



Smith Elementary School

Newsletter

September 4, 2020

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Hello Smith Families,

As we close out week number two, we would like to thank you for your continued support as we transition into this new school year. Your efforts and dedication make this transition an enjoyable one, and we truly appreciate your support.

Kindergarten and PSCD students returned this week, and successfully completed their first week of school! We look forward to welcoming back our Sure Start Students next week.

Here are just a few reminders moving forward:

-  Please complete the breakfast/lunch pre-order if your child will need a school meal, so AAFES can properly prepare the Grab 'n Go meals at: Meals.SMES@DODEA.EDU
-  Be sure to label your child's items (lunchbox, snacks, jackets, water bottle, supplies, etc.) to help prevent any mix-ups
-  Please help us remind students of safety precautions (masks on when social distancing is not possible, wash hands when entering/exiting areas in the school per staff and teacher directions, do not share food or items, etc.) to prevent the spread of COVID -19.
-  Please continue the pre-screener. A pre-screener example can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VndoP3jHyVw&feature=youtu.be>.
-  Please remind students daily to have their bus passes with them to be able to enter the buses.
-  Safety before and after school: utilize crosswalks when crossing the streets.
-  Gates open in the morning at 0750 for all students and 0740 for students having breakfast. Please do not send students early, so we can limit large gatherings.
-  Please see the attachments for the notice from the Army Public Health Command regarding the latest information pertaining to face coverings.
-  Most importantly, remember that we appreciate our Smith ES community!

Have a wonderful three day weekend,

Dr. Woodfork and Ms. Dansby-Clark

UPCOMING Events

Monday, Sept 7th	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
Thursday, Sept 10th	-SES Virtual Open House -SureStart 1st day of school
Friday, Oct 9th	NO SCHOOL for students - Teacher CSI Day
Monday, Oct 12th	NO SCHOOL - Columbus Day
Tuesday, Oct 13th	NO SCHOOL for students - Teacher CCR Training Day

SES FACULTY & STAFF BIRTHDAYS

September

Ms. Peterson
Ms. Valdez
Mr. Woods



Interested in working for DODEA?

Visit <https://www.usajobs.gov>





Morning Arrival

Breakfast	0740 - 0750
K - 5	0750* - 0755
PSCD	0815* AM / 1145 PM
Sure Start	0840*
Bell Rings:	0755*

***Thursday Late Start:**

1 hour later than times above

Instructional Schedules

K-5:	0800*-1420
PSCD:	0815*-1030 AM Session 1145-1400 PM Session
Sure Start:	0845*-1400

***Thursday Late Start: 1 hour delay**

Important SES Information

Civilian:	0611-143-545-1225
DSN:	545-1225
Principal:	Dr. Michelle Woodfork
Assistant Principal:	Ms. Dionne Dansby-Clark
Guidance Counselors:	Ms. Susie Strasner Ms. Kelsey Manning
School Nurse:	Nurse Vicki Alderman
Admin Officer:	Mr. Bobby Dean
Registrar:	Mr. Robert Woods
School Secretary:	VACANT
School Clerk:	Ms. Gwen Peterson

Email: first.lastname@dodea.edu

School Website:

<http://www.dodea.edu/SmithES/index.cfm>

School ePortal:

<https://sites.google.com/student.dodea.edu/smith-es/home>

Facebook: [Smith Elementary School](https://www.facebook.com/DoDEA.SmithES/)

<https://www.facebook.com/DoDEA.SmithES/>

Information regarding DoDEA's Attendance can be accessed on-line as follows:



Why do we have delayed start?

Do you ever wonder what teachers are doing during the one hour delayed start? It is not exactly a teacher social where we are drinking coffee with our feet kicked up. We are actively engaged in focused collaboration groups. Focused collaboration is where teachers come together and share and discuss ways to help students become more successful in the classroom. All grade levels meet and go over student performance data. This allows for teachers to know where their students are, where they need to be, and how the teacher will get them there. Teachers create grade level assessments to measure students' progress. Teachers also share different strategies on what works in their classrooms. Teachers take this data and use it to drive instruction in the classroom to ensure all students are making adequate growth.

