



## Alamo Heights Junior School At a Glance

**Week of Monday, October 19, 2020**

### CAMPUS NEWS

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**Lunch Drop-Off** Please note that lunch drop-offs are not allowed during the school day. In the event of an extenuating circumstance, please contact our front office at 210.824.3231. Any drop offs that are approved must be handled through the front office. Food delivery services are not permitted at any time. The practice of dropping off lunch and allowing delivery has unintended consequences that include safety concerns as well as potential disruption to office operations when lunches are delivered. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our campus safe and secure.

**Picture Day** Mark your calendar- picture day will take place on October 29<sup>th</sup>. More details to come.

**Odyssey of the Mind** Attention returning OM teams and/or new 6th graders who participated in OM last year. Are you still wanting to compete? Ready for some virtual competition? The deadline to form teams is fast approaching (the end of October), and we are eager to begin practicing, so please reach out to OM Sponsor, Kristi Zorn, in Rm 119 or by email at [kzorn@ahisd.net](mailto:kzorn@ahisd.net) if you would like to be involved in Odyssey of the Mind this year.

**Equity Work Letter:** Across our district, we are committed to a goal of ensuring all students feel a strong sense of belonging in our schools, and we are excited about the journey ahead, recognizing it will take time and require long-term focus. To help lead this effort, we need volunteers from all backgrounds to represent stakeholder groups on the District Equity Council. Consideration will be given to people with an interest in equity work and to the diversity of the committee itself. Please read this letter to learn more about the District Equity Council and the volunteer application.

[Equity Work Letter Oct. 2020](#)

**District responses to active COVID cases** In an effort to be consistent with our communication, we are sharing this information previously shared with our AHISD Staff regarding our process for responding to a positive COVID 19 case on our campuses. Take a minute to watch, and please reach out to your campus nurse if you have follow-up questions! Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our students and staff safe.

<https://bit.ly/2SD7rit>

**Spelling Bee** New!!!! Scripps Bee will have a new online testing platform available soon with virtual spelling exams that can take the place of in-person spelling bees. Mrs. Lowe will update you as soon as new information is available. We will set a spelling bee date in October. If students would like to join the Google Classroom for access to the word lists, please email Mrs. Lowe at [alowe@ahisd.net](mailto:alowe@ahisd.net) or stop by room 405 to let her know. All practice will be on your own this year. If you would like to make a Quizlet for the Google Classroom, please let Mrs. Lowe know. HAPPY SPELLING!!!

**Face Masks** Please consider sending an extra face covering for your child in the event theirs gets dirty, lost, etc.

**JS EXCEL Extended Care Program** The Junior School after school care program, EXCEL, currently has spots available for the 2020-2021 school year. Staffed by teachers, we help your children complete their homework and study for tests in a safe environment. The program runs daily after school. If you would like more information, please contact Steve McGrew at [smcgrew@ahisd.net](mailto:smcgrew@ahisd.net) or visit [www.ahisdexcel.weebly.com](http://www.ahisdexcel.weebly.com)

**Morning Library Hours:** Our library opens at 7:30AM daily. Supervision is provided.

**Visit our campus webpage for:** Office hours, bell schedule, teacher webpages, transportation, managing cafeteria accounts, and more. Reminder: Our office hours will be from 8:15-4:15. If for

some reason, you need to pick-up your child, please call the office (210-824-3231).

## F2F Instruction Reminders/Information

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Please remind your student to bring their charged chromebook (and charger) to school daily.

Ideal morning drop-off times are between 8:10 and 8:30. Our first bell rings at 8:35. **Our first period class starts at 8:45.** Students need to be seated in class and ready to learn by 8:45.

### **Morning Arrival Designated Drop Off areas**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade - Cafeteria
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade - Courtyard
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Courtyard and STEM/Fine Arts Building

### **Dismissal**

Afterschool, you may pick up your child in **any** of these 3 areas: cafeteria/flagpole (front of the school), Fine Arts building (front of the school), Courtyard (back of the school)

**Opportunity Block** Teachers have reviewed their availability for tutoring with their students.

Mondays (No Opportunity Block on this day)

3:45 All students dismissed (buses will pick-up students at 4PM)

Tuesdays – Fridays (Opportunity Block 3-4PM):

General Study Hall (Auditorium- available for all students)

Tutoring (arranged between teachers and students)

All students will be dismissed at 3PM and will report to their designated area:

- *Bus riders and students needing to go to study hall will go to the Auditorium*
- *Tutoring students will go to their designated area*
- *Car riders and walkers with no scheduled opportunity block appointments leave campus at 3PM*

Bus riders and opportunity block students will be dismissed at 4PM

Late bus services are Monday-Thursday. The buses leave the Junior School at 5PM.

