



# COYOTE HOWLER

## March Events

March 6: Parent Play Day and Popcorn Friday

March 9: Science Fair  
Registration Deadline K - 4th

March 9: Spring Programs  
Registration Begins

March 10: Full Day  
Kindergarten Lottery  
Applications Due

March 11: Full Day  
Kindergarten Lottery - 1:00p

March 13: Spring Programs  
Registration Ends

Mid-March to March 31: Mixed  
Bags Fundraiser

March 17: 5th Grade Visit to  
BLMS - 9:30a

March 24: 1st Grade Concert -  
6:30p

March 26: Science Fair - 6:00p

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Cascade Ridge Families,

I hope you all had a relaxing and fun-filled mid-Winter break. As promised, February was a slow month in terms of PTSA events, but we have some of our biggest and most popular events coming up this Spring.

At the end of March, we will hold our annual Science Fair, which is an event not to be missed. Over 200 students have already signed up to participate and the caliber of these projects is always amazing! Even if you don't have a student participating, please plan to attend because Laboratory Laurie Jones and her team will be bringing in a number of exhibitors with interactive activities for kids of all ages. And back by popular demand, don't forget to try the "Science-Ade" and eat an insect! Also in March, we are bringing back our Mixed Bags fundraiser just in time for Spring Break. Be sure to read more about the bags in this edition of the Howler and check out our display in the school lobby. The two-night Talent Show will occur in late April. This is truly one of the most fun nights for the students as they showcase their many, varied talents in front of their peers. From jokes to skits to musical and dance performances, the talent is amazing and watching the kids cheer on and support each other is a highlight. Thank you Angela Nicola for chairing this event.

Finally, I wanted to put in yet another plug for joining the PTSA! Besides all of the financial and program benefits that membership provides to CRE, did you know that as a PTSA member, you qualify for special discounts and benefits throughout WA State? I've highlighted a couple of new discounts in this Howler (do your kids like Great Wolf lodge?) and encourage you to join the PTSA if you haven't yet.

Have a terrific March and as always, please contact me anytime with thoughts, feedback or ideas at [brooksann10@gmail.com](mailto:brooksann10@gmail.com) or (425) 533-3229.

Cheers,

Ann Brooks, PTSA President

## PTSA VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS

In addition to our Golden Acorn awards, we are excited to announce we gave out two new Washington State PTA awards this year to some of our dedicated volunteers who have provided exemplary service. These awards are not new to the Washington State PTA, but they are new to our school. Our Golden Acorn Nominating Committee felt that amongst our nominees, these awards were the perfect fit.

A little more about these awards:

**Outstanding Advocate** - Recognizes and honors an individual for continued and dedicated service to ALL children, and a demonstrated commitment to helping create strong policies relating to the health, welfare, safety, and education of children and youth.

**Honorary Life Membership** – An Honorary Lifetime Membership is awarded to an individual as recognition of longtime distinguished service to children and youth. The purpose of the Honorary Lifetime Membership is to honor an individual who has made significant contributions to the development and growth of PTA local unit (school) or council.

**Golden Acorn**- Recognizes the contributions of an individual that has gone above and beyond in their volunteer efforts at their local unit (school), and within the local community.

### *Congratulations to...*

**Krystl McCandlish**, the winner of the Outstanding Advocate Award. Krystl currently serves as the PTSA treasurer but she doesn't stop there. Krystl is involved in her children's classrooms, many PTSA activities, and serves at Beaver Lake Middle School and with her children's sports teams. Thank you Krystl!

**Ann Brooks**, the winner of the Honorary Life Membership Award. Ann has lead our PTSA team with dedication, hard work, diplomacy, and vision. She is always willing to jump in and help out whenever the needs arise. You've seen her in her children's classrooms, at the Science Fair, on the ski bus and helping at her children's sports activities to name just a few. Thank you Ann!

**Erinn Chapman**, a Golden Acorn winner. Erinn currently serves as VP, Volunteers for the PTSA. She is involved in many areas of the school including Book Fair, Picture Day, Popcorn Friday, and Walkathon to name just a few. She is also involved in her children's classrooms, sports activities and Girl Scouts. Thank you Erinn!

**Marci Bartholomae**, a Golden Acorn winner. Marci currently serves as VP, Programs for the PTSA, is involved with her children's classroom, numerous PTSA activities, the ski bus, and still has time to be involved with her children's sports and her church. Thank you Marci!

**Michelle Lyman**, a Golden Acorn winner. Michelle currently serves as VP, Fundraising for the PTSA. She is also involved with many school activities, helping in her children's classrooms and keeps us all up to date with the reader board in front of the school. Thank you Michelle!

