



COYOTE

April Events

April 7th: Parent Play Day;
Coyote Wear; Popcorn Friday

April 10th - 14th: No School -
Spring Break

April 20th: Book Swap

April 20th: Festival of Cultures
at 6:00p

April 21st: Talk with Tia at
8:30a

April 21st: General
Membership Meeting; Vote on
Board at 9:00a

April 25th: Parent Ed -
Fostering Resilience in Kids at
7:00p

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Spring has arrived and hopefully spring weather won't be far behind. Before we head into spring break, please make sure you have your calendars marked for the upcoming fun at Cascade Ridge!

On April 20th, we will be celebrating different cultures at Festival of Cultures. This is a great family event. Please look for more information in the Howler for ways you can help make this event a success.

April 20th is also our Book Swap at school. This is a great way to refresh your children's home library before Spring Break. Be on the lookout for more information!

On April 21st we will have our third general membership meeting following Talk with Tia at 8:30am in the Café. This is an important meeting where we will vote in our executive board for next year. We look forward to seeing you there!

Speaking of our new executive board, thank you to our Nominating Committee – Sandy McNees, Angela Fischer, Ripal Shah, Dafna Tarlowe, Michelle Lyman and Paula Koransky. Thank you for your tireless work putting together a great slate of officers for next year!

Enjoy your Spring Break! Whether it is a staycation or traveling near or far, enjoy time with your family.

Jaime Foreman

PTSA President

BOOK SWAP

One Day Only: April 20th

Do you have plans to do a little “spring cleaning” over the break? As part of our 2017 Earth Week celebration, the Book Swap is back! Be sure to save any books that need a new home. Students are invited to bring gently used books to SWAP for “new to you” books & SHARE the love of reading with other kids.



- Books will be collected **BEFORE SCHOOL on Thursday, April 20**. Students will return to choose their “new to you” books during 2nd recess.
- Students are invited to bring **up to 10 books to trade**. K-6th grade reading level only please, no board books.
- Do you have extras to share? After the Swap, extra books will be offered to teachers to build classroom libraries & donated to local charities.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help with book collection before school, sorting, set up and clean up. Check out SignUp.com to sign up!

<http://signup.com/go/pTJMAk>

Questions? Contact Michele Brady at brady1093@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

We would like to recognize Reham Shehata!

Reham has been a part of the Cascade Ridge community since 2015. She has been the force behind the CRE Spelling Bees, and we appreciate the passion and the trademark flair that she brings to this event. She is now busy pulling together the Festival of Cultures, coming up later this month. Reham has also served as one of our amazing Math Club coaches, sharing her passion for Math with budding CRE mathletes before school on Wednesdays, and is a ready volunteer in her children’s classrooms.



THANK YOU!

March has been a month of academic PTSA events.

Thankzzzzzz to Reham Shehata for chairing the Spelling Bee earlier this month. The program created a buzz of excitement around the school, and was well attended at all age levels. We appreciate your work making it fun and on track with all the requirements of the National Scripps Spelling Bee. A shout out to your team of pronouncers, judges and coordinators - **Aidan Neufeld, Ajita Krishnan, Anamika Malhotra, Andy Wong, Bhavani Arutla, Erich Smick, Gigi Liu, Haylie Hunt, Jenna Badran, Kathy Keegan, Krystl McCandlish, Leticia Watson, Macy Scott, Mikey Wilson, Naveen Vig, Nermeen Youssef, Noor Badran, Pankaj Kakkar, Raj Mandadi, Ramya Krishna, Richa Verma, Rui Zhu, Sandhya Kumar, Shalini Sivakumar, Shilpa Tiwari, Tia Kleinkopf, Ying Zheng and Yusuf Badran.**

A HUGE thanks to **Sandhya Kumar** for coordinating another top-notch Science Fair on March 31. Pulling it all together is a colossal responsibility, and we are so very appreciative your tireless dedication, generous spirit and enthusiastic leadership in creating such a wonderful learning experience for our children.

Hats off to your team of volunteers, especially **Carol Folkman** and **Kerri Shek** who coordinated the parent judges.

It is our endeavor to thank and mention by name all our hardworking volunteers every month. Sometimes we do not have all names of the volunteers who help out or might inadvertently omit to mention some volunteers. Please do let us know if and we'll make it right in the newsletter next month!

SPRING AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

We are excited to present a couple of new classes for Cascade Ridge this spring. Techventure Kids will offer a circuits class for grades 3-5. Check them out at www.TechVentureKids.org today. Space is limited so register soon! We are also working with Young Rembrandts to bring in a couple of art classes. Details are in the works so visit www.cascaderidgeptsa.org soon to see a flyer.

SPELLING BEE RECAP

The second week of March was a whirlwind of excitement as over 130 Cascade Ridge students took center stage and brilliantly spelled words like prodigious and arduous. We are so proud of each one of you!

