



THE COYOTE CONNECTION

Parent Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 01

April 14, 2011

Cascade Ridge Elementary School

2020 Trossachs Blvd. SE
Sammamish, WA 98075

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Office Phone: 425/837-5500
Report an Absence: 425/837-5500 press 2
Or email kirschj@issaquah.wednet.edu



A NOTE FROM NATALIE

As we head into the home stretch of this school year, we also begin to look forward to the next. I wanted to communicate with you a few changes to Cascade Ridge's Class Placement Process for next year. On the next page of the Coyote Connection, you will find a letter from me detailing the process parents will need to follow in regards to student placement input. This letter will also be posted on our website.

On another note, I look forward to seeing many of you at our Festival of Cultures this Friday, April 15th. One of the special things about Cascade Ridge is our amazing community and I am anxious to learn about and celebrate the many cultures we have at our school.

Again, thanks for all your support. The partnership between parent and school is vital to student success.

Natalie W. Fowler

Challenge, Support and Celebrate Each Student

Calendar of Events

April

4th-29th	Eager Reader
15th	Festival of Cultures 6-8pm
18th-28th	Spelling Bee
21st	Parent Preview of FLASH Curriculum-IVE 6pm
23rd	Parent Preview of FLASH Curriculum-IVE 9am

May

3rd	3rd Grade Concert 6:30PM
5th-27th	Measure of Student Progress (MSP) Test
6th	Dad's Play Day
24th	New Kindergarten Open House 5-6pm
30th	Memorial Day-No School

June

1st-3rd	5th Grade Camp
3rd	Dad's Play Day
8th	Chorus Concert 6:30pm
9th	Marimba Concert 6:30pm
16th	Last Day of School



Cascade Ridge Elementary Student Placement Process

April 14, 2011

Our staff takes the task of placement very seriously. We assure you that each grade level team (with assistance of specialists, guidance team, etc.) takes much time, effort and care in developing class rosters that result in offering all children a quality educational experience. Following are factors that are taken into consideration as class rosters are developed:

- the program needs of the child
 - a balance of academic achievement levels
 - behavior factors regarding each student
 - social needs and the compatibility of students with others in the classroom (i.e., separating students who have not worked well together in the past)
 - independent work habits and leadership skills
- information provided by the teacher

Once balanced rosters are created and staffing is finalized, teachers will be assigned.

As parents you may have pertinent information about your child that you would like considered in the placement process. Examples of information staff find helpful are: "Please separate my twins, Sally and Suzie," or "Please do not place my son Joey in the same class as Fred as we are neighbors and they are together all the time," or "My child has only been in the United States one month and needs ELL support".

Examples of comments that we all agree upon are: "We want a warm, nurturing, caring environment for our child," "We want our child challenged," "We want our child in a structured classroom". We take these comments as a given; it is each teachers' responsibility to provide a nurturing, challenging, safe environment for every student. The task for the current year teachers is to develop balanced classrooms based on the knowledge they have about the students, not the teachers at the next grade level.

If you choose to provide specific information regarding your child that the teacher does not have or may be unaware of, please provide a written letter in a sealed envelope (**no e-mail will be accepted**) addressed to the Principal. Letters may be mailed to the address below or delivered to the office by parents. **WRITTEN LETTERS ARE DUE BY FRIDAY APRIL 29TH, 2011.** *Please note we do not accept letters that specify individual teachers by gender, experience level, or name.*

Thank you in advance for your understanding and support of this process and be assured we will do all we can to insure thoughtful placement of each child.

Natalie Fowler, Principal
2020 Trossachs Blvd. SE
Sammamish, WA 98075

SCHOOL NEWS



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
RETIREMENT CELEBRATION**

IN HONOR OF
Betty Gilstrap
AND
Anne Henigson

**IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR DEDICATION TO THE STUDENTS AND
FAMILIES THEY ENRICHED THROUGHOUT THEIR TEACHING CA-
REERS**

**THURSDAY, MAY 26TH
CASCADE RIDGE LIBRARY
3:30-4:30**

*“Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened.”
~Dr. Seuss*



Notes from the Nurse

5th grade parents:


- Camp medications and accompanying paperwork are due at school on 4/15/11! All medications must in the original container and the medication form signed by both the parent and physician. This includes over-the-counter medications.
- Please remember to notify the nurse when your student receives their 11-year old immunizations for middle school.


