



# Coyote Howler

## PTSA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back from break! Hopefully you all had a great, restful break and you are ready for some busy months ahead at Cascade Ridge. We will be starting the month right off with our first ever Geography Bee! Many thanks to Raghu Allepally for stepping forward to bring this exciting new program to our kids and school, and we hope to have a big turnout of kids for this fun and educational event.

We also hope that many young Cascade Ridge scientists (not just our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders) are preparing science projects to share with the community at our Science Fair on March 24. Science Pete has been working hard to ensure we have another great event and we expect it to be full of many interesting and educational experiments for all in the community to enjoy. This is a big event for kids and grown-ups and requires a lot of involvement from many people, so if you can find the time in your schedule to volunteer, this is a great (and rewarding) opportunity. Be sure to find more exciting details in this newsletter and on our website, and I hope to see you there!

Please do not forget that our Nominating Committee is working diligently to fill the slate for our 2011-12 Cascade Ridge PTSA Executive Committee. If you know of anyone (including yourself) that would be interested and excited to be a part of our Board for the next school year, please contact anyone on the Nominating Committee (Monica Fuddy, Ingrid Olsen, Bona Park, Peggy Rodman, or Nichole Wengert). The PTSA provides many services and activities to the Cascade Ridge community, we have a lot of fun in the process, and we need your help to continue the great tradition!

As you hopefully know through ongoing updates from Cathia Geller, our wonderful Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF) Representative, the Foundation is critically important to the ongoing welfare of our district students. With the assistance of Ingrid Sellie, our very own PTSA grants writing volunteer, our school (via our fabulous teacher and parent Lynette Springborn) has recently submitted an application to receive a significant grant from the Foundation. We hope to get great news regarding this application and will bring updates as we get them. In the meantime, we would like you to know about the upcoming annual *Nourish Every Mind Luncheon* that is a bunch of fun to attend and it benefits the ISF's ongoing work. Our PTSA will host a table at the luncheon and we would love to fill the table. If you are interested in attending the luncheon on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00, we would love to have you join in the fun. Just contact me directly, and I'll reserve you a seat!

Finally, be sure to read further in this newsletter for more information regarding our Festival of Cultures event that will be occurring on April 15. There are many ways to get involved, including hosting a country table and volunteering at the event, and we would love to make this the biggest and most-attended Festival of Cultures in our third year of holding this fun, interesting, educational, and community-bonding event. This is one you and your kids definitely should not miss!

See what I mean? Busy months are ahead and we hope to have everyone involved.

Have a great March and beginning to spring!

Tina Yerges  
PTSA President  
[tinayerges@msn.com](mailto:tinayerges@msn.com)

## Calendar of Events

### March:

- 1:** Geography Bee K/1st, 4:30pm
- 2:** K'garten Reg., 2-6 pm
- 3:** K'garten Reg., 10-3 pm  
Geography Bee 2nd/3rd, 4:30pm
- 4:** Dad's Day—Playground  
Science Fair Reg. Deadline (K-3rd)  
Geography Bee 4th/5th, 4:30pm
- 7:** Site Council Mtg, 6pm
- 9:** Full Day K'garten Lottery
- 9-23:** CogAT Testing—2nd gr.
- 15:** 4th Gr. Concert, 6:30pm
- 16:** Modified Bell Schedule 8:30am—12:53pm
- 24:** Science Fair, 6-8 pm
- 31:** 5th Gr. Concert, 6:30pm

### April:

- 1:** Dad's Day—Playground

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**Editor:** [Monica Fuddy](#)  
**President:** [Tina Yerges](#)

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS




**March 24, 6:00 - 8:00 pm**


**One week left to sign up!** It's not too late ... you can still register for the science fair and order project boards before the March 4th deadline by going to the Science Fair website <http://cascaderidge.oursciencefair.com/SchoolHome.aspx> and clicking on "**REGISTER**" and "**ORDER SUPPLIES.**" We encourage all students Kindergarten-5th to choose a science topic that interests them, and prepare a project for the fair. Your project does not need to be difficult or complicated. There are lots of ideas on the website about how to choose a topic, so check it out and sign up today!

**Would you like to be a judge?** We are still in need of several more judges and other volunteers to help make this year's science fair a success. Note that you do *not* need a science background in order to be a judge, and the judges from last year will tell you that it's a super fun and rewarding experience. Click on "**VOLUNTEERING**" for details, and please consider helping us out.

**Upload your photos!** We are really excited to be putting together a rockin' slide show of all our brilliant kid scientists, but we need your photos! So parents, while your little Einstein is busy blowing up the kitchen, put your panic aside and capture the moment first! Then "**UPLOAD PHOTOS**" to the website so we can include them in the show!



