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So how was your first month back at **Orchard Heights**? I hope you had as much fun as we did! What an exciting time to be a **Shark**, huh? As things start to get “normal”, remember that there are a few of us still getting used to the routine ... so if you ever have any questions, don’t hesitate to ask and let’s help one another!

In October we get to start looking forward to things like pumpkins, falling leaves, hot spiced cider, candy corn and harvest parties. But did you know that there are some kids that can’t enjoy Trick or Treating or the candy at Halloween parties because they suffer from allergies (that are sometimes even life threatening)? That’s why the **Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE)** group has started a program called the “**Teal Pumpkin Project**”. By painting (or decorating) a pumpkin in teal, and placing it out for kids to find, you’re letting them know that there are allergy safe alternatives available at your house. It can be things like small toys, bubbles, stickers, pens/pencils/crayons/markers, bookmarks, bouncy balls and more. So think about participating in the **Teal Pumpkin Project** this year and make it a safe and happy holiday for everyone! For information, feel free to visit FARE’s web site at:

<https://www.foodallergy.org/education-awareness/teal-pumpkin-project>

## Important Dates

- ◆ 10/9: SK Care Fair
- ◆ 10/11: No School
- ◆ 10/14: Columbus Day
- ◆ 10/31: Halloween
- ◆ 10/28-11/1: Conferences
- ◆ 10/28-11/1: Book Fair
- ◆ 11/11: Veterans Day
- ◆ 11/28-29: Thanksgiving
- ◆ 12/23-1/3: Christmas Break
- ◆ 1/20: Martin Luther King Day
- ◆ 2/17-18: President’s Day
- ◆ 3/23-27: Conferences
- ◆ 3/23-27: Book Fair
- ◆ 3/30-4/3: Spring Break
- ◆ 5/25: Memorial Day
- ◆ 6/12: Last Day of School



## Want to Watch a Family Friendly Halloween Movie with Your Kids? Try One of These!

- ◆ The Nightmare Before Christmas
- ◆ Hocus Pocus
- ◆ Halloween Town
- ◆ Spooky Buddies
- ◆ Spookley the Square Pumpkin
- ◆ Halloween is Grinch Night
- ◆ Scooby-Doo and the Goblin King

## Sensory-Friendly Halloween Tips

Sensory issues affect, on average, 1 in 20 children in the United States. As we become more aware of sensory issues, businesses and organizations are offering sensory-friendly events. You can also help make Halloween more sensory friendly in your community with the following tips:

- ✦ Limit Sensory triggers such as fog machines, strobe lights, loud noises, and sound effects.
- ✦ Keep in mind that a child may have sensory issues with wearing a costume. Be accepting of their choices, even if that choice is not to wear a costume at all.
- ✦ Be sensitive to children experiencing sensory overload and understand there might be some unexpected behaviors.



**School Closures:** Closures and delays will be announced on any local television and/or radio station, as well as on the district website. Register to get your snow day e-mail alerts at [www.schoolreport.org](http://www.schoolreport.org) or try the Flash Alert app.

**2 Hour Delay:** If SKSD reports a 2 hour late start schedule on a Late Start Wednesday - Collaboration will be cancelled and 2 hour late start will operate on a normal Non-Wednesday schedule. Orchard Heights will ALWAYS start at 10:35 am - no breakfast.

Visit our district website for more information at:  
<https://www.skschools.org>

#### When to Keep Students Home from School



**Appearance & Behavior:** Unusually Tired, Pale, No Appetite, Difficult to Wake, Emotional, Confused or Irritable.



**Eyes:** White or Yellow Drainage, Vision Changes, Redness of the Eyelid and/or Skin Around the Eye, Itching, Pain or Sensitivity to Light May be Signs of "Pink Eye" (Conjunctivitis) and Should be Checked by a Health Care Provider.



**Cough/Congestion:** Persistent Cough and/or Nasal Congestion or Drainage that Interferes with the Ability to Learn.



**Fever:** Temperature of 100.4\* or Higher—Students Need to be Fever Free for 24 Hours WITHOUT the Use of Fever Reducing Medication Before Returning to School.



**Diarrhea:** Two or More Watery Stools in 24 Hours, Students Should Stay Home for 24 Hours After the Last Watery Stool (Especially if the Student Acts or Looks Ill).



**Vomiting:** Students Who are Vomiting Should Stay Home for 24 Hours After the LAST Episode, and Must be Able to Tolerate a Normal Diet.



**Sore Throat:** Especially with Fever or Swollen Glands in the Neck and/or a Confirmed Diagnosis of Strep Throat. Students May Return to School 24 Hours After Beginning Antibiotics.



**Injury/Surgery:** If Students are Unable to Concentrate Due to Pain or Pain Medication They Should Stay at Home to Rest—Students Requiring Adaptive Equipment (ie: Crutches), Physical Restrictions (such as no PE or Recess) or Medication at School Require a Doctor's Note/Paperwork from a Physician.



**Head Lice:** Students with Head Lice May Return to School After Being Treated and Having a Head Check Completed by the Health Room.



**Rash:** Bothersome Rash ANYWHERE on the Body, Especially When Accompanied by a Fever or Itching, Should be Evaluated by a Physician to Determine if it is Contagious.



**Scabies:** Students Diagnosed with Scabies/Ringworm May Return to School 24 Hours After Beginning Treatment.

- Exposure to illness may be life-threatening to others with fragile immune systems or certain medical conditions.
- Ensure that the office has current contact numbers for family and emergency contacts in case illness occurs at school.
- Students may be very ill but not present with a fever or obvious symptoms; in these cases the medical authority in the building (school nurse) will make the decision of whether or not a student needs to be sent home.
- Students are expected to participate in all parts of the school day, including PE and recess. If a physician has restricted activities, a doctor's note needs to be provided.

**Thank You for Your Support in Keeping Our Students Safe and Healthy**

**Conference Week:**  
**10/28-11/1**  
**Early Release @ 12:10**  
**(Kinder @ 12:00)**

**Hello, Orchard Heights Families!**

It has been an exciting start of the school year. I have enjoyed this busy time meeting our Sharks before and after school, in class, at recess, and at lunchtime. What a friendly and talented student body we have! I have witnessed our kids learning about our **Sharkspectations** and earning Shark Bites for exhibiting safe words and actions, being honest, using appropriate voices, showing respect, being kind, and stopping to reflect when they make a mistake. Our staff has worked really hard to establish routines and are looking at assessment data to best serve our kids.

**Kris Christenberry (Principal)**

**Don't Forget:**  
**Late Start**  
**Wednesdays!**

**If Your Student is Going to be Absent, Please Call: 360-443-3530**

The South Kitsap School District provides equal educational and employment opportunity without regard to race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation - including gender expression or identity, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Equal access to activities, facilities and program is provided to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. District procedure complies with all applicable state and federal laws.

The Title IX Officer and Section 504 Coordinator with the responsibility for monitoring, auditing and ensuring compliance with this policy are:

Compliance/ADA/Title IX Coordinator  
Jerry Holsten, Executive Director of Human Resources  
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366  
360-874-7006  
[holsten@skschools.org](mailto:holsten@skschools.org)

Section 504 Coordinator  
Kimberly Shipp, Director Office of Special Services  
2689 Hoover Avenue SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366  
360-874-3627  
[shipp@skschools.org](mailto:shipp@skschools.org)

Check out our website:

<https://orchardheights.skschools.org>



Check us out on Facebook!

Find us at: Orchard Heights Elementary