

Pathfinder News

November 6, 2023



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Message from Pathfinder Dean of Students, Miss Walker

It has been so rewarding watching students arrive each day for school with smiles on their faces and ready to learn. Inside classrooms, students are developing routines and becoming active, engaged participants. During mealtimes, they are becoming more independent opening food packages, including those tricky milk cartons! At recess, new friendships are forming, and giggles fill our hearts watching our imaginative friends explore the playground.

Although many students have already decided that school is a wonderful place to be, others are still learning what life is like being away from home. If you are experiencing this, the best thing you can do is consistently send your child to school, even on days they express sadness or a desire to stay home. It's hard seeing your child upset, but our Pathfinder team will be here ready to provide reassurance and support on those difficult days. Feel free to contact the



school on challenging mornings so we can connect with your child and find ways to get them excited about school.

Kindergarten students thrive with routines. The transition back from a weekend, vacation, or returning after an illness can feel overwhelming. It's our job to support students and help them feel safe. We look forward to partnering with you on the best of days and the more challenging moments. Establishing healthy habits, like consistent attendance, is a gift that will support a lifetime of success!

Warm Regards,
Melissa Walker

IMPORTANT DATES AND DETAILS

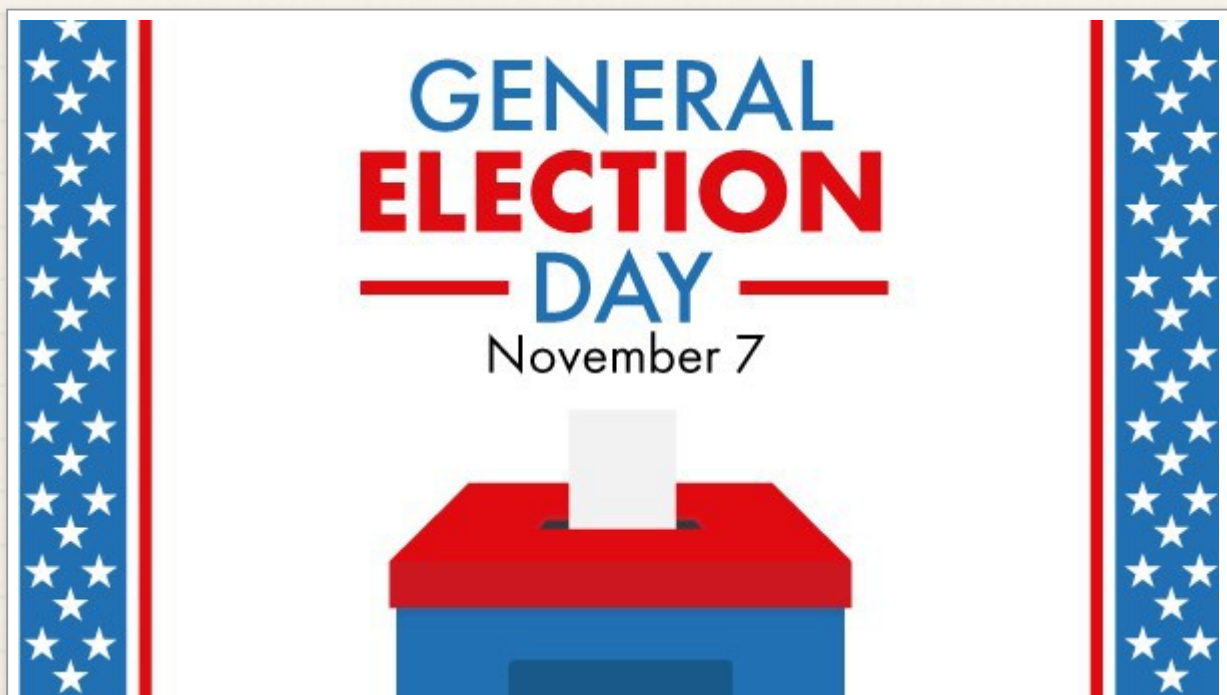
November Calendar Reminders

Character and Behavior Focus – *Respect*

Safety Focus – *Earthquake Safety*

9	Thursday	School Spirit Day: Red, White & Blue Day
10	Friday	NO SCHOOL: Veterans Day
14	Tuesday	School Photo Retake Day
20 th – 22 nd		NO SCHOOL: Parent/Family-Teacher Conferences
23 rd – 24 th		NO SCHOOL: Thanksgiving/Native American Heritage Day

Remember to vote by November 7



December Calendar Preview

Character and Behavior Focus – **Responsibility**
Safety Focus – **Fire Drill**

15	Friday	School Spirit Day: Wear Warm, Cozy Winter Wear
15	Friday	Early Release: Dismissal at 1:25 pm
16 th – Jan. 1 st		NO SCHOOL: Winter Break

REMINDER:
Kindergarten Students are dismissed
at 2:40 pm every Friday.