Registrar's Corner

Parents, if your child will be out due to a sickness, please send an EMAIL to: robert.woods@dodea.edu or gwendolyn.peterson@dodea.edu CALL 0611-143-545-1231 so the office can update our databases with your child's absence. When your child returns to school, please provide a doctor's note if a doctor was seen. If you have any questions, please contact either Mr. Woods or Mrs. Peterson in the main office.

If your student is going to be out of school for an extended period of time, please stop by and fill out the appropriate form so we can update our DB and notify the teacher.

Arriving Late?

If your child is going to be late to school (8:00 is when a student is considered late), please remember that a parent is required to come into the



Smith Elementary School Student-Parent Handbook:

<https://www.dodea.edu/SmithES/upload/Smith-ES-Student->

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

ALL visitors and volunteers MUST report to the Main Office. Due to COVID-19, visitors and volunteers are not permitted to visit classrooms or attend lunch with their child(ren). Additionally, only 1 person/family can be present in the office at a time. Please schedule appointments in advance to limit congregation and wait times.



School Bus Expectancies

Parents please ensure that your children understand and follow the 10 School Bus rules listed below:

- Obey the driver or adult.
- Enter and exit the bus safely, and always show your bus pass.
- Stay properly seated and use seat-belts when available.
- Keep your hands, feet and other body parts to yourself.
- Do not throw things.
- Don't put anything out of the window.
- Remain quiet, and do not disturb the driver or others.
- No profanity, indecency, smoking, prohibited items, or vandalism.
- Do not eat, drink, or chew gum.
- Be responsible, be safe.

Should students choose not to meet these expectancies, behavior referrals will be followed up by school principal. Any and all other bus-related concerns are the responsibility of the Baumholder Student Transportation Office, located at Baumholder Middle High School (Wetzel Housing Area).



STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK

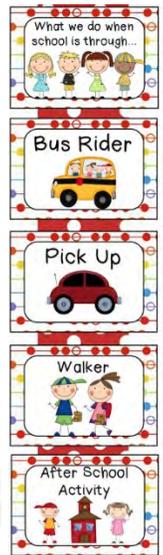
An electronic version of the Smith ES Student Parent Handbook is available on our website. Thank you for taking time to review policies, procedures, and expectations with the children so that home-to-school transitions will be seamless and successful for everyone. The school, too, will continue to teach and model school expectancies to all students throughout the course of this school year.

Link:

<https://www.dodea.edu/SmithES/upload/Smith-ES-Student-Handbook-SY-2019-2020-updated.pdf>

CHANGE IN TRANSPORTATION METHOD?

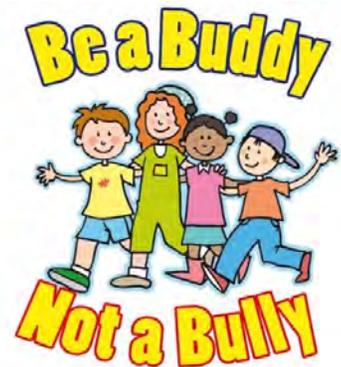
If you need to pick your student up early or notify them of a change for their transportation of the day, it is okay to contact the office or come to the office to sign your child out; however, please remember that you need to do this no later than 1:50 pm. There has been a high volume of calls or parents showing up at the end of the day. Often students are in transition and it may not allow us time to locate them and ensure that the



KISS & RIDE AND KINDERGARTEN

Parents, please remember that we have staff and adult volunteers to assist with Kiss & Ride drop-off and pick up. Do not get out of your car or pull over during these times. Someone will assist your child(ren) in and/or out of the vehicle so that we can ensure safety as well as expedite the process. Children will be unloaded on the "sidewalk side" only.

Also, please remember that Kindergartners must be walked to and from class unless they are bus riders. You may not drop kindergartners off at the front of school or in Kiss & Ride.



GradeSpeed - 4th & 5th Graders

Sign-up and log in with GradeSpeed today! A full-featured web based gradebook. Easily view your child's grades, assign-



URGENT REQUEST

We would love to keep feeding your hungry bulldog breakfast; however, you **MUST** sign them up for this Grab-N-Go Meal program. We are continuing to have kiddos arrive for breakfast that have not signed up. Parents, **PLEASE** email meals.smes@dodea.edu in order for us to continue providing this wonderful service.

