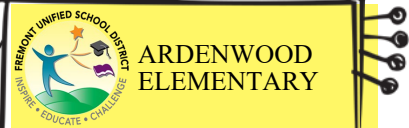




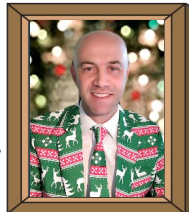
Your monthly guide to school news, information and events.



# DRAGON NEWS

**DECEMBER | 2020**

## A message from our principal



## Regular School Hours

AM K: 8:10am-11:30am  
PM K/TK: 11:40am-3:00pm  
Grades 1-3: 8:20am-2:50pm  
Grades 4-6: 8:20am-3:00pm

## IMPORTANT DATES

### December 9

[School Budget](#)  
[Virtual Town Hall Meeting](#)  
Minimum Day

### December 11

GATE Nomination Forms are  
Due to the Principal

### December 16

Abode Donations are due  
Board Meeting  
Minimum Day

### December 18

Minimum Day  
Letters for LIFE ElderCare  
and Servicemen and women  
are due in the  
Material Pickup Area

### Dec 21- Jan 3

Winter Break  
NO SCHOOL

Hello Dragons,

As we near the end of the calendar year, all of us most certainly can say that 2020 has been a year to remember. I would like to express my appreciation to our PTA for helping to design the Dragons Do Good in December service project, as the gift of giving during the holiday season is an important value to instill in our students.

Mr. Howard Spiegel, Ardenwood's Lead Custodian, has announced his retirement effective at the end of the calendar year. Mr. Spiegel has been a dedicated Ardenwood employee for approximately 30 years. In those three decades of service, he has been a positive role model for countless families. As your child considers writing words of appreciation for the Dragons Do Good in December project, please consider sending well-wishes for Mr. Spiegel's retirement.

Happy New Year and Go Dragons!

Elie Wasser, Principal

## Minimum Day Hours

AM/PM K/TK: 8:10am-11:30am  
Grades 1-3: 8:20am-1:10pm  
Grades 4-6: 8:20am-1:20pm



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

If your student will not be attending their mandatory online classes, please contact the school's absence line at **(510)794-0392**, then press **7**. Please be sure to provide the following:

- 1) Student's Full Name
- 2) Classroom Number
- 3) Reason for Absence
- 4) Your name & relationship with the student





## GATE UPDATE



Fremont Unified School District (FUSD) provides support for gifted and talented (GATE) students through differentiated instruction. We believe that differentiated instruction not only serves the needs of our exceptional students, but also enhances the entire educational program for all students.

In February of 2020, funding for the CogAT testing was cut as part of the budget savings. While the CogAT testing has been the primary means of qualifying students for GATE identification we are now in the process of identifying an alternative way of identifying students. **There will not be a test for GATE eligibility given this year.** We are currently revising the GATE identification process and handbook FUSD will have an update by Spring 2021.

During the 2020/21 school year we will continue to identify **5th and 6th grade students** who were not identified in an earlier grade. These students may be considered for GATE identification through the professional judgement process. Teachers and/or [parents may nominate a student](#). A completed nomination form must be submitted by the teacher or parent to the school Principal by December 11, 2020. Principals will set up meetings with the teacher, student, and parent to discuss the student's eligibility for GATE identification. In June 2021, parents, teachers, and students who applied for professional judgement will be informed of their child's GATE eligibility.

## Sibling Priority Enrollment



Please visit [FUSD 2021-2022 New Student Enrollment](#) for Important Dates and regarding New Elementary Student Enrollment Information.

### ***A message from our PTA President***



Happy December Dragons! We are very excited to announce a new community engagement activity for this month - Dragons Doing Good in December! We are circulating calendars with a suggested act of service students and their families can do each day this month. We want to end 2020 on a strong note, helping students understand how much positive impact they can have on their families and in the community by doing small acts of service each day. We've listed some alternate ideas if you'd like to switch, or feel free to come up with your own! We want everyone to do what feels safest and best for their individual families. Please refer to the fliers for additional information. If you have any questions, please email [ptapresident@ardenwoodschoool.org](mailto:ptapresident@ardenwoodschoool.org).





## Dragons Doing Good in December



| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY                                 | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
|   |   | 1                                       | 2   | 3  | 4   | 5  |
| <i>Additional information about service opportunities are included as separate attachments. There are also extra ideas if you'd like to swap out service ideas or want an extra challenge. Make this calendar work for you and your family!</i> |   | Give a compliment to someone.           | Donate items to contribute to Abode Services for their snack bags they hand out to those who are struggling in the community. | Make a treat or card for your local mail carrier.  | Smile at everyone you see today.                  | Support a local business.  |
| 6   | 7   | 8                                       | 9   | 10   | 11  | 12   |
| Plant something.  | Send a thank you to a service member.   | Draw a picture for a friend.            | Write to your principal or make a video and let him know how great your teachers are.   | Donate clothes you've outgrown to a local charity. | Surprise your teacher with a gift or a nice note. | Make a homemade gift for someone and leave it on their doorstep. |
| 13  | 14  | 15                                      | 16  | 17   | 18  | 19   |
| Send a video message to family member letting them know you are thinking about them.  | Draw pictures or write notes for residents in nursing homes.                              | Clean up your room without being asked. | Drop off flowers on someone's doorstep.   | Make cards for the local fire station.             | Donate food to our local food pantry.             | Make a meal for another family or pay for someone else's meal.   |
| 20  | 21  | 22                                      | 23  | 24   | 25  | 26   |
| Leave a happy note outside your home so those who walk around the neighborhood will see it.   | Go around your table at mealtime and say what you like most about each person around you. | Help make dinner.                       | Send or drop off a card.  | Recycle (today and every day!)                     | Call a family member to say hello.                | Write a note to a friend telling them why you appreciate them.   |
| 27  | 28  | 29                                      |   |  |   |  |
| Read a book to a sibling or FaceTime a relative and read to them.   | Make a thank you sign for your sanitation workers.  | Help out with someone else's chores.    |   |  |   |  |



### Parent Workshop: Managing Kids Anxiety during COVID-19

**Date:** Wednesday, December 9th

**Time:** 6:00-7:00pm

**Location:** [ZOOM Link](#)

Meeting ID: 929 9044 3989

Passcode: 186755

### HOW CAN WE HELP?

*Even though our school site and office are physically closed, our office staff can be reached easily via email.*

[Ardenwoodoffice@fusdk12.net](mailto:Ardenwoodoffice@fusdk12.net)

*An easy way to help raise money for the school!*

### Ways to Donate

- ⇒ Donate in your child's class using [My School Bucks!](#)
- ⇒ Join Ardenwood's PTA! [Register now](#) and receive the latest school events happening!
- ⇒ **Corporate Matching Opportunities:**
  - ⇒ Your gift today can go even further in helping our students succeed. Many employers will match donations thru [Benevity](#) and [YourCause](#). If you work for Google, Microsoft, VISA, Dell, Nvidia, and many other Fortune 500 companies, chances are they will double your generosity.

Follow @ArdenwoodFUSD