



# THE CUB NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF STEVENS CREEK ELEMENTARY

## SEPTEMBER 2021



### Stevens Creek Events at a Glance

- 9/6/21: No School-Labor Day
- 9/7/21: 1st day for Kindergarten
- 9/10/21: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 9/17/21: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 9/24/21: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 10/1/21: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 10/8/21: Early Release @ 2:05pm
- 10/13/21: Picture Day
- 10/15/21: Early Release @ 2:05pm



### Principal's Message

#### Stevens Creek Families:

Welcome to the 2020-21 school year, Stevens Creek Cubs and Families! More than any other, this year's opening has had more moving parts than I have ever seen in my many years of being a building principal. This team we have here at STC is truly amazing. We certainly wore out the word "flexible" in August, as we dealt with an ever-changing staffing scene. I also want to thank families for their understanding and yes, flexibility, as we worked through these challenges in the most thoughtful way we could. We love our Cubs, and only want the very best for each one!

So, what's happening for the next few weeks around here?! Right now, our classroom teachers are busy establishing both expectations and routines/procedures that will not only create a warm and inviting family environment, but also a safe one. Our goal is to teach these expectation so that they become second nature over time, and then our staff can focus on grade level standards. There is no more important work than this- and provides a foundation for a successful school year!

We go slow to go fast, with the payoff being that we can accelerate learning as the school year goes on! Working to establish warm, inviting, and safe learning communities pay off- not only for the social-emotional needs of our Cubs, but for their learning as the year moves along. It also allows us to see which types of social-emotional supports and adjustment we need to make for our students.

Teachers and support staff will also be working on diagnostic testing for a few weeks in September to assess where each kiddo is at STC. 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade will be utilizing iReady diagnostics, while our K team will be using a battery of other assessments such as WAKids. Together, they provide an academic picture of each child so that our teachers and support staff can plan for appropriate, at-level instruction. While at STC we focus on teaching to the highest standards, we provide the necessary supports and scaffolding to support learners who may not yet be at grade level. The information we collect during these diagnostics allow us to plan for each of our students.

Once our diagnostic testing is concluded, we'll meet in teams to talk about students and plan for both enrichment and intervention for our Cubs. This is where our collaboration as a team, and ability to work together cohesively, really pays off! I am so appreciative of this STC team, and the hard work and care they show for each of our kids. Communication is also important for a successful year. It begins with the Family Connections meetings I hope each of you were able to have with your child's teacher last week. If not, reach out to him/her to schedule one. Our teachers will utilize the SeeSaw platform in addition to email. Don't hesitate to reach out to our staff. Just like you, we can only make adjustments if we are aware of issues. We'll make sure to do the same, as communication is a two-way street for sure, and we want to have clear lines established in order to partner with you.

You can find our STC Handbook on our [Stevens Creek site](#), which contains schedules, expectations, and other more general information that may help you. As always, feel free to reach out to Ms. Toni or Ms. Pam in the front office too!

You may be wondering when/if volunteers will once again be allowed in the building? We are too! The District (in consultation with the health department) will be reassessing this policy at the beginning of October. We will let you know once we hear more about this!

Our first House Friday will be on Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>! We are so excited to move back to this wonderful STC tradition! We delayed the start of it to give our K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade teams a bit more time to help our young kiddos get used to this new idea.

However, over these next several months, our kids will begin growing pride in each of their House families again, which will also establish and strengthen other vital connections and relationships among our Houses. For all the fun we will have competing against one another, we will still continue to remind our kids that we are "4 Houses, One Family!"

Students may still be in the process of finding out their House, although many have already found out the exciting news!! Our Kinder Cubs will all find out soon. Any new students, along with our K Cubs will have House t-shirts ordered for them very soon, and delivered to their classroom teachers for distribution. If shirts don't arrive for our first House Friday, don't worry! Even if our Cubs just wear their House color in some fashion, that's great too!

The first three days of school were amazing! We're off on establishing a great foundation for the 2020-21 school year! Thank you for sharing with us your most precious children. The gravity of this doesn't escape us, and we take on this responsibility with great care and pride. We have a special place here at STC- one that strives to value each child and family, and we look to share our love for OUR kids each day they are here! After all, each day is a gift and an opportunity for growth, and we are committed to treating each one like that! Happy September!

Respectfully, Mr. Pewitt

### Stevens Creek Contacts

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# September 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 1st Day of School 	2	3	4
5	6 No School-Labor Day Holiday	7 Kindergarten 1st Day of School 	8	9	10 Early Release @ 2:05pm	11
12 Grandparents Day 	13	14	15	16	17 Early Release @ 2:05PM	18
19	20 1st Day of Autumn 	21	22	23	24 Early Release @ 2:05PM	25
26	27	28	29	30	1 Early Release @ 2:05PM	2