Special Congratulations to the following spellers:

Kindergarten Winning word: "bother" 1 st – Leo Zhou 2 nd – Jan Lorenz Bartminn 3 rd – Nirvan Pandey	1st Grade Winning word: "hooves" 1 st – Stephan Yang 2 nd – Kyan Gatewood 3 rd – Amatra Jagannathan 3 rd – Maddux Middleton	2nd Grade Winning word: "demolish" 1 st – Ethan Nguyen 2 nd – Yashveer Brar 3 rd – Shea Staley
3rd Grade Winning word: "servitude" 1 st – Naina Rajkhowa 2 nd – Anarghya Poliseti 3 rd – Ishita Vig	4th Grade Winning word: "prodigious" 1 st – Adhvay Naidu 2 nd – Winter Chiu 3 rd – Ethan Go	5th Grade Winning word: "distribute" 1 st – Haolin Cong 2 nd – Nakula Prabakaran 3 rd – Vasudha Ravivarma

Many many thanks to our wonderful volunteers during the 6th Annual Spelling Bee:

Ying Zheng, Anamika Malhotra, Rui Zhu, Pankaj Kakkar, Shilpa Tiwari, Ramya Krishna, Shalini Sivakumar, Bhavani Arutla, Naveen Vig, Sandhya Kumar, Richa Verma, Raj Mandadi, Gigi Liu, and Nermeen Youssef.

In addition, we'd like to thank our elementary, middle and high school student helpers - Yusuf Badran, Noor Badran, Jenna Badran, Ishan Vig, Mikey Wilson, Andy Wong, Aidan Neufeld, Haylie Hunt, & Macy Scott.

A special thanks to the pronouncers - Erich Smick, Kathy Keegan, Leticia Watson, Ajita Krishnan, Krystl McCandlish, and Tia Kleinkopf.

And thank you to Shawna & Kevin Folkman as well as all the parents who helped during the event evenings.

Reham Shehata

Spelling Bee Chair 2017

PARENT ED CORNER

Happy Spring, families! There are a few events coming up in the next month for you to check out. Another really exciting feature that Parentwiser has added to its website is the ability to watch some workshops online! Right now there are two but I know they intend to add more. Be sure to check it out and check back often: <http://parentwiser.org/watch-online>

Coming up on April 25th at 7PM:

Jessica Lahey

The Gift of Failure: Fostering Intrinsic Motivation and Resilience in Kids

What's the best way to motivate students to own their education, learn deeply and durably, and develop resilience? Research has shown that the key to all these things is intrinsic motivation, or motivation that comes from within. Jessica Lahey summarizes the current research on autonomy-supportive parenting and teaching, competence, rewards, praise, and failure. Finally, she explains how parents and educators can give students the support and encouragement they need in order to stay motivated over the long term.

Free for PTA/PTSA members of Issaquah Schools. For non-members, requested donation of \$20 at the door. Register by going online at parentwiser.org.

Issaquah High School: 700 2nd Avenue SE Issaquah, WA 98027

April 29th at 11:30AM:

Healthy Youth Initiative of the Issaquah Schools Foundation

Register

Students, parents, teachers, any community members are invited to participate in the 4th annual discussion on mental **health and substance abuse challenges facing community youth**. Various keynote speakers and breakout sessions, conversations, and food provided for adults and students at each event.

Register at <http://www.healthyyouthinitiative.org>

Issaquah High School, 700 2nd Ave SE, Issaquah, WA 98027

PTSA VOLUNTEER AWARDS

PTSA service awards are given every year to outstanding volunteers for their service to our school and community. These awards recognize the contributions individuals have made at Cascade Ridge Elementary and within our local community. Congratulations to this year's winners! We acknowledge and appreciate your commitment to Cascade Ridge and our community!

- Ajita Gopikrishnan – Golden Acorn
- Angela Fischer – Outstanding Advocate
- Dafna Tarlowe – Golden Acorn
- Krystl McCandlish – Lifetime Achievement
- Melissa Bortnick – Golden Acorn

These deserving volunteers will be honored at a district-wide reception in April. When you see these deserving recipients, please give them a pat on the back and thank them for all of their hard work on behalf of our school and community – and look for their names on the Golden Acorn plaque displayed in the front hall of our school.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Hosted by Karate West in Issaquah!

Upcoming dates: 4/7, 5/12, 6/2

Time: 6:30pm – 9:30pm at Karate West Issaquah

Tickets are \$35 per child and include 3-hours of non-stop fun and pizza dinner. All proceeds benefit Cascade Ridge PTSA.

Don't let your child miss out on Karate West's Parents' Night Out event. Kids ages 6-11 will enjoy a fun-filled night of the coolest karate games while parents get a night to themselves. No martial arts experience necessary. Online pre-registration required.

To register visit: karatewest.com.

Kids have a blast – Parents get a night out – Proceeds donated back to Cascade Ridge PTSA!

YOUR PTSA DOLLARS AT WORK

Thanks to your amazing PTSA contributions, our new playground equipment is finally installed! The students THANK YOU for supporting PTSA.



In February, through our Coyote Grants for teachers, you helped fund new seating options for Ms. Lee's kindergarten class. Ms. Lee's class THