## SMOKETREE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# Cougar Connection



November 2020

### Parents & Caregivers, Here are some tips to guide the way for helping Your child with their home work:

**Know the teachers** — and what they're looking for. Attend school events, such as parent-teacher conferences, to meet your child's teachers. Ask about their homework policies and how you should be involved.

Set up a homework-friendly area. Make sure kids have a well-lit place to complete homework. Keep supplies — paper, pencils, glue, scissors — within reach. **Schedule a regular study time.** Some kids work best in the afternoon, following a snack

and play period; others may prefer to wait until after dinner.

**Help them make a plan.** On heavy homework nights or when there's an especially hefty assignment to tackle, encourage your child to break up the work into manageable chunks. Create a work schedule for the night if necessary — and take time for a 15-minute break every hour, if possible.

**Keep distractions to a minimum.** This means no TV, loud music, or phone calls. (Occasionally, though, a phone call to a classmate about an assignment can be helpful.) **Make sure kids do their own work.** They won't learn if they don't think for themselves and make their own mistakes. Parents can make suggestions and help with directions. But it's a kid's job to do the learning.

Be a motivator and monitor. Ask about assignments, quizzes, and tests. Give encouragement, check completed homework, and make yourself available for questions and concerns. Sound interested in what they are learning.

Set a good example. Do your kids ever see you diligently balancing your budget or reading a book? Kids are more likely to follow their parents' examples than their advice. Praise their work and efforts. Post an aced test or art project on the refrigerator. Mention academic achievements to relatives.

If there are continuing problems with homework, get help. Talk about it with your child's teacher. Some kids have trouble seeing the board and may need glasses; others might need an evaluation for a learning problem or attention disorder.

November Holidays: No School Nov. 11 - Veterans' Day

No School Nov. 25, 26 & 27 - Thanksgiving Break



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#### **NURSE'S CORNER**

#### Flu season is upon us!

Although the vaccine is considered the best way to prevent the flu, these steps can also be taken to reduce the risk and their risk to others. These include:

- •Avoid touching your mouth and nose.
- ·Wash your hands.
- •Stay home when sick and avoid those who are sick.
- •Make sure you cough or sneeze into a tissue and throw it away.

Yvette Hernandez, School Nurse



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#### The Bookshelf...



Hello Smoketree Families and Happy Fall, Unfortunately due to COVID 19, we are not able to have a book fair at this time. We have one scheduled for February. We will send out information if we are able to have our Spring Book Fair. There are many new titles in the Library for students to enjoy!

Happy Reading, Mrs. Thomas Smoketree Librarian

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#### **PTSO News**

We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the following:

Fundraisers

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Holiday Store - December (dates to follow)

(If interested, Text Mrs. Kortan @ 928-727-4959)

#### **Our Next PTSO Meeting is:**

November 19, 2020

5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

**Smoketree Library** 

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# November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	Early Release	5	6	7
8	9	10	Veteran's Day No School	12 Student Progress Reports	13	14
15	16	17	Early Release  Important DATE!	PTSO Meeting 5:30 -6:15 PM Smoketree Library	20	21
22	23	24	No School	Happy Thanksgiving	No School	28
29	30 School Resumes					