



THE COYOTE CONNECTION

Cascade Ridge Elementary School Newsletter

2020 Trossachs Blvd. SE Sammamish WA 98075 (425) 837-5500
www.cascaderidge.issaquah.wednet.edu www.cascaderidgeptsa.org

April 5, 2012

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 5	5th Grade Concert 6:30pm
April 6	Dad's Play Day
April 9-13	Spring Break—No School
April 19	PTSA General Membership & Coffee with Principal 8:30am
April 24	Caring Coyote Meeting 3:00pm
April 26-27	Talent Show 6:00pm
April 27	Birthday Cupcakes
Apr 30-May 31	MSP Testing
May 4	Dad's Play Day
May 7	Site Council 6:00pm (Guest Speaker—Patrick Murphy)
May 15	Camp Chaperone Meeting 6:00pm
May 17	3rd Grade Concert 6:00pm
May 17	PTSA General Membership Meeting 7:00pm
May 23	Chorus/Marimba Concert 6:30pm
May 28	Memorial Day—No School For Students
May 30-June 1	5th Grade Camp

DISTRICT NEWS

Parents of 1st, 2nd, and 5th graders:

Your student's Stanford 10 score will be posted in [Family Access](#) this Friday, April 6. The scores may look different than in previous years both at the aggregate and individual level, so [please read this important information about the new scoring norms before logging in to retrieve your child's results](#). This year, the norm group has changed to a more current sample. Generally speaking, this new norm group is more representative of the nation as a whole and has produced a "tougher" norm to which our Issaquah School District students are being compared. Therefore, we would expect to see—and we do, in fact, see—lower average scores at the school and district level than the year before, when there was a less rigorous norm. Because of this different norm group and shift in scores, it is important to avoid comparing scores from years past to draw conclusions about changes in performance. Please note: the new norm and altered average scores will NOT change our placement process for programs such as MERLIN, SAGE, and Humanities Plus.

Challenge, Support and Celebrate Each Student

Flash & HIV / AIDS Curriculum Information Sessions for Grade 5

Briarwood, Cascade Ridge, Clark, Cougar Ridge, Endeavour, Grand Ridge, Issaquah Valley and Maple Hills Only

Thursday April 19 at 6:00 PM

Saturday April 21 at 9:00 AM

Issaquah Valley Elementary Multi Purpose Room

Notice of the sessions will be posted in the April 11 and 18 editions of the Issaquah Press. Parent Reviews for all other Elementary Schools were held in January.

SCHOOL NEWS

Next Dad's Play Day - Friday April 6

If you are ordering a lunch from the Café for Dad, please do so by 8:00 AM in the morning of the event. You will need to give your name **and the lunch choice you are making**. Lunch choices for our April Dad's Play Day on April 6th are the following:

#1 Chicken Rings w/homemade Whole Wheat Roll

#2 Southwest Chicken Salad

#3 Yogurt Lunch

#4 Baked Potato

Salad Bar

Milk

Please call lunch orders to Sheri Studer (425) 837-5541.

Lost And Found

Please check the Lost and Found for any items your child may have misplaced. It is full of winter coats, sweaters, and other miscellaneous items. All remaining Lost and Found items will be donated to a local charity on Friday April 6th, the day before Spring Break.

Cascade Ridge Elementary Student Placement Process

Please see attached information from Natalie Fowler or go to our website www.cascaderidge.issaquah.wednet.edu.

Cascade Ridge Elementary Student Placement Process

April 5, 2012

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 27TH, 2012.** *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

PTSA NEWS

We Want YOU! The PTSA is asking for your help

What's not to love about Cascade Ridge? It's true, we belong to an amazing school community, with much credit going to you, the members of PTSA.

How can you insure CRE's outstanding programs, teacher grants, events and educational enrichment opportunities remain strong?

You can volunteer to help organize the 2012 Fall Fundraiser and Walkathon! The Fall Fundraiser, held each October, is critical to the strength of our school. Reach your inner project manager, your inner creative genius, your simple desire to bring our community together for a great family-focused event which benefits YOUR student!

Please join the Walkathon and Fall Fundraiser Committee. There is a job waiting for you and there is no better time than now!