## GEOGRAPHY BEE!



Does your student enjoy geography trivia and learning about other states, countries and continents? You may want to consider signing them up for the Cascade Ridge Geography Bee to be held the first week of March! Teams of 3 to 5 similar age students will compete for prizes in this fun and educational event. Students may form their own team or sign up and be placed on a team. Parent volunteers are needed to facilitate this event so please consider volunteering your time to make it a success.

K/1st: Tuesday March 1st from 4:30-5:30pm  
2nd/3rd: Thursday March 3rd from 4:30-5:30pm  
4th/5th: Friday March 4th from 4:30-5:30pm  
(in Portable 5)

To sign up and/or to volunteer contact Raghu Allepally, [rallepally@gmail.com](mailto:rallepally@gmail.com)



# Have You Heard the Buzz?!

Cascade Ridge is hosting our **First Annual Spelling Bee April 18-28!** Students are invited to compete one evening in a grade level competition held in the Coyote Cafe. The top three winners from each grade are then invited to a Championship Bee for title of Top Speller at Cascade Ridge Elementary!

Word lists are available online. All students wishing to participate must register by April 15. Everyone is invited to watch the excitement!

For more details and to register, please visit <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org>.

Questions? Contact Rajeev Goel or Bridget Salmick at [spellingbee@cascaderidgeptsa.org](mailto:spellingbee@cascaderidgeptsa.org)

## Grade Level Spelling Bees

Mon.	April 18	6:30pm	<b>Kindergarten</b>
Tue.	April 19	6:30pm	<b>1st grade</b>
Wed.	April 20	6:30pm	<b>2nd grade</b>
Mon.	April 25	6:30pm	<b>3rd grade</b>
Tue.	April 26	6:30pm	<b>4th grade</b>
Wed.	April 27	6:30pm	<b>5th grade</b>

## Championship Spelling Bees

Thurs.	April 21	6:30pm	<b>Kindergarten—2nd Championship</b>
Thurs.	April 28	6:30pm	<b>3rd-5th Championship</b>



# PROGRAMS



## ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF CULTURES APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> WE NEED SPONSOR FAMILIES!



**Step up to be a booth sponsor!** It's simple, fun and educational for all our kids and families! We are currently seeking host families to sponsor country booths. Sponsorship involves creating an experience around the country you are representing. This can be through facts, artifacts, games, food, dance, or song...whatever you feel best represents your host country. You don't have to be from the country to represent it – anyone can help our Cascade Ridge kids learn about new, interesting and fun places outside our own.

**Mark your calendars and plan to come and travel the world with us** and enjoy some international entertainment! Touch and interact with exotic artifacts. Learn new languages! Taste new and exciting cuisines. Dream of all the far off lands you will visit in-person someday!

The Festival of Cultures is a creative and stimulating event for our students. Our event this year will feature the wonderful booths sponsored and run by our generous host families, exciting entertainment and an interactive game to help our children get the most from the evening. If you are interested in hosting a booth, please contact Erin Rooney [roon888@msn.com](mailto:roon888@msn.com) or Cathia Geller [cathia@cathiageller.com](mailto:cathia@cathiageller.com) (425-445-7046) and we will get you started.

We look forward to seeing everyone at this fabulous night of fun and adventure!



### DAD'S DAY ON THE PLAYGROUND

Come join your child at recess!! The next Dad's Day on the Playground is **Friday, March 4th**.

**LUNCH / RECESS SCHEDULE**

Recess 2/3: 11:00-11:25  
Recess FDK/1: 11:30-11:55  
Recess 4/5: 12:00-12:25

Questions? Lynette Springborn [lspringborn@gmail.com](mailto:lspringborn@gmail.com)

# FUNDRAISING

## PASSIVE FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES



February Box Top Drawing Winner: Allison Pattillo from Mrs. Fentress's class. The Pattillo Family has won a free "Mixed Bag" as their prize. Want to get a chance to win a prize? Donate Box Tops with your child's name and teacher's name on the back to our school's clear collection box (located in the school's foyer) and you too can have a chance to win. Each month a name is drawn from the box.

Since September our school has collected \$164.20 worth of donated Box Tops. That's free money for our school to purchase extra supplies. Thank you to all who regularly donate!



