REMINDER NO SCHOOL NEXT WEEK!

This Year's Giving Tree

What is the Giving Tree? For some families in our community, purchasing gifts during the holidays is a challenge. The Giving Tree is an annual opportunity to purchase gifts for a family in our community, coordinated by the Family Support Committee and Ms. Cho, the school counselor. In the past, we've always been able to hang our tree in the main office so families could come and select what they would most like to contribute (each child in the designated families puts in specific requests for 1 book, 1 clothing item, and 1 toy). However, this year is a little different! Beginning Friday, November 20th, we will be taking donations through Venmo that will go toward purchasing gift cards. This will help cut back on contact and parents having to drop gifts off at school as well as give our families the opportunity to decide what they need or want most during these unprecedented times. Once all funds are collected by December 11th, the Family Support Committee lead, Genny Costin, will purchase the gift cards and deliver to Ms. Cho for distribution along with a wrapped book for each child (link to book list will be posted in the next OK).

This year, our goal is to provide each family with a $100 grocery card and each child a $100 Target gift card! There are 9 confirmed families this year, so we are hopeful to provide each family and child the designated amounts! Some families have more than one child, so the Target goal will be higher than the grocery card goal.

To sign-up to contribute to this year’s Giving Tree please visit here.

Please Venmo all donations to @Genny_Costin

**if you would like to purchase a gift card on your own, or you have any questions, please contact Genny Costin.

Library Checkout: Wednesday, 11/25 11:15-1:30

School may be cancelled for conferences, but Ms. Young will be there for playcourt library check out on Wednesday, from 11:15am-1:30pm!
Get your holiday shopping done early during Thanksgiving break! The View Ridge apparel sale is occurring until Wednesday, December 2 on our sales website.

Your student will love showing their school pride during distance learning with sweatshirts and long sleeved t-shirts with our school logo. All items are unisex, including adult apparel, so please take this into consideration when choosing sizes-there are no exchanges, all items are printed as ordered. New this year is the option to make a donation toward the purchase of apparel for families in need of financial assistance, click the "DONATION" option on the website to add a donation to your order if you wish. If your family is in need of financial assistance to order View Ridge apparel, please contact our school counselor Joyce Cho.

Apparel orders should arrive before winter break and distribution information will be shared via the Otter Know newsletter. Please note that there is an option to ship your order directly to your home for your convenience at an additional cost.

Questions? Please contact Melissa Koch

Community and District Resources

- **Family Works Services**: To help with meeting basic needs; open W 12:45-3pm at Nathan Hale; after hours please contact 206-694-6727
- **Mental Health Services**
- **Free online tutoring with Seattle Public Library**
- **Technology Resource Centers**: Closed Th-F, 11/26-11/27

Food:

- **SPS Food Sites**: Open next week M-W, 11:15-1:15
- **Food Lifeline**: 206-545-6600. North Seattle College, 9600 College Way N., Seattle 98103 (enter on NE 95th St.). Pickup time and location may change weekly.
- **North Helpline**: 12736 33rd Ave. NE, Seattle, 98124. Food box pickup: W 10-1, Th 4:30-6:30, Sa 10-1. For Delivery, leave a message at 206-367-3477.
- **U District Food Bank**: 5017 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle 98105. Food box pick up: M 9-3, T 11-8, Th 11-8, F 9-4, Sa 9-12. For delivery, leave a message at 206-523-7060
- **United Way Food Bank**: To request a food box, fill out this online form or call 833-540-0800 M-F 11-4.

And more listed on our PTA website. Thank you to JAMS for help in compiling this list!

From the Reading Teams Corner...

Fun fact...Did you know why English can be so challenging for reading and spelling? English is comprised of three languages: Anglo-Saxon, Latin, & Greek. Many of our Anglo-Saxon words (the first words students learn to read) have silent consonants. Over time the pronunciation of Anglo-Saxon words may have changed -but the spelling didn't. Little wonder learning to read and spell can be challenging for many.
Parents, check out the Parents Guide to Reading 101

Family Guides for Grade Expectations for Literacy & Math

Seek Common Ground and the experts at Student Achievement Partners have created Family Guides to help caregivers helping a child to learn in the 2020-21 school year- understand more about what children should know and be able to do by the end of each grade in literacy and math. Other academic subjects are important too, but math and literacy are the building blocks for everything else, so these guides focus just on those subjects. Also available in Spanish.

OTTER KNOW SUBMISSIONS

The Otter Know is published during the school year once a week on Tuesday, with an Otter Know Update on Friday if needed. Articles for the Otter Know are due the Thursday before the Tuesday publication. Articles can be sent through the website, or to the Communications Committee.