

Newsletter



July 18, 2023

A Message from Dr. Tufts

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school! The first day of school will be August 9. School begins at 8:30 am. This has been a short, however, very busy summer for the Howell Mountain Elementary School District. As the school year is approaching, I am feeling a welcomed sense of normalcy. It is refreshing to remember this feeling. It is also long over-due.

We are excited to begin the new year and have a few changes to announce.

Mr. Norris will be teaching second grade this year. Ms. Brink will move into the Resource Specialist position and Mrs. Dahline will be returning to Howell Mountain to teach the fifth/ sixth grade class.

We will be bringing back our “Buddy Reading” program, where our older students will partner with our younger students for quality reading and mentorship. The greenhouse is fully functional. So, we are actively recruiting all volunteers interested in gardening. In addition, we will be hosting the Missoula Children’s theater in the fall and Girls on the Run in the spring. Also, please mark your calendars for our annual Halloween Parade, Tuesday, October 31, as we lead a school-wide parade to the Angwin Fire Department.

Let’s not forget “Fabulously Fun Fridays!” Friday mornings we play games in the cafeteria. This is when we participate in school cheers, celebrations, and friendly competitions. Our Friday assemblies are fun. Each home room is selected to lead the classes in these games. We also choose “Golden Ticket” winners, who receive a small prize. Students earn Golden Tickets by demonstrating safe, responsible, and respectful behaviors throughout the week.

As a caveat, the Friday assemblies reinforce our evacuation lines. Students practice sitting in alphabetical, orderly lines. In the event we do have an evacuation, all parents will report to the cafeteria to check out their child from your child’s homeroom teacher. Each teacher brings a roll sheet to the cafeteria each Friday.



Our Wolf Pack, parent group, is recruiting members to help support a Harvest Festival and classroom room parents. The parent group will have a table in front of the school on the first day of class. Please stop by to chat with them about how we all can work together to enrich our programs and school community.

Kindergarten Ice Cream Social



Our in-coming Transitional Kindergarteners and Kindergarteners are cordially invited to an ice cream social, where they will meet their teachers and peers. This family friendly event will take place on August 4 from 5:30-6:30 pm on the “blue top” downstairs. We are excited to meet you all. Welcome to Howell Mountain Elementary School!



Book Fair

We will be hosting a Book Fair August 14-18, in the Howell Mountain Library. There is a virtual Book Fair, which is available right now. Parents and families can log onto: efairs.literati.com and type Howell into the search bar. Books may be purchased online. Gift cards may also be purchased. Parents can also search for books at their child’s grade level.



Important Dates:

- August 4: TK/ K Ice Cream Social (5:30-6:30 pm)
- August 9: First Day of School (8:30 am)
- August 14-18: Book Fair
- August 16: School Board Meeting (6:00 pm)
- August 17: Back to School Night (6:00 pm)
- September 4: Labor Day- No School



Back to School Night

Back to School Night will be held on August 17. To accommodate families with multiple children, there will be two sessions. One beginning at 6:00, the second at 6:30. Plan on attending Back to School Night, where you will meet your child’s teacher and learn about your child’s educational program.

