

Ashbrook Compass



October 15, 2021

Dear Ashbrook Family,

With today's compass, we greet the ides of October and brace ourselves for the post Halloween recommitment to our New Year's resolution by avoiding the late night trips to that stash of candy collected by our little trick or treaters.

As always, but especially this month, there's a lot going on at Ashbrook. Below are six opportunities looking for your participation or help in one way or the other. One of the qualities of Ashbrook that very much appealed to me as I was thinking about tossing my hat into the ring for the HoS position was that people seemed very hungry for community engagement. This enthusiasm has redoubled since the pandemic has proven to be a bit more stubborn than many may have anticipated. With all of this good energy, with all of us pulling in the same direction, we can make a significant impact in the areas of enrollment, crushing COVID, and providing an enhanced student experience. Thank you for anything you can do to give of your precious time, if only in the careful reading and consideration of the below!

Be well, Doc

Dr. Christopher A. Schoberl
Head of School

PLEASE NOTE: Progress reports have been moved to 10/22 due to multiple recent outages with the MSP system.

Next Week:

October 19 -- Summer Months Character Traits entries due (deadline extended!)

October 20 -- Coffee/Tea with Leadership, 9 am via Zoom

October 21 -- Movie Night for grades 2-4

October 22 -- Teacher In-service, No School, Progress Reports available

Upcoming Dates:

October 25 or 26 -- Pumpkin carving entries are due

October 27 -- Last Day of Socktober and October Admissions Event

October 28 -- Picture Retakes

October 29 -- Ashbrook Spooktacular

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

Playground areas after school are off limits

After school, please do not allow your children to play on the playground structures and equipment after school. These areas are off limits to students after school because we still have programs in cohorts using these spaces and we need to follow our sanitation safety protocols.

Coffee/Tea with the Leadership

This month, Doc and Mrs. Sechler are hosting the first of our monthly “Leadership Coffees” for parents, on Zoom.

Kindly RSVP and send us your questions ahead of time [HERE](#) (but by 10/20, end of the day), so we can prepare for an hour that is most useful to you (we will also entertain live questions, if time). One topic we will definitely be covering is the upcoming Parent/Teacher Conferences and how they will work.

Zoom link is [HERE](#).

Meeting ID: 794 1777 1765

Passcode: 65uERb

STUDENT CONTEST: Summer Months Character Traits -- Deadline Extended: Lower School and Middle School Category Added

We currently have one full class and two individual student submissions... all Lower School! Let's go Middle School!

Are you a student who has some thoughts about what three traits we should add to our Character Trait list for the summer months? Would you like to win a snazzy long sleeve Ashbrook t-shirt AND a free dress day for your entire class? If so, write Doc a note

according to the following instructions: On a single page, describe each trait and its month and WHY you think it would be important for Ashbrook to adopt (due by the first bell of the day on Tuesday 10/19).

October Admission Event being Advertised on FaceBook and elsewhere

Know anyone who might be interested in learning more about our School? Please let them know (and of course, you are always welcome!) about this upcoming event:

Education as Opportunity: Lifting Up the Bottom vs. Pushing Down the Top October 27th, 6:30-8:00PM

Join the Ashbrook Head of School Dr. Chris Schoberl and members of the Ashbrook mathematics and science faculty as they address how Ashbrook works to provide every student with the opportunity to be their best selves. Learn how Ashbrook allows students access to math and science courses based on their current state of understanding and their level of interest rather than solely upon grade level. Finish this meeting with a virtual walking tour of our beautiful campus and a Q and A session to address your thoughts. More information can be found [HERE](#). Kindly [RSVP here](#) and use [this Zoom link](#).

Ashbrook Talking Points

Do you sometimes find yourself in conversations with non-Ashbrook families about Ashbrook? Would you like talking points to refer to when people ask you questions about our AWESOME school? If so, please choose your personal top 3 items from [Doc's list](#) and think about these as your "elevator pitch." Ashbrook Staff is currently working through their own thoughts on the topic and we will publish "an official talking points list" later this year, but please feel free to pull from Doc's list until then.

