



GMS WEEKLY

NEWSLETTER #2

September 18, 2023

MESSAGE FROM MRS. JOHNSON -

The middle school is settling in nicely. I am making a few small changes to the schedule; such as going back to 4 minute passing times. With the students more spread out, they need the time to go to their lockers and then make it to class on time. The bell schedule will change on Monday. I'm sure the students will be happy to see this change.

The new cell phone policy seems to be going well. Students are putting their phones away, talking with their friends at lunch, playing games more, and being kids. It is great to see!

Make sure you read all the way through the information - Each week we will add a note from our counselor, Ms. Aloha at the bottom.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have a question or concern. Here is my email address: toni_johnsongervais.k12.or.us or phone number at GMS 503-792-3803 ext. 2020.

Proud to be a Wolverine!

Mrs. Johnson



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES: September 18-22

- Monday, Sept. 18 - Regular Schedule / Dismissed @ 3:00
 - Home volleyball game in the gym against St. Mary's @ 4:00 pm
 - Away soccer game at SAC at 4:00 pm. Dismissed at 2:45 pm
- Tuesday, Sept. 19 - Regular Schedule /Dismissed @ 3:00
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 - Early Release Schedule / Dismissed @ 1:00 pm
 - Away volleyball game at Santiam at 4:00. Dismissed at 2:15
 - Away football game at St. Mary's at 4:00. Dismissed at 2:30
- Thursday, Sept. 21 - Regular Schedule / Dismissed @ 3:00

- Away soccer game at East Linn at 4:00. Dismissed at 2:15
- Friday, Sept. 22 - Regular Schedule / Dismissed @ 3:00

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES/UPDATES FOR September 18-22

- **GMS Sports:**
 - Reminder: Athletes cannot leave the middle school campus on early release Wednesdays. The athletes must remain in the middle school gym. They are supervised the whole time. They can bring a snack, do homework, or play games while they wait for their coach. Yes, this is a time when they can use their cell phones.
- **New PE participation Format:**
 - Most of the PE grade is based on class participation. If your child is not able to participate for any reason, and is in school, they will have a form to complete during PE. They will get half credit for their day's participation IF the paperwork is returned signed by a parent or guardian.
- **After School Clubs:**
 - A permission slip with the after school club options will be going home this week. All the clubs are free. If a student wants to join a club the permission form must be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to their homeroom teacher by Friday, Sept. 22.
- **Class DoJo:**
 - You should have gotten several Class DoJo invites from your child's many teachers at the middle school. This is a great communication tool that the elementary school has used for years and now the middle school will also take advantage of this system. This is another way for you to contact your child's teacher and for them to speak to you. I am excited to start using it.
- **Notes From Ms. Aloha:**

Happy 2nd week of school. It's been a great start to the new school year.

Here are some back-to-school tips to make sure your child/children are starting off on the right foot for school:

1. Ask questions about school. Be specific, like who is your favorite teacher? What are you learning in that class?
2. Ask questions about friends and issues with students in the school.
3. See if your child has an adult at the school that he/she can trust and talk to.

4. Reach out to your child's teacher to provide any struggles that your child is experiencing in their class.
5. Reach out to the counselor, student advocate and behavior management, or administration for any mental health issues, emotional distress, or other major concerns.
6. Make sure your child has an appropriate bedtime and phone time.
7. Check for homework and/or clean out backpack or binders to find missing schoolwork.

Please let me know how I can help with your student at aloha_yoshinaga@gervais.k12.or.us or 503-792-3803 x2024.

Ms. Aloha 🌸