## JS Character Corner

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Do you want to have talking topics for the dinner table? Character Corner will inform you of Character Education topics that we are discussing in advisory and on our campus. Last year the Character Ed Committee for AHJS reviewed several Advisory Programs. The committee decided that the CharacterStrong Advisory Program fit our students and school needs. CharacterStrong is grade specific, so lessons are tailored to 6th, 7th and 8th grade levels.

Please see below for more information on CharacterStrong:

[CharacterStrong Parent Letter \(English\)](https://curriculum.characterstrong.com/wp-content/uploads/curriculum_audit/uploads/overview/pdfs/English_secondary_family_letter.pdf)

[https://curriculum.characterstrong.com/wp-content/uploads/curriculum\\_audit/uploads/overview/pdfs/English\\_secondary\\_family\\_letter.pdf](https://curriculum.characterstrong.com/wp-content/uploads/curriculum_audit/uploads/overview/pdfs/English_secondary_family_letter.pdf)

Oct 19 Personality vs. Character

**Objectives:**

Students will review the difference between Personality and Character.

Students will start the CharacterDare process to give weekly opportunities to engage in the practice of building their character through challenges and reflection

Oct 26

6<sup>th</sup> Grade lesson: The 8 essentials (Patience, Kindness, Humility, Respect, Selflessness, Forgiveness, Honesty, Commitment)

**Objectives:**

Students will reflect on their own character and identify ways they could improve it.

Students will understand what it means to have a shared mental model.

Students will know what the Eight Essentials of Character are, so they can begin putting them into practice.

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade lesson: Respect Introduction

**Objectives:**

Students will reflect on their own character and identify ways they could improve it.

Students will have a shared definition of Respect.

Students will take ownership over their own definition of Respect.

Students will clarify why they want to see more Respect in their school.

## CAMPUS CALENDAR 2 Weeks at a Glance

Mon. 10/12	Tues. 10/13	Wed. 10/14	Thurs. 10/15	Fri. 10/16
Columbus Day (Student Holiday No School)	Spirit Day (Wear blue and gold)  8th Football vs. Canyon MS/6 7 <sup>th</sup> gr. Vs. Canyon MS AHJS-4:30-6:00pm.  Orchestra Mock Region Auditions Due (Virtual) 4:30PM	Choir Concert (Virtual) 7PM  Cross Country District championship meet 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> girls 4:15PM Pieper Ranch MS	7th/8th Blue/Gold Volleyball vs. Danville MS (7thAway/8th Home) 5PM  7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Boys Cross Country 4:15PM Pieper Ranch MS	Report Card Grades Due by 4PM
Mon. 10/19	Tues. 10/20	Wed. 10/21	Thurs. 10/22	Fri. 10/23
Report Card Grades in HAC for Parents and Students to view	6th Grade Service Club (Cafeteria) 4PM  JS Strings 6th-8 <sup>th</sup> HS Side by Side Concert (Virtual) 5PM  7th/8th Football vs. Canyon MS (7th Away/8th Home) 4:30PM	7th/8th White Team Volleyball (Boy's Gym) 5PM	7th/8th Blue/Gold Volleyball vs. Smithson Valley MS (7th Home/8th Away) 5PM	

## PTO NEWS & EVENTS

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents Save the Date** Attention Face 2 Face and Heights at Home 6th Grade Parents: Save the date for a 6th Grade Parent Talk on Sunday, October 25th from 4-5PM. We will meet

virtually to discuss our children's emotional and mental health. Our speaker will be Cat Widder, who is our wonderful AHISD Wellness Coordinator. She will answer questions via chat during the meeting, or you can submit questions ahead of time. To submit your questions early, please email either [vicki.kindt@gmail.com](mailto:vicki.kindt@gmail.com) or [monicaallison1@me.com](mailto:monicaallison1@me.com). We will not share names from questions submitted ahead of time, in case the questions are personal in nature. The meeting link will be provided in the next Monday Mail.

**Save the Date SPRINGFEST April 16<sup>th</sup> 2021** This is our biggest fundraiser...Please join us!