Keep in mind that in these discussions with non-Ashbrook parents, you may be asked to address "word on the street" misperceptions, and these are the main ones "out there":

Misconception: Prohibitively expensive and less than clear value added over other school choices

Fact: The cost of Ashbrook is well within the average range of private schools in the area.

Misconception: Questionable Inclusiveness of the Community or that Ashbrook is "elitist."

Fact: Ashbrook is a highly inclusive community, where diversity of all types is honored, and in which each person's individual gifts are highly valued.

Misconception: Muddy definition of "Academically Capable."

Fact: Perhaps the terms "Academically Curious" or "Academically Motivated" are better descriptors.

Misconception: Leadership as inaccessible and not transparent.

Fact: Current leadership makes it a point to be out front and available and is always accommodating.

Ashbrook Rube Goldberg Machine Contest

Are you a parent with some connection to a Corvallis area business, either directly or through someone you know? Would you like to join other area businesses and the OSU School of Engineering in the creation of an exciting STEAM contest hosted by Ashbrook this winter? If so, please view the preliminary materials [HERE](#) and consider being a Sponsor, Collaborator, or Partner!

We are looking for 10 Sponsors to donate \$500 to the contest and their business logo/name will be included in all contest promotional materials, including fliers, ads, and contest t-shirts.

We are looking for 5 Collaborators to donate \$1000 and they will receive all of the Sponsor benefits plus one company representative will be invited to consult in program development, help choose 10 teams from those that apply, and judge on contest day.

We are looking for 2 Partners to donate \$2500 and they will receive all of the Collaborator benefits plus one company representative will be invited to help choose the task to be performed and provide one Chief Judge (for a total of 2) who is responsible for overseeing the OSU student judging team and process.

If this sounds like your cup of tea, please be in touch with Doc by November 15.

Pumpkin Carving Contest!



When to Drop Off? Monday, October 25
or Tuesday, October 26
Please don't forget to put your name on
a piece of paper on or in your pumpkin



Who?
5th through 8th grade
can enter a carved
pumpkin and try to win!

Prizes awarded at
Friday's Ashbrook
Spooktacular 2021
Event and you can pick
up your pumpkin



YOU Could Win!



Where to drop off? The table
labeled "Pumpkin" in front of the
school



Apply to be an AAAA at Ashbrook

Are you interested in applying to be a AAAA (Ashbrook Adult Admission Ambassador)? If selected, you would commit to being accessible (I guess that would make you an AAAAA!), via email, to prospective families engaged in some stage of the admission process. To provide this access, Ashbrook IT will give you an email alias for your website profile (which would look very similar to the profile [HERE](#) provided by Doc as a model). We are looking for 10 AAAAs who will be selected from a pool of applicants based on our effort to provide the greatest variety of perspectives to our hopeful applicant families. If you are interested, please upload a copy of what YOUR profile would look like beneath Doc's (through the link above), and we will be in touch.

Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) Update from Ms. Jerri

The interest of students and parents in OBOB has been terrific! As of yesterday, 17 students have signed on to be team members and 10 parents have expressed interest in learning more about coaching or co-coaching. In Grades 3, 4, and 5, we have at least the minimum number of students needed to form teams, but there is absolutely room for others who would like to participate. In Grades 6 - 8, we are in need of at least one or more additional students to form this upper division team. Regardless of grade, if your student or you would like to be involved in OBOB, please email me as soon as possible at jjessop@ashbrookschoool.org. Ashbrook's OBOB registration deadline is October 31, but we will want to have team members and coaches identified prior to that date. Thank you for supporting this incredible opportunity for students to have fun and enjoy camaraderie with their friends and coaches while honing their reading skills and piquing their interest in a variety of genres!

Special note to parents interested in learning more about coaching: I will be holding an informational Zoom meeting on Tuesday, October 19, from 3:30 to 4:00. If you are unable to join the Tuesday Zoom, let me know when you are available so I can ensure you have the information you need. The Zoom link is [HERE](#). (Meeting ID: 860 8535 7233, Passcode: V1Ygqp)

Halloween Costumes

Please remember when preparing for Halloween that your child's costume needs to be school appropriate. This means no blood, gore, or weapons. Students will come to school in their costume but please know that they will be outside for recess so regular shoes are required. Keep in mind that your student will be wearing their costume all day, so they need to be able to independently manage their costume during recess, PE, and when using the restroom.