Brown Bear Car Washes are also a great way for our school to make money. We buy the tickets for \$1.50 and resell them for \$5 (a \$1 savings from the retail price of \$5.99) which means we make \$3.50 profit on each ticket sold and YOU save money. In previous years our school has made as much as \$2,000 from this fundraiser alone. Ordering is easy. Just send me an email at [dverrue@gmail.com](mailto:dverrue@gmail.com) with the amount of tickets you want, your child's name and his or her teacher's name. Then deposit a check in our black PTSA box in the school's foyer for the amount of the tickets and I will deliver your tickets ASAP. You can also find me on Parent Hill, generally on Mondays, wearing my crazy spiral hat. On the days you see the hat, I will have car wash tickets with me for sale. These tickets make GREAT GIFTS!

Questions? Contact Diana Verrue: [dverrue@msn.com](mailto:dverrue@msn.com)



### **MIXED BAGS ARE BACK!**

Look for the spring brochure and order form coming home with your child the beginning of March. Make sure you check out the new catalog, there are many new styles and colors. The bags will be on sale through Friday, March 26th.

Questions? Contact Mary Richardson,  
[richardsonmary\\_j@hotmail.com](mailto:richardsonmary_j@hotmail.com)



## A Message from your ISF Rep!

### **We Like You, Will You Like Us?**

Why settle for ISF updates on a monthly basis? 'Like' the Foundation's Facebook page and you'll always be in the know. Look for the big red apple and become a Foundation fan.

### **Nourish Every Mind—What's All the Fuss About?**

Curious about the **Nourish Every Mind** Luncheon? Find out why the Luncheon is one of the most popular and well-attended social events of the year. Join us at **Nourish Every Mind 2011, Thursday, April 28** from **11:00 am – 1:00 pm** at the Issaquah Community Center. Hear testimonials from ISF program participants, enjoy a silent auction, and celebrate with 900 other civic and business leaders, parents, and friends. Contact Michelle Weldon, [mweldon@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org](mailto:mweldon@issaquahschoolsfoundation.org), to add your name to the invitation list.

**We're Looking for Table Captains!** Parents, we need your help to meet our goal of 100 **Nourish Every Mind** Table Captains. If you'd like to perform this fun, yet critical job, please join us at our **Table Captain Kick Off** on **Friday, March 11** from **11:30 am – 1:00 pm** at the Administration Building. You'll learn what the job entails, hear behind-the-scenes news from members of the ISD Cabinet and enjoy a light lunch on us. Please contact our Table Captain Chair, Cathia Geller, [Cathia@cathiageller.com](mailto:Cathia@cathiageller.com) for more information.

### **Academic Enrichment Grants Update**

Dedicated teachers and staff submitted 55 applications to the 2011 Academic Enrichment Grants programs. Requests ranged from literacy to leadership and demonstrated the commitment and creativity of our staff. Winning applicants will be notified later this month. Be on the lookout for congratulatory banners at your school.

### **We're Here to Help**

Could your child use extra homework help? Remind them to use the Foundation's **FREE After-School Homework Labs**. Available at every middle and high school, the Labs offer teacher assisted tutoring for students of all levels. Some teachers even offer make-up classes and tests during this time. Contact your school for its After-School Homework Club/Lab schedule.

### **Donor Dollars Making a Difference**

*"Thank you for your financial support this year as I pursued National Board Certification. Rest assured that my hard work and intense reflection will carry forward to improve student learning."*

Patti Banashak, IMS Science Teacher

Your contributions made it possible for the Foundation to contribute \$1,500 toward program fees for Ms. Banashak and 30 other teachers who achieved National Board Certification status in December. Thank you for making a difference.



# PARENT EDUCATION

## ❧❧ READING TIP ❧❧

### Reading as a family-online

Looking for a good website that teaches the whole family about reading?

Try PBS KIDS raising readers. You'll find games and tips for ways to get your family reading together at <http://pbskids.org/read>

Another great site for the young reader is: [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

Go to <http://www.issaquahptsa.org/parented/>  
for details and to print out flyers.



## PARENT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



DATE	TIME	LOCATION	CLASS	CONTACT
3/21	11:30am -1:30pm	TBD	Sammamish Plateau Parent Networking Group Mtg.	Cherry O'Neill, 425-868-2111 <a href="mailto:dwo-mci@msn.com">dwo-mci@msn.com</a>
3/21	7:00- 9:00pm	TBD	Sammamish Plateau Parent Networking Group Mtg.	Cherry O'Neill, 425-868-2111 <a href="mailto:dwo-mci@msn.com">dwo-mci@msn.com</a>

The PTSA thanks the following volunteers:

- Lynette Springborn for organizing our February Dad's Play Day!
- Kim Anderson for perfectly planning the Italian themed Staff Appreciation Lunch and the 3rd Grade Parents who contributed menu items.
- Deanne King for organizing the Birthday celebrations each month and overseeing the Golden Acorn Nominations.