

Principal Peddle's Pen

Upcoming Dates and Information for Devonshire Families

Week of December 2, 2024

Hello, Devonshire Families!

Welcome back from Thanksgiving break! I hope you had a wonderful time with loved ones.

I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering commitment to your child's education. Your continued support, encouragement, and active involvement in their learning journey make all the difference. Together, we create an environment where our students thrive, grow, and reach their full potential. Thank you for being such an essential part of our school community. Your partnership in this important work is invaluable, and I look forward to continuing our shared efforts in fostering a love of learning in each child.

I am so thrilled to have our Devonshire PTO reorganizing! Thank you to Mrs. Kristin Stewart & Mrs. Carlina Turner for spearheading this opportunity! The PTO welcomes all families to join - email DevonshirePTO@columbus.k12.oh.us for information. Additionally, join the PTO and the Devonshire community for Devonshire's Holiday Express on Dec. 11 from 5 - 7 pm.





As we enter the winter months, we want to encourage you to make plans and have back-up plans in place for potential inclement weather, sick children, or unexpected situations. Please ensure that your child's emergency contact information is current so we can reach you promptly if needed. If your child is sick or unable to attend school, please notify the office as soon as possible. The attendance lines are available 24/7/365. Email: attendance.devonshire@columbus.k12.oh.us and Phone: (380) 997-0247. Your preparedness helps us ensure the safety and well-being of all students. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe and informed.

You can update your students' information [here](#).

As we approach the official start of winter, I wanted to remind you and your students of some important safety items for playing outside.

- **Label Your Items:** Please remember to label your students' items. We often find hats, gloves, coats, and more during and after recess. Labeling your students' items can help us return it home.
- **Dress Warmly:** Make sure you wear plenty of layers, including a warm coat, hat, gloves, and a scarf. Don't forget to wear snow boots to keep your feet warm and dry, and always make sure your clothes are waterproof when playing in the snow.
- **Watch Out for Ice:** Be careful when walking on icy surfaces! Always walk slowly and watch where you're going to avoid slipping. If you see a patch of ice, stay away from it and let an adult know.
- **Stay Active and Take Breaks:** Playing outside is lots of fun, but it's important to take breaks to warm up inside. If you feel too cold or your fingers or toes start to get numb, it's time to head inside and warm up. Don't forget to drink water, even in the winter!

Additionally, it's vital to recognize that seasonal changes can affect our children's moods. As the days get shorter and colder, some children (and adults) may experience feelings of sadness, irritability, or low energy. It's important to keep an eye out for any changes in your child's mood, especially if they seem more tired, withdrawn, or discouraged than usual. If you notice that your child is struggling more than usual with emotions or mood swings, reach out to their teacher, counselor, or doctor for advice.

It's important to talk openly about how they're feeling and get the support they need, whether it's through extra activities, counseling, or simply a little more understanding during this time of year.

Let's also take this time to discuss and reinforce positive behaviors at home. Encouraging kindness, empathy, and understanding can greatly benefit our students' well-being. Some ways that you can help are:

- Children learn best by example. Make a habit of showing kindness in everyday situations—whether it's saying thank you, offering help, or listening attentively. Encourage your child to

look for opportunities to be kind to others, whether at home, at school, or in the community. Small acts of kindness can make a big difference!

- When your child demonstrates good behavior, such as sharing, being respectful, or solving problems peacefully, take time to acknowledge and praise it. Positive reinforcement helps children feel proud of their actions and motivates them to continue making good choices. A simple "I'm proud of you for helping your friend today!" can go a long way in building their confidence and reinforcing positive behavior.

Every person in our school—whether student, teacher, staff, or family member—deserves to feel respected, valued, and supported. It is crucial that we all work to build relationships based on empathy, understanding, and compassion. Whether in the classroom, on the playground, or at home, we can all make a difference by showing kindness in our words and actions.

