Absences Matter and **YOU** can help!

Dear Parent/Guardian of _________________:

____________ has been absent ________ days this school year.

Students fall behind when they miss school—whether the students are absent for excused or unexcused reasons. A few absences every month can add up to weeks of lost learning over the school year.

We want to partner with you to support your child’s education. With your help we can have a big effect on ______________’s absences moving forward and we appreciate your help.

Here are some quick attendance tips:

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don’t let your child stay home unless she/he is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make him/her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent!
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

Thank you for supporting our attendance efforts, if we can help please let us know!

Respectfully,

Kim O’Donnell
Principal