Parent/Family-Teacher Conferences are November 20-22

It is time to schedule November parent/family-teacher conferences! You should have received a message from your child's teacher via ParentSquare with information about how to schedule your conference. Your child's teacher will share about their learning so far in kindergarten and discuss areas of strength and areas for improvement.

When choosing a conference time, please be sure to choose a time that your child can join you for the conference.

If you have any questions or need help scheduling your conference, please call the Pathfinder office at (425) 366-3800.



School Picture Retake Day – Tuesday, November 14

If your child missed picture day on October 2nd and October 3rd, or would like to have their photo retaken, school picture retakes will take place the morning of Tuesday, November 14.



If you already ordered photos but your child wasn't at school on picture day, you don't need to do anything. Your child will have their picture taken November 14.

If your child is having retakes, please return their original photo packet to school on November 14 to return to the photographers. There is no cost for retakes unless you are planning to keep the original photo packet too, in which case you will need to place another order for the new photos using the link below.

If you would like to order photos for the November 14th date, you can use the link below.

If you order from the link below, a photo will be taken of your student on November 14. These orders must be made by 10 pm November 13 (the day before picture day).

The link below is not for the original photos that were taken October 2nd and 3rd. If you would like to order more of the original photos, please use the form enclosed in the photo packet you received.

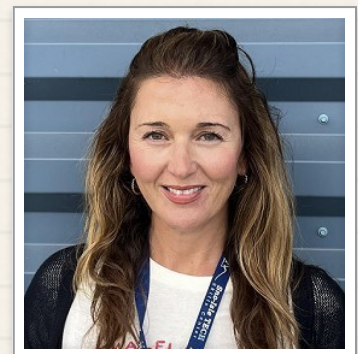
If you have any questions, please email KIDS Photography at KIDSPhoto@comcast.net.

CLICK HERE to order November 14 Retake Photos

Sno-Isle TECH Skills Center Early Childhood Education at Pathfinder

This year, Sno-Isle TECH Skills Center has launched their Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program at Pathfinder. ECE is a year-long course that provides daily opportunities to develop and practice skills essential for successful teaching for 11th and 12th grade high school students who want to specialize in the field of Early Childhood Education. Classroom learning will focus on understanding the learner, child development, planning instruction, best practices in teaching and assessment strategies, and preparation for the Washington State Paraeducator Certification. Students will engage in daily job-shadowing experiences at Pathfinder that include how to target interventions, play to learn, social and emotional development, and behavior support. We are honored to be part of the Pathfinder community and your children's learning journey!

Viveca Smith, Sno-Isle Teacher



Cold Weather is Here!

Please be sure to send students to school in appropriate clothes for colder weather. Please label coats, sweatshirts, hats, and gloves with student name so that items may easily be returned to them. If your family or your child needs support with warm clothing, please reach out to the teacher or contact the Pathfinder office at (425) 366-3800.





School Spirit Day: Red, White, & Blue Day!

Our next Pathfinder School Spirit Day is Thursday, November 9! Wear red, white and blue to honor our veterans! There is no school on Friday, November 10 to observe Veterans Day.

Notes from the Nurse, Alyssa Richer

Vision Screenings

Student vision screenings have been completed. If your child is in need of a professional eye exam, a referral letter will be sent home with your student. If you do not receive a referral letter, your child passed the eye exam and does not need a follow up. If you need assistance in scheduling an eye exam or need additional resources, please reach out to me.



Student Health Reminders

Cold and flu season is here! Please keep your child home if they have a temperature of over 100.4 or have vomitted in the last 24 hours. If you have questions about whether your child should attend school, please feel free to call the nurse at (425) 366-3809.

Did you know that November is Native American Heritage Month?

Native American Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the rich histories, diverse cultures, and important contributions of our nation's first peoples.

Native American, American Indian, Indian First Peoples and Indigenous are all terms used by both Native and non-Native people. When possible, most Native people prefer to be identified by their specific community. The map below shows the tribes of just Washington State!



SUPPORT LEARNING AT HOME

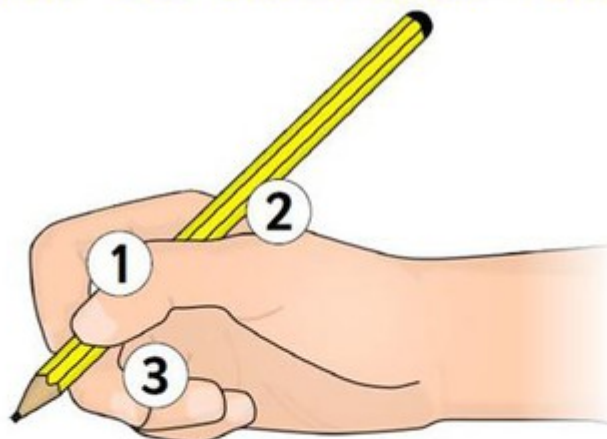
Ways to Support your Child at Home

A good pencil grip allows a child to keep the wrist steady and make small movements of the fingers to move the tip in different directions. This helps children create straight and curved lines.