It's important to remember that **hate has no home here**. We do not tolerate bullying, discrimination, or unkind behavior of any kind. Our school is a place where kindness, inclusion, and respect should be at the heart of every interaction. If we each make a choice every day to treat others the way we want to be treated, we will create a community where everyone can thrive and feel supported.

Let's continue to work together to spread kindness, build strong relationships, and ensure our school is a place where **everyone belongs**.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.

As always, should you have any questions, or need any assistance, please reach out to my office.



Is Your Information Up-To-Date?

As we navigate through the year, *I want to remind you of the importance of ensuring your child's information such as, emergency contact information, immunizations, etc. are up-to-date. This information is what we use in the event of inclement weather, emergencies, etc.* [Please log into Parent Portal, select "Annual Update"](#) to:

- Update your student's information
- Confirm emergency phone numbers
- Complete the emergency medical authorization

Devonshire's Parent-Teacher Organization is Forming!

Our Students Need YOUR Help!

We invite all families to join our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and become an active part of

We invite all families to join our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and become an active part of our school community! By joining the PTO, you'll have the opportunity to collaborate with teachers, staff, and other parents to support our students' success. Whether it's volunteering at events, helping organize fundraisers, or simply attending meetings, your involvement makes a difference. Together, we can create a positive, enriching experience for every child! ✨ If you're interested in learning more or joining, please reach out to us at DevonshirePTO@columbus.k12.oh.us

We'd love to have you on board! 😊

Mrs. Kristin Stewart, Mrs. Carlina Turner & Mrs. Eyer
Co-Organizers

Safety at Devonshire

November and December are often busy times around school and at home, so I wanted to remind you of a few safety items:

- **ALL visitors** must sign-in with the main office before entering the building. This includes families at drop off and District staff who are not normally at Devonshire.
- The speed limit on Ambleside Drive is 25 mph, and our parking lot's speed limit is 10 mph.
- No students should be dropped off prior to 8:30 am. There are not staff on duty to supervise.
- Dismissal is from 3:15 - 3:35 daily. Routine late pick-ups may result in intervention from our Attendance Team.
- We kindly ask that if you need to change your student's dismissal, you call us prior to 3 pm.

Health Reminders

Dear Families,

As winter approaches, we want to remind you of important health tips to keep our students safe and healthy during the colder months:

1. **Dress for the Weather:** Ensure your child wears layers of clothing, including a warm coat, hat, gloves, and scarf. This helps regulate body temperature and protects against frostbite.
2. **Handwashing:** Remind your child to wash their hands frequently, especially before eating, after using the restroom, or after coughing or sneezing. This is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of germs and illnesses.
3. **Stay Hydrated:** Even in winter, it's important for children to drink plenty of water. Cold air can be dehydrating, so encourage your child to carry a water bottle to school.
4. **Rest and Nutrition:** Ensure your child gets enough sleep and eats balanced meals. Proper rest and nutrition boost the immune system, helping to fight off seasonal illnesses.
5. **Stay Home When Sick:** If your child shows signs of illness such as fever, cough, or fatigue, please keep them home to rest and recover. This helps prevent the spread of germs and ensures they heal faster.

By working together, we can ensure our students stay healthy and ready to learn all winter long!

Warm regards,

Climbing Unit Continues! Only 3 more weeks!

We are so excited to be climbing again. Please make sure your child wears tennis shoes, and proper attire for climbing during the next few weeks. Students who wear crocs, etc., will not be able to climb.

Are you interested in coming to watch your student's class climb?? Connect with your child's teacher (find their email [here](#)) to see what day and time they're climbing.

Please reach out to Coach Scott if you have any questions about climbing.

Coach Scott: KScott6834@columbus.k12.oh.us



Columbus Public Health FREE Vaccine Clinic at Devonshire

Columbus Public Health will be at Devonshire on Tuesday, December 3rd for **FREE** Flu Vaccines! If you're interested, please complete the consent form below for your student. (Note: One form per student. 2 students? 2 forms.)



