashita, he held several coaching sessions before the competition with these four amazing math students. He said he was excited and honored to help these students prepare for Nationals and to watch them participate in the various virtual math challenges.

The Oregon Mathletes represented our state well and Kai should be proud of his placing 94th out of 224 of the top math students in the Nation. Team Oregon placed 27th out of the 56 US States and Territories that participated in the competition. For his efforts, Kai collected \$100 for winning the State Competition and a \$750 Scholarship from event sponsor Raytheon Technologies.

Congratulations Kai and Team Oregon!

Congratulations to Ms. Jerri!

Ms. Jerri completes her student teaching today and will soon be a certified elementary school teacher! She has been a big asset to Miss Ulrich's 2nd grade this spring and she will be missed in the classroom.

Enrollment Update

We will provide regular updates to our school community regarding student enrollment numbers for the 2021-2022 school year. Based on that, here is the availability for each grade given our plan to implement the new distancing guidance next year:

Grade	PS	PK	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Spots available	0*	0*	8	8	7	4	6	10	12	4	7

*Waiting list has started

2021-22 Enrollment Links:

[Family Handbook](#)
[Enrollment Contract](#)
[Payment Plans](#)

Deadlines:

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

If you have questions regarding tuition payments, payment plans, tuition insurance, or financial aid please contact Elaine in the office.

Recommend Ashbrook and Receive \$100 as a Thank You

Recommendations are the #1 reason other families come to Ashbrook. 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!

Summer Writing Workshop

Ashbrook is offering a Summer Writer's Workshop for current 4th-8th grade students. This opportunity is designed for students interested in reinforcing expository writing skills acquired during a year of distance learning, reducing the impact of summer loss, and entering the next grade "writing-ready." **Students are invited to take any or all of the 4 weeks offered**; the units run July 19-August 13, meeting 5 days a week, 8:30am to 12:30pm. Spots are available on a first come, first served basis and are open to Ashbrook and non-Ashbrook students.

For more information, click [HERE](#) for the full information flyer or complete the registration form [HERE](#).

The Ashbrook Summer Camp Program -- **3 weeks have a waiting list!**

We're offering 8 weeks of camps, 5 days a week 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Sign up for one week or all eight. The program is tailored to current PS through 3rd grade students. Priority will be given to current Ashbrook students, but if space is available we will open spots to non-Ashbrook students who meet our qualifications for attendance in the program.

Click [HERE](#) to view the Summer Program information sheet that includes the themes for each week and a link to RSVP so you can save a spot for your student. COVID-safe protocols will be followed.

Warmer Weather dress code reminder

As the weather warms up, we want to remind everyone (and clarify a few items) about the Friday Free Dress Day Requirements

- All clothing should be modest, good condition, fit properly, and free of unsafe accessories.
- No holes in shorts/pants
- No bare midriffs
- Shorts/skirts should be knee to mid-thigh length.
- Underwear should not be visible
- Clothing should be neat, clean, and appropriate to the program of the day
- Clothing in varying colors made of denim and sport materials are allowed.
- Hats or hoods may not be worn inside the building
- Closed-toe shoes or sandals must be securely fastened around the foot
- All clothing must be opaque. Any clothing that is see-through must be covered by a piece of clothing that adheres to the rest of the dress code.

Students may have sunscreen in their backpack or cubby but they must be able to apply the sunscreen themselves. No spray sunscreens! Hats and sunglasses are encouraged for outside wear only.

Current COVID Information

At this time, Benton County has 200 cases per 100,000 for the 5/2/21 - 5/15/21 time frame.

If your student has been exposed to COVID, your student MUST quarantine for 14 days.

[Benton County Health letter on new quarantine guidelines](#)

[Benton County Health Quarantine Visual Quick Guide](#)