Finally, even if the costume has a mask associated with it, your student will still be required to wear a face mask underneath.

2nd Annual Ashbrook Spooktacular is Friday, October 29!

It's still going to be Covid safe but better than last year. We have created a unique Ashbrook event that lets everyone show off their costumes and decorate a vehicle to win a prize. The students will have a day filled with fun and adventure. To add a community outreach element, we are inviting Adams and Muddy Creek families to drive through our driveway of terror as they head off to their own celebrations.

If you want to participate in the car decoration part of the event, please sign up for a parking slot by contacting Mr. Olson at eolson@ashbrookschoo.org. We need to know how many cars to save spaces for. There will be two car areas this year. The area for teachers will be just past the playground in the fire lane. The second will be for parents and will be in the upper parking lot on the music room side of the staff parking lot.

Prizes will be awarded to the scariest, funniest, most creative, and most original cars.

We will be broadcasting an event soundtrack over the FM radios for all the cars to play.

We do not allow overly violent or bloody costumes, and we do not allow displays of weapons.

The cars will have to be left for several hours so you should plan ahead. (Cars must be set-up by 12:30 pm and left until after student pick-up.) If you want to drop your decorated car off at the beginning of school and pick it up later in the afternoon, it will be safe as we will have people who will be watching them.

Picture Retakes

Picture Retakes are scheduled for Thursday, October 28th. Please email Ms. Rachael by Wednesday, October 27 if your child will need their picture retaken and she will fetch them at their grade's scheduled retake time. No extra paperwork is needed, but please send the original photographs with your student to give back to the photographer.

To order retaken pictures, visit mylifetouch.com with the Picture Day ID: EVTCS44D3

Socktober is underway!

You can drop off new socks in the bin by the front door or you can buy them online and have them delivered to The Ashbrook Sockdrive, 4045 SW Research Way, Corvallis, OR 97333. The socks will be donated to shelters throughout Corvallis at the end of the month.

Thoughts About Testing from Ashbrook's COVID Medical Advisory Group

For the first two weeks of our testing partnership with WVT, we submitted 17 and 10 COVID samples, respectively. Given these numbers, we thought it would be a good idea to hear from our Advisory Board on the value of testing as a way to encourage you to participate in this program. With winter on its way, and the likely prospect of our spending more time indoors, establishing a weekly habit of testing seems like a good way to get ahead of this. As always, please let Doc know if there are any barriers to participation that the school can mitigate, and he'd be happy to accommodate.

From the Medical Advisory Group:

“Dear Ashbrook,

Routine COVID testing can help identify COVID cases early and is part of a multipronged approach to reduce spread, isolate infections and keep the school open for in person instruction as well as providing as much protection as possible for all our students – many of whom are not yet eligible for vaccination. The testing is easy to do in the comfort of your home. The current testing is not the brain tickler of the early pandemic and only involves a brief swab of the main nose area. Many professional and college sports programs test their teams a minimum of 3 times a week to help keep everyone safe, healthy and able to participate – our school is even more important to keep safe and in person.”

Please help Ashbrook do everything possible to avoid an in person shutdown. Testing through this program is quick, easy, no cost, and of tremendous benefit to our community!

COVID Reminders to All Parents

Ashbrook has enrolled in Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 Screening Program for K-12 students. This weekly testing program is entirely optional. **You can pick-up a barcoded test kit on Monday mornings from the orange bucket just outside the front door**, test your child that night or Tuesday morning, and return the test Tuesday morning. You will receive confidential results in 1-2 days. For more details, click [HERE](#).

If your student has seasonal allergies or a chronic/managed health condition, please email Ms. Rachael at rlevy@ashbrookschoool.org with your student's name and symptoms. These conditions will be documented in the office. A student experiencing a symptom as a result of their known condition does not need to quarantine unless other non-related symptoms develop.

Please remember to screen your child each morning before coming to school. This includes asking your student how they are feeling, doing a symptom check, as well as checking their temperature. If your child is experiencing any of the symptoms on [this list](#), do not send them to school.