Please help you child gain practice holding a pencil using the proper grip. If a child's grip starts incorrectly, it is very difficult to change once habits are formed.

Encourage your child to start each letter at the top.

How to Hold a Pencil



1. Put your thumb and forefinger just above the cone shaped part of the pencil.
2. Let the pencil rest between your thumb and forefinger.
3. Then put your middle finger underneath for support.

Here are some activities you can try at home.

Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post your child's name on the refrigerator. Then, help him/her trace the letters with his/her finger every day.• Students should use a capital letter for the first letter in their name and lowercase letters for the remaining letters in their first name.• Have your child practice writing with a pencil, crayon, and marker.• Students can use a flashlight to trace letters on the ceiling.
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draw a picture with a square, circle, triangle, and rectangle.• Tell a family member about a new friend you met at school.
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tell a family member about the hallway rules.• Count and write numbers 1-10.
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find the letters A-M in a book or in your home.• Draw a picture of something you did at school.

Are you Planning a Family Trip for the Holidays?

As you think about your holiday plans, we want to stress the importance of sending your child to school every day possible. Every year, absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holiday as families squeeze in a few more vacation days.



It's time to break that cycle. We know that just a few missed days here and there, even if they're excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. This is as true in kindergarten and preschool as it is in high school. Put simply, too many absences at any age can affect a student's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation.

We recognize that holidays are an important time for reconnecting with families far away. The costs of plane tickets often influence when you want to travel. But keep in mind the costs to your children's education if they miss too much school— and the message you will be sending about the importance of attendance. The state and our district do not consider travel/vacations as an excused absence. Even if you receive a homework packet from the teacher, it doesn't make up for the interaction and learning that happens in the classroom. Our teachers will be teaching, and our students will be learning, right up until vacation starts and the first day back. You can help us convey that message. This holiday season, give your children the gift of an education and the habit of attendance.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Kindergarten School Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:25 a.m. – 3:55 p.m.
Friday 9:25 a.m. – 2:40 p.m.

Preschool Hours

AM Session 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
PM Session 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
No Preschool on Friday





FAMILY FUN



November 2023

Sing, talk, dance, and read with your child every day.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Fingerspell a to z. Do your finger shapes match the ABC Phonics video or ABC Phonics chart?	2 Count everything! Count by 10's to 100.	3 Ask your child to recite favorite nursery rhymes and poems about leaves.	4 What new colors can you name? Silver, turquoise, gold, gray.
5 Daylight Savings Ends Remember to turn your clocks back!	6 Sing family songs with your child. Talk about what the songs mean to you. Play with the rhyming words.	7 ELECTION DAY Talk about what it means to be an American.	8 Ask your child to perform The Pledge of Allegiance with American Sign Language.	9 Find many ways for your child to write their name and "heart word" sentences: I love you. I see my dog.	10 Tell your child a story from your childhood during dinner time.	11 VETERAN'S DAY 
12 Read with your child at least 20 minutes each night. Include books from The Read & Sing Book Club.	13 Enjoy singing the "T-h-a-n-k: Thank You" song. Can you fingerspell thank you?	14 Encourage your child to perform ABC Phonics: Sing, Sign, and Read! frequently.	15 Continue encouraging your child to draw and write and tell stories!	16 Visit an older friend. Let your child perform a song or rhyme.	17 Find 3-D shapes: cylinders, cones, cubes, spheres.	18 Let your child set the table for lunch. Count silverware. Or can you use chopsticks to eat?
19 Talk with your child about what you are grateful for.	20 Play word segmenting games. Guess my word: d-a-d? p-i-g? c-u-p? p-e-n? p-o-p?	21 How many ways can you make the number 10? Play with numbers!	22 Talk about your family Thanksgiving traditions and what they mean to you.	23 Thanksgiving Vacation Invite your child to perform the ABC Phonics song for the whole family.		24 25 Read with your child at least 20 minutes every day.
26 Ask your child to sing their favorite songs. Join in!	27 Help your child make a book about people and things he loves.	28 Remember to say "Please" and "Thank you."	29 Count backwards from 10 to 1.	30 Recite and memorize: "No green grass/ No blue sky/ No bare feet going by/ November!"		

Thank you for being Parents as Partners in kindergarten success: Celebrate language!
Segment and blend words together. Choose a few activities to do with your child every week. NellieEdge.com

Mukilteo School District Non-Discrimination Statement

Mukilteo School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged

discrimination: Civil Rights Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator Simone Neal (425-356-1319), nealsr@mukilteo.wednet.edu, Section 504 Coordinator Becca Anderson (425-356-1277), andersonra@mukilteo.wednet.edu, and the ADA/Access Coordinator Karen Mooseker (425-356-1330), moosekerkw@mukilteo.wednet.edu. Address: 9401 Sharon Drive in Everett, WA. Inquiries regarding ADA/Access issues at Sno-Isle TECH Skills Center should be directed to Wes Allen, Director (425-348-2220) allenwr@mukilteo.wednet.edu. Address: 9001 Airport Road in Everett, WA 98204.