[Click Here To Complete Vaccine Consent](#)



Upcoming Events at Devonshire

December

12/3 - Columbus Public Health Vaccine Clinic - Click [here](#) to register

12/4 - School Smiles

12/5 - School Smiles

12/11 - PTO's Holiday Express - 5-7 pm

12/19 - Winter Concert @ Woodward Park MS

Congratulations to 14 of Devonshire's Teachers!

I am thrilled to announce that 14 of Devonshire's teachers were approved for grants from the Easton Educational Grant Program. No, not like Easton mall, but the Easton family honors their late family members by "supporting elementary classroom teachers by providing financial assistance for innovative projects and materials to expand classroom learning and covers costs that are often paid by the teacher." This year's awardees received over \$15,000 in assistance from the Easton Educational Grant Program.

- Ms. Boyd (*Kindergarten*): Informational Texts for Science & Social Studies
- Mrs. Bridges (*2nd - 5th grades*): Supporting Multi-Sensory Education in Room 3
- Ms. Weidner (*5th grade*): Using Graphic Novels to Teach Science
- Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Nowak, and Mrs. Weimer (*First grade*): Increasing Literacy with Classroom Decodables
- Ms. Lisa (*Special Needs Preschool*): Multi-Sensory Education in Special Needs Preschool
- Mrs. Bomer, Mrs. Dixon, and Mrs. George (*Third Grade*): Working with Literature & Diverse Learners
- Mr. Tackett (*Kindergarten - 2nd Grade*): Diverse Learning in Room 1
- Mrs. Cheraso (*5th Grade*): Increasing Access to Classroom Libraries and Technology
- Mrs. Edgington (*Kindergarten*): Numeracy in Kindergarten
- Mrs. Willow (*Art*): Art Room Supplies

When Weather Takes A Turn, You Need To Know!



CANCELLATIONS

When Winter Weather Forces Classes to be Canceled, You Need to Know Right Away!

COLUMBUS CITY SCHOOLS is ready for the return of winter and those days when inclement weather can have a major impact on your child's school day...and on your busy day. Make sure to plan ahead.

STAY CONNECTED: News about school cancellations, extra-curricular activities, field trips, and/or student-athletic events are shared in several ways.

- **Make sure:** the contact information on file at your child's school is accurate. If you need to update this information, contact the main office in your child's school or log on to the **Parent Portal**. (This includes emergency contacts, phone numbers, and email addresses).
- **Follow:** **Columbus City Schools** on **Facebook**, **Twitter** or **Instagram** or check our **website**, we'll share news about snow days and other cancellations with an instant message to your phone or tablet.
- **Answer:** All families and staff will be alerted through an automated call from the District's phone system.
- **Monitor:** the news on local television and radio stations.

HAVE A BACKUP PLAN: When inclement weather impacts the morning commute, our leadership plans to determine whether to cancel classes no later than 5:30 a.m. If rough weather is forecast for the afternoon, classes may dismiss as early as noon. Have an alternative plan for your child's day set.

- **Supervision:** is your child responsible enough to be home alone or do they need someone to stay with?
- **Healthy Food:** is there nutritious food available for your child to eat for breakfast and lunch?
- **Safe Location:** if classes are dismissed early, does your child go home or to another location? If your child is under the age of 8, will there be someone to meet them at the bus stop?
- **Engaging Activities:** what safe activities do you have for your child to do if they are at home for an unexpected amount of time?

For answers to **Frequently Asked Questions**, visit www.ccsch.us/weather



Stay Warm and Informed.pdf

Download

97.7 KB

Devonshire Student & Family Handbook

CCS Guide To Student Success

Parent Portal How To Guide

How To Contact Devonshire

DevonshireES@columbus.k12.oh.us | (614) 365-5335

Absence Excuses & Notifications

Attendance.Devonshire@columbus.k12.oh.us | (380) 997-0247

Click Here To Email Our Attendance Team



Dr. Peddle, Principal

www.ccsch.us/DevonshireES