ISD - PTSA Parent Education Seminar

Resisting Raising Children Who Feel Entitled

Monday, April 18, 2011 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Sunset Elementary School
 4229 W. Lake Sammamish Pkwy. SE, Bellevue, WA 98008
Free and open to all Issaquah School District parents





Presenter:
Jan Faull, M.Ed.

Author of: *Unplugging Power Struggles: Resolving Emotional Battles with Your Kids, Darn Good Advice: Parenting, Amazing Minds, Mommy I Have to Go Potty!*

Jan has taught parent education for more than 25 years and regularly conducts classes at Overlake Hospital Medical Center.

Do your children think they should automatically have every new electronic game and gadget?


Do you wish you knew how to tame their desire for instant gratification and feelings of entitlement, and teach them responsibility and accountability? Well, you can! It's tough but worthwhile because children who learn to delay gratification have better long term outcomes.

Come see noted author and parent educator *Jan Faull* in her parent education lecture *Resisting Raising Children Who Feel Entitled* on Monday, April 18 at Sunset Elementary School.

This informative presentation highlights techniques for teaching responsibility and accountability to your children. Jan will also open a discussion on just what are reasonable expectations for this young generation.

Please join us!

For more information please contact Sunset PTA Parent Education Chair Patty Thieme 206-778-5554.



PTSA NEWS

Friday April 15th – Don't Miss Our Biggest Ever Festival of Cultures! – Once again our wonderful school community responded when called up and we have **more countries represented** this year than ever (**over 20!**) and **more entertainers** lined up to make this an unforgettable evening for our students and their families! We have added a fun *scavenger hunt* for the kids with a drawing for a **grand prize!** So clear your schedule for this Friday night and plan to be there with the whole family from **6:00-8:00pm**. There will be plenty to see and do and even some **Pizza** and snacks (limited supplies, first come, first served) so you can relax And take the evening off to tour the world with us!

Please contact the Festival Co-Chairs for more information: Cathia Geller (Cathia@cathiageller.com 425-445-7046) or Erin Rooney (roon888@msn.com).

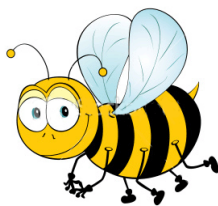
Let Your Voice Be Heard!

It's Spring, and among other things, that means it is time for our annual PTSA Community Survey. This is your chance to provide feedback to us about what you like, what you dislike, and how you think we should prioritize our activities for the coming year. It is crucial that we hear from you so we can continue to provide appropriate support to our children and our school according to what our membership considers valuable and most important. Please take just a few minutes to complete the quick and simple online survey. The results from the survey are used to help develop the budget for the next year and we need this information from you. Click this link and talk to us! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CascadeRidgeSurvey>

Spelling Bee!

Note: The registration deadline for the Cascade Ridge PTSA Spelling Bee is this **Friday, April 15!** If your child is not registered by April 15, he/she will not be able to participate. We're excited about this event and are expecting to be impressed by all our amazing spellers. Full details including practice word lists and registration are online at <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/spellingbee>.

Questions? Email spellingbee@cascaderidgeptsa.org.



More Upcoming Parent Education Opportunities

Cybersafety for Parents and Teens with Andrew Philips

Thursday, April 21st at 7:00pm

Creating a Whole and Healthy Family a Sammamish Plateau Parenting Network Workshop

Monday, April 25th at 11:30am & 7:00pm

Friends and Frenemies: The Love - Hate Relationships That Form Our Youth with Laura Doerflinger

Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00pm

For more information about these upcoming seminars please link to:

<http://www.issaquahptsa.org/parented/>