FOR ALL STUDENTS (face-to-face or DVS):

If your child wants AAFES breakfast, please email meals.smes@dodea.edu, by 1500, the day prior. Please provide:

-Student name & Grade

-Meal request for designated **day, week or for the entire SY 20-21.**

Meal requests not received by 1500, the day prior, will not be provided the following day.

Thank you for helping us prepare enough food and also accommodate seating to be compliant with safe distancing.



Did you know?

Library accounts are manageable on-line. All students in grades SureStart-5 are able to request a book. Younger students will need parental assistance with this. To see a quick tutorial, please visit the Destiny Discover page on our ePortal (under Library). The direct link is:

<https://sites.google.com/student.dodea.edu/smith-es/library/destiny-discover>

This year, we are requesting books on-line and having them ready for student pickup so as to minimize the number of items that must be quarantined and the foot traffic in the library. All students are encouraged to request books virtually. Use your Google Apps log-in to access all our on-line library has to offer!



DVS Students -- want to check out books from the Smith ES library?

Curbside Service is here!



Browse our catalog and pre-request books. You will need to log in with our student's Google Apps account. Our Destiny Discover library catalog is available on the Links page of the Smith ePortal at:

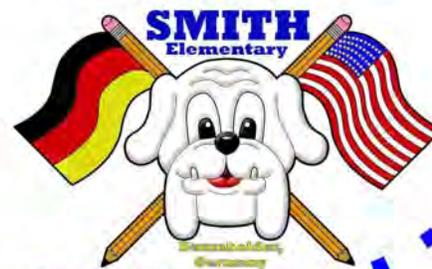
<https://sites.google.com/student.dodea.edu/smith-es/home>

Request up to 5 books, and pick them up at one of these times

To pick books up on ...	Request books online by ...
Tuesday from 1300-1400	Sunday by 2300
Wednesday from 1300-1400	Monday by 2300
Friday from 1100-1200	Wednesday by 2300

Come to the end gate next the the library and into the IC through the open door. We will be there for delivery!

Questions? Email Ms. M at heather.majorwitz@dodea.edu





SES WELCOMES NEW BULLDOGS...



Ms. Terri Sawyer - PSCD Teacherwelcome and best wishes

I'm originally from Wichita, Kansas. My background is in Speech-Language Pathology. I was a Speech Language Pathologist for 14 years before transitioning into the PSCD classroom. I love having my own classroom of students. Working with PSCD is challenging and rewarding. My first job as a SLP was in Olathe Kansas school district for 4 years. I entered DoDDs in 1991. I have been pleased to work in Yokosuka, Japan; Darmstadt, Germany, Misawa, Japan; and Kaiserslautern Germany area. I love my job with DODEA. It gives me many opportunities to travel. In my free time I enjoy yoga, walking in the forest, baking, Netflix, live theatre, going to the movies, travel, and reading novels.



Dr. Ricardo Buitrago - Psychologistwelcome and best wishes

Dr. Buitrago was born and raised in Bogota, Colombia until the age of 13. His family moved to live in NYC where he learned English while completing his HS education. He attended the University of Buffalo for his Bachelor, Masters and Ph.D. degrees.

Dr. Buitrago has lived and worked for DoDEA in Germany for 20 year along with his wife Andrea (2nd grade teacher at RES) his son Marcelo (Junior in College) his daughter Sofia (Freshman in College) and his 5 year old Great Dane Apollonia.

Dr. Buitrago enjoys foreign languages and is fluent in Spanish, Italian and English... of course. He is also passionate about soccer; a sport that he has not only coached at the HS level for 15 years, but also one that he continues to practice with a German league.

Dr. Buitrago is also passionate about donating his hair to organizations that make wigs for kids who experience hair loss.



PCS'ing?

If you know of your PCS date, please share it with the SES Main Office *at least two weeks prior* to waiting to pick up school records. This way, your child's records can be prepared in time for your requested date, ensuring that when registering for school at your next locale, the registration process will be seamless and successful for all parties involved. When you notify us at the SES Main Office, we will need a copy of the PCS orders, as well as a parent completing a records' withdrawal form. Please contact Mr. Robert Woods, School Registrar, for more information at 545-1231, CIV 0611-143-545-1231, or robert.woods@dodea.edu. The sooner you notify the school of the child's anticipated withdrawal date, the more resourceful we will be at meeting your family's PCS needs.