Contact: Nichole Wengert nwenger@msn.com

New J.A.M Program

We are excited to announce a new program offering at Cascade Ridge based on a popular BBC program in the UK. The program is called Just A Minute, or J.A.M and focuses on public speaking and communication in a fun, friendly environment. There is no preparation or outside work required for the program. It is just a fun way for students to build their oral presentation skills in a game show type format!

The program is open to 4th and 5th graders this year and J.A.M sessions will take place in the morning (either Tues, Wed, Thurs or Fri) before school in one of the portables. The day will be based on the availability of the majority of interested students. **Sign up at:** <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/packet/jam>. Be sure to specify which mornings you are available!

Questions about the program can be directed to program chair Shirish Vaidya at: jam@cascaderidgeptsa.org.

Got Talent?

Do you have a poem you want to recite, a song you want to sing, a skit you want to perform, or a puppet you want to introduce? Well, don't miss out on Cascade Ridge's first ever **Talent Show!**

Register by midnight Friday April 6th – (that's tomorrow!)

[Click Here](#) or go to PTSA website for more info.

Way to Go Pandas!

Congratulations to our 3rd grade D.I. team, the "Crazy, Crimson Pandas!" Anika Ajwani, Irene Kim, Sarah Maginnis, Zoe Meyers, Megha Pingili and Kate Selbig (and coached by parent Nga Selbig), represented C.R. and the Issaquah School District at the state D.I. tournament last weekend AND TOOK 3rd PLACE!

The team was recognized for their teamwork on their project which focused on helping pandas of all kinds survive. The girls raised over \$300 and donated it directly to the Red Panda exhibit at the Woodland Park Zoo. At the competition, the team presented a skit and slideshow about their project, complete with an almost life-sized paper Mache panda!

Are You Reading?

How many minutes have you read? The first week of our new online Eager Reader is almost finished and we hope that students and parents are enjoying logging (and approving) minutes at CascadeRidgePta.org. Remember, you can begin the program at any time and there are some fabulous individual and classroom incentives to motivate students! Which lucky classroom will win the coveted Jamba Juice party? Whose names will be in the drawing for the Kindles? We can't wait to find out so grab a book (eBooks count too) and KEEP ON READING!

PARENT ED

Internet Crimes Against Children - Presented by Stephanie Thomas of the Seattle Police Department. Stephanie is a Victim Advocate in the High Risk Victims Unit/Internet Crimes Against Children.

Date: April 16th - Monday - 7:30pm - PLMS Commons.

Do you need to talk to your middle schooler about the birds and bees?

Do you want practical advice to make your talks rock?

If your answer is, "Yes!"

Please join the Issaquah Middle School PTSA

Monday, April 30th, 2012, 7:00-8:30 pm

Issaquah Middle School Commons

Amy Lang will speak about the birds and the bees and present practical advice for talking to your kids about sex.

Free Event

FUNDRAISING

Brown Bear Car Wash Tickets

Brown Bear Car Wash Tickets are still for sale for \$5.00 each. Buying a car wash ticket saves you money on your car wash, and earns our school \$3.50! If you would like to purchase tickets, please e-mail me at lora.wendl@gmail.com with your name, the number of tickets you would like, your child's name and your child's teacher's name. Drop off a check made out to CRE-PTSA in the black PTSA box in the school lobby, and I'll get the tickets in to your child's teacher within a week.

Thanks for your support!

Box Tops for Education

Thanks to all of you who have been clipping and turning in those Box Tops! Each Box Top turned in to us earns our school \$.10!

Labels for Education

Don't forget to bring in those **Campbell's Labels for Education proof of purchases** you've been saving. Help Cascade Ridge buy tools for our kids' education. There are many products that carry these labels (not just Campbell's Soup!) so keep looking.

eLabels for Education

You can also earn more points for Cascade Ridge electronically by enrolling your shoppers card online with the stores where you shop, including QFC, Fred Meyer, Albertsons and Safeway. Once you have registered online, when you go through the checkout it automatically gives Cascade Ridge points for the qualifying items that you buy. You can earn more points by clipping the same labels and turning them in to school!

Register today at: http://www.elabelsforeducation.com/Sites/Campbells_eLabels/Page/HomePage