

20-21 Hofstetter Winter Newsletter

Hofstetter Elementary: Success for Every Student

Hofstetter's Priority Academic Emphasis

Hofstetter's Priority Academic Focus for the 20-21 school year is for all students to be readers. The ultimate goal is for every child to read independently. To make this a reality, we ask that families partner with us in doing two things. First, please make sure your student is completing their homework on their off days. Teachers specifically design the homework to support the learning occurring in classrooms. Second, and most important, is to read with your child.

How can you help your child become a reader?

- Read for 20 minutes a day with your child.
- Talk about books with your child. Ask what they have read in school. Look for books to come home with them, and read to them, read with them, or simply listen as they read.
- Share with your child something that you're reading (books, newspapers, recipes, magazines, etc.) to let them know that you value reading. Do the same with writing. When you write a note or letter, share it and talk about it with your child. Seeing their parents as readers and writers really makes an impression on children.
- Get a library card for your child at the public library and visit on a regular basis.
- Consider giving your child a choice at bedtime: "Would you like for me to turn out the light, or would you like to read a book for 10 minutes?"
- Keep reading and writing materials available for your child.
- Read aloud to your child, even after they learn to read. Reading aloud should continue at least through elementary school.

First Semester Report Cards

Hofstetter report cards will look different this semester. The report cards will reflect our priority academic focus of reading. Expect to see progress reported in reading, writing and math, but not other subject areas. Other subjects, such as science and social studies have been integrated into our reading and writing. Additionally, the State of Washington requires that we report if students are reading at grade level or not. **Please note that the scale for reading at grade level has NOT been adjusted for loss of school time due to COVID-19.** You will continue to see progress marks for behaviors that promote learning. If you have any questions regarding report cards, please contact your student's teacher or the office.

Reading Blizzard at Hofstetter Elementary School Continues

Our hallways are filling up with a blizzard of reading snowflakes! Hofstetter has issued a winter reading challenge. Each week your child comes home with a page of six snowflakes and just-right reading material. Observe your child reading, read with your child or read to your child every day. For each 20 minute session of reading, your child earns a snowflake to be added to the blizzard in our hallways. Simply sign the snowflake and make sure your child's name is on it and have your child return the snowflake to Hofstetter on Monday or Tuesday of each week. Students earn snowflake charms for their efforts, but most importantly they gain the most important academic skill one can possess; they learn how to read!

OPTIONAL Virtual Winter Music Concert

Because K-2 music has been delivered virtually and because of COVID-19 restrictions placed on music and gatherings, Mrs. Richie is offering an optional Winter Music Concert. Below you will find the instructions from Mrs. Richie for participating in the optional virtual concert.

Concert Instructions:

- Go to the Colville School District Website at <http://hof.colisd.org/>
- Find Winter Concerts & click on your child's grade level. There you will find their Winter Concert video ready to perform with.
- For best sound, connect external speakers to your computer or device being used.
- Choose a date and time when your child can perform for your family.
- Make this a special event, just like our big concerts in the theatre. Choose a special place for your child to perform, maybe in front of the Christmas tree or in the living room with family.
- Have a WONDERFUL time and enjoy the show!

Dates to Remember this Winter

- December 21-January 1, No School-Winter Break
- January 18, No School-Martin Luther King Day
- January 22, Semester 1 ends-Report Cards mailed home Feb. 3
- January 25, No School-Parent-Teacher Conferences
- February 12 and 15, No School-Presidents' Days

The Weather Is COLD!

Please send your child to school prepared for the cold weather and snowy conditions.