



THE COYOTE CONNECTION

Cascade Ridge Elementary School Newsletter

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October 6, 2011

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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| Oct 7 | Dad's Play Day |
| Oct 14 | Walkathon 2:45-6pm |
| Nov 4 | Dad's Play Day |
| Nov 10 | Picture Re-Take Day |
| Nov 11 | Veteran's Day-No School for Students or Staff |
| Nov 23 | End of 1st Trimester-Report Cards go home |
| Nov 24 & 25 | Thanksgiving Holiday-No School For Students or Staff |
| Nov 30 | Elementary Conferences - No school for students |
| Dec 1 | Elementary Conferences - No school for students |
| Dec 2 | Dad's Play Day |

A NOTE FROM NATALIE

Over the summer, I finally had a chance to read some of the professional magazines to which I subscribe. An article I found very interesting regarded recess and ways to make it a more positive experience for everyone. One of the strategies suggested was explicit teaching of games and activities students could engage in while at recess. This set me thinking that as adults, we sometimes assume that all students know and understand our recess/playground expectations. But do they really? In fairness to them, they cannot be expected to *know* what they have not been *taught*.

Working with our two PE teachers, Mr. Richey and Mrs. Corra, rules and clear expectations were developed around four popular recess games – four square, wall ball, football and hand ball. Students learned about the games during their PE class. Students were also taught the good old stand-by of “rock, paper, scissors” for solving disagreements and instructed to use that as a tool if problems should arise.

Sometime this week or next, all classroom teachers will be reviewing our playground expectations with their class (we also post them on the school website). Students will be reminded of The Coyote Code – Show Respect, Make Good Decisions and Solve Problems. Every student in the school will then sign a Recess Contract which states they have been taught the rules, understand the rules and will follow the rules. Should a student have difficulty during the school year following the recess rules and need to meet with me, I will be able to show them the Recess Contract they signed and use that as a conversation tool to help them figure out a way to make better choices in the future.

We hope our efforts help all students have a more positive recess experience. Now, let the fun begin!

Natalie Wjowlek

Challenge, Support and Celebrate Each Student

PTSA NEWS

We had so much fun, let's do it again!

The new **PTSA Hospitality Committee** hosted our first "Welcome!" event on September 21, and a great time was had by all – both new members to our Cascade Ridge/Trossachs community, as well as some familiar faces, too. Since we are approaching the season where we typically go into "hibernation" --under our umbrellas, in our dry cars and warm homes – we thought it would be fun to extend the next event to all. Therefore, if you are new to our community, **OR** if you have been around a while but would like to join us for a warm greeting, friendly chat, and a cup of "Market Spice Tea," please mark your calendar for our next "Welcome!" event, Wednesday, November 16, time and place TBD. Questions or interest in volunteering for the Hospitality Committee? Contact Pamela Franklin at psfranklin@comcast.net.

Cascade Ridge is Kickin' It Coyote Style

The annual PTSA Walkathon and Fall Festival is here! Together we can make this year a GREAT ONE for our kids. Go on-line **TODAY** to register, donate, volunteer and order meals! Students must be registered to participate - NO EXCEPTIONS!

Visit the PTSA website at <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org>

Registration Deadline is October 10

Your generous donations make many programs at Cascade Ridge a reality. Come be a part of the Walking Course, Carnival Games, Mariner Moose, Dinner for the Family, Silent Auction, Caramel Apples, Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, DJ, Face Painting, Prizes. It only happens once a year! Don't miss out!

Important for Parents - This is a PTSA-sponsored, family event. Parents **MUST** be present or arrange for another adult to be responsible for your student(s) throughout the event. No exceptions.

Early Registration Deadline for the Walkathon and Fall Festival is October 6 (today!). You will be eligible for a drawing to win a gift card to WildFin American Grill in Issaquah.

WANTED: FOUR outgoing, wild and crazy cowboy dads to help us as Sheriffs at the Walkathon!

We've got a handful of teacher-outlaws who need wrangling in. Please ask your husband/dad to volunteer. It's a highlight for the kids! The details: Wear whatever cowboy gear you've got - any shirt and pants will do. We'll provide the badge and the WANTED posters. You'll arrest the (willing) outlaws, put them in jail and the kids go to work to "post bail" Join us for an hour to get ol' Cascade Ridge restored to order! Please contact walkathon@cascaderidgeptsa.org to sign up.

5th Grade Pumpkin Carving Contest

It's time for the annual 5th grade pumpkin carving contest!! Contest open to 5th graders only... pumpkins are due 10/14/11 by 8:30am. Prizes will be awarded for best traditional pumpkin, western pumpkin, and principal's choice. For more details contact rachelschnebele@comcast.net

Popcorn Friday!

Bring your quarters to 2nd recess and buy a nice hot bag of buttered popcorn for only \$.25, to share with your friends! Come find the "Popcorn Parents" just outside the lunchroom door on the playground. We'll be selling hot popcorn on the first Friday of every month. Mark your calendar and we'll see you there!

Escrip

Please renew your eScrip registration by November 1st! Even if you have registered for eScrip in the past, you must renew every year. Just go to www.eScrip.com and click on "Yes Renew" and follow the directions. If you have never registered for eScrip, now is the time! Just go to www.eScrip.com and click on "Sign Up". Then you enter your Safeway Club Card number, and a portion of your purchases from Safeway will be donated to our school! In addition to your Safeway Club Card, if you register your debit and/or credit cards, a portion of your purchases from stores like Amazon, Gap, Old Navy, Macy's and Nordstrom will also be donated to our school!

Box Tops for Education

Turn in your Box Tops for Education by November 1st and our school will earn double points! Just clip the Box Tops and put them in the clear plastic box in the school lobby. Box Tops can be found on hundreds of grocery items and earn our school \$.10 each! For more information on the program, go to www.boxtops4education.com. Thanks for your participation! Questions, contact Lora Wendl at lora.wendl@gmail.com.