Cascade Ridge has the great honor of having an abundance of outstanding volunteers. It is also a great challenge to select only a few for an award when there are so many deserving candidates. Thank you to everyone that dedicates their time and talents to making a difference in the lives of our students!

## LEARN SOMETHING NEW... SPRING PROGRAMS START SOON

Before and after school enrichment programs are just around the corner. Maybe you have a budding keyboardist or artist or even a Bruce Lee... or coding with Minecraft anyone? The spring line-up of programs offers a great-fit class for everyone! Registration – **tentatively** scheduled to open March 9 – is completed through Eastside Enrichment ([www.eastsideenrichment.org](http://www.eastsideenrichment.org)) and through TechVenture Kids ([www.techventurekids.org](http://www.techventurekids.org))... Please check the websites for further information including class descriptions, costs and age requirements.

Questions? Contact Kelly Huber [kellyahuber@aol.com](mailto:kellyahuber@aol.com) or Marci Bartholomae [kevin\\_marci@hotmail.com](mailto:kevin_marci@hotmail.com)

## SCIENCE FAIR

The Cascade Ridge 2015 Science Fair is right around the corner (March 26th from 6:00 to 8:00p)! There will be hundreds of great student experiments and many hands-on activities from salmon dissection to rockets and reptiles to DNA. We will also have hot slices of pizza to purchase, lots of sweet treats, scientific snacks and drinks. Come along to this great Cascade Ridge tradition and make it a great night with the family!

**For grades K-4, the Registration deadline is March 9<sup>th</sup>** so be sure to go online at [cascaderidgeptsa.org](http://cascaderidgeptsa.org) to register, order a colorful project display board and find all kinds of information to help you with your experiments!

**We still need volunteers to pull off this great event!** If you are able to volunteer for one of the many areas of need (set-up, judging, concessions, assistance with various activities at the Fair, tear-down) please sign-up when registering your student for the science fair or contact [sciencefair@cascaderidgeptsa.org](mailto:sciencefair@cascaderidgeptsa.org).

Lastly, we would love to have pictures of your student in action to be displayed during the Science Fair. Please submit pictures of your student working on their science fair project to [sciencefair@cascaderidgeptsa.org](mailto:sciencefair@cascaderidgeptsa.org) by March 20<sup>th</sup>. Mixed Bags

## MIXED BAGS FUNDRAISER

Cascade Ridge students will be bringing home Mixed Bags catalogs for family and friends to browse through and shop. Catalogs will be sent home with your kids during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March. 50% of all purchases will benefit our school for all catalog sales (40% for online purchases). Mixed bags are re-usable sturdy bags that are made from eco-friendly materials. The **new** kitchen and home catalog carries something fun and useful for everyone!

Keep your eye out for the catalogs as well as samples set up around the school and during the Science Fair!

Should you have any questions please contact:

Michelle Lyman ([chelle\\_lyman@yahoo.com](mailto:chelle_lyman@yahoo.com))

Khristie Tobler ([krt17@comcast.net](mailto:krt17@comcast.net))

For a sneak peek at Mixed Bags products visit:

[www.mixedbagsdesigns.com](http://www.mixedbagsdesigns.com)

## 2014 - 2015 YEARBOOK

Have you ordered your students their yearbooks for the 2014-15 school year? Can't remember? You can go online to <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/page/yearbook/verify> to see whether or not you have placed an order. If you haven't ordered one yet, visit <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org> to order one now. **The deadline for ordering is April 15th** and we do NOT order extra yearbooks. We will not be able to fulfill requests at the end of the year so please place your order to ensure that your student is not disappointed.

If you have any questions, please contact Krista Gale at [galesintheusa@gmail.com](mailto:galesintheusa@gmail.com).

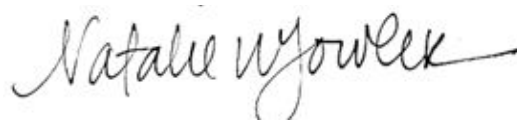
## CRE SITE COUNCIL

The PTSA would like to further educate the CRE community about what Site Council is and what they do. The "Note from Natalie" below appeared in a recent edition of the Coyote Connection and explains the purpose of Site Council. It includes an e-mail address for anyone to voice concerns, suggestions and feedback for Site Council. If you didn't have an opportunity to read this note previously please take a moment to read the note below.

**What is Site Council and what do they do?** If this is a question you have ever asked yourself or others, keep reading! Site Council is a group comprised of parents, staff members and the principal. The purpose of Site Council is to ensure our students' success by helping advance the District mission through collaborative planning, communications and decision-making. Specifically, site councils are intended to foster continuous improvement of the school's educational program, blend the values and perspectives of the community, staff, and students in school-wide decisions, and foster effective communication among all stakeholders in the school.

Sometimes decisions are made at Cascade Ridge that community members might wonder about or question. Site Council is a great avenue for community members to direct questions, provide feedback and have their concerns heard. Emails can be sent to [sitecouncil@cascaderidgeptsa.org](mailto:sitecouncil@cascaderidgeptsa.org). Both verbal and written correspondence will be brought to the next CA Site Council meeting for discussion and consideration. Site Council generally meets around five times a school year.

In addition, we have updated our school website's Site Council section (found under About Cascade Ridge) to provide more information, including posting the meeting minutes. We will be looking for new community members to join Site Council next school year so if you are interested in serving, please send an email to the email address above and stay tuned for more information regarding Site Council in upcoming Coyote Connections and the PTSA Howler.



## PTSA MEMBER BENEFITS

Did you know that by joining the PTSA, you are eligible for special pricing and discounts at events and attractions in Washington State? If you haven't yet joined this year, you can still so by [clicking here](#).

Here are a just two new benefits available ONLY to PTSA members:

### **PTA MEMBERS RECEIVE 20% OFF AT GREAT WOLF LODGE**

PTA members save 20% off best available rates at Great Wolf Lodge. Valid through December 30, 2015. For reservations, visit [greatwolf.com](http://greatwolf.com) or call 866.925.WOLF (9653). Use corporate code: WSPTA984A20. Valid PTA membership card required at check-in. For more information, [click here](#).

### **CIRQUE DU SOLEIL**

Turn your world DOWN side UP as Cirque du Soleil invites you to delve into a world of curiosity. Come and find out how seeing is disbelieving: the world of KURIOS - Cabinet of Curiosities. After two long years, Cirque has returned and is now playing under the iconic blue and yellow Big Top at King County's Marymoor Park in Redmond. KURIOS - Cabinet of Curiosities is an ingenious blend of unusual curiosity acts and stunning acrobatic prowess from Cirque du Soleil. Let KURIOS show you that anything is possible through the power of imagination. Great seats are available and by using [this link](#), you can get special pricing on Family Pack tickets! Just choose a date, then select the number of tickets you would like (3 or more to get the pricing), and you'll see the pricing appear with the designation "F4P". That tells you that you have the discounted pricing showing. No promo code is needed.

## ONLINE DIRECTORY

We are excited to announce that you can now search by teacher from our online directory. Simply type in all or part of a teacher's name and you will get the complete list of students and parent email addresses for that classroom. This can be helpful for users to send out birthday invites and other class-wide emails.

To access the online directory, [click here](#) or login to [cascaderidgeptsa.org](http://cascaderidgeptsa.org) and select the "directory" icon from the left navigation menu. Remember that you must be a PTSA member and an authorized website user to access the online directory! PTSA memberships can still be purchased by [clicking here](#).

## BOX TOPS RESULTS

It was really close, BUT...congratulations to **Mrs. Springborn's 4th grade class!** **They collected and turned in 211 Box Tops to win the coveted Yo Plateau class party!** In 2nd place was Mrs. Fritsch's class, with 201! 3rd place was Ms. Perry's class with 198!

Thank you to all the students and parents who took the time to find, clip and tape or paste the Box Tops onto the collection sheets. You turned in over 2,500 Box Tops, which translates to over \$250 towards our school and PTSA programs!

A huge thanks to ALL the Box Top Classroom Reps who helped calculate class Box Top Totals:

Elana Clayton, Kim Mathew, Nancy Chin, Ilavelan Kanniappan, Shannon Romanski, Simona Saint, Kanika Arora, Kerri Shek, Priva Talreja, Shari Peran, Natalie Wilcox, Angela Fischer, Stefanie Magnuson, Amy Ferng, Marnie Hutchings, Erica Fewel, Katy O'Brien, Rebecca Henle, Kim Vivash, Cyndi Sears, Julie Clark, Alisa Chan. Thank you to Shalini Sivakumar and Sandhya Kumar for collecting Box Tops from the school foyer.

Keep on clipping those Box Tops! Our next formal collection will not be until the Fall of 2015, but you can always put Box Tops in the PTSA VP of Fundraising box in the school's main office.



## GEOGRAPHY BEE RESULTS

It was a fun night spent spanning the globe at this year's Geography Bee! Thank you to the twenty-three 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders who participated in the event! The questions reached all corners of the map with the winning answer coming from Arnav Theppasandra who correctly answered questions like - 'Warriors in the local Samburu community work to protect lions south of Lake Turkana in which African country?' Nathan Evans was a close runner-up with only ONE point separating the two contestants.

Many thanks to our PTSA volunteers Nigar Suleman, Marci Batholomae, Ann Brooks, Kim Evans, Vasantha Karuppusamy, Iavelan Kanniappan, Yun Li and Jun Zhao.

If you're wondering what the correct answer is... Kenya!



## TALENT SHOW

Got Talent? So you think you can dance, sing, tell jokes, juggle, play the piano, violin or have the next rock band to hit it big? Here's your chance to share your talent. The CASCADE RIDGE PTSA Proudly Presents the 4th Annual TALENT SHOW! Mark your calendars for two entertaining evenings: **Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**. Rehearsals for all acts will be held on **April 16 and 17**. Whether you are performing or cheering the talent on, you won't want to miss these amazing shows! Stay tuned for registration information. Start preparing your acts – Ready, Set, Action!

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

We are excited to announce that the PTSA at Cascade Ridge has created yet another way for you to get, and stay, connected with your school. For all of you who use Facebook as a communication tool, please 'Like' our new [Cascade Ridge Elementary PTSA](#) page and invite your CRE friends to 'Like' us too! The PTSA will use Facebook to keep you informed of upcoming school and PTSA events, Spirit Days, late-breaking news and anything else relevant to our school community. Please know that we will NOT post pictures of you or your children without your explicit permission.

## PARENT EDUCATION CORNER

Spring is coming...or maybe it's even arrived early based on our lack of snow this year!

Here are a few things that come along with spring:

March Madness basketball cookies that look EASY and cute: <http://www.parents.com/recipes/familyrecipes/snacks/treat-of-the-month/?page=2#page=2>

As our kids get ready to "graduate" to the next grade, you might be considering a cell phone. Here is a great article about it:

[https://www.yahoo.com/parenting/the-problem-with-teens-and-instagram-109530386647.html?fb\\_ref=Default](https://www.yahoo.com/parenting/the-problem-with-teens-and-instagram-109530386647.html?fb_ref=Default)

Thinking spring? Thinking birds & Bees? A few months ago I was able to see Amy Lang speak at Discovery Elementary. Here is a list of her upcoming classes in the area. They are definitely worth your time. There's even one for dads only! <http://birdsandbeesandkids.com/learn/index.html>

Have you heard of Mamacon? Sorry dads, but this is a 2 day conference just for moms. I had the chance to go to a mini-Mamacon last year and really got a lot out of it. Grab a friend (or several) and check it out: <http://mamacon.net/>

## MARCH THANK-YOU'S!

The rain didn't dampen the enjoyment of hot popcorn! Thank you Michelle Lyman, Catherine Cline, Jaime Foreman, Lorie Piper and Jen Belding.

Thank you Angela Fischer for all the time and effort you put into making the Staff Appreciation luncheons a success!

Thank you to our PTSA Volunteer Awards Committee: Jackie Mueller, Rajeev Goel and Jaime Foreman.

We all have something to think about with Race To Nowhere. Thank you to Jen Belding for putting together a great Parent Education Night.

Thank you Khristie Tobler for chairing our 2nd Box Top collection this Winter. CRE has earned almost \$1,000 this school year due to these efforts!

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Do you have a student or know of a neighbor who will be turning 5 years old by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015? Please mark your calendars and tell your neighbors that it is time to register for Kindergarten for the 2015-2016 school year!

Registration packets are available in the school office.

- March 4<sup>th</sup> – Registration from 1:30pm – 6:00pm
- March 10<sup>th</sup> – To be included in FDK lottery all registration forms due by 4:00pm
- March 11<sup>th</sup> – FDK lottery at 1:00pm in the library

Please visit our district website for registration information:

<http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/programs/kindergarten>

## COME OUT AND PLAY!

Join your student(s) on the playground throughout the school year! On the first Friday of each month, we invite all Dads (Moms, grandparents or other special guests too) to join us on the playground during recess. Visitors sign in at the front office, get a visitor's badge and then join your student outside for recess! Please remember to get your Washington State Patrol Form filled out. This must be turned in before you can attend a play date! Forms can be found in the office or online on the school website under Quick Links. A new one needs to be filled out every year.

Dates are...

**March 6**

April 3

May 1

June 5

## CALENDAR UPDATE

In an effort to ensure the school-year calendar is always current, we will not be printing it in the monthly Howler. You can always find the most up to date information on the PTSA Web site at: <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/Event/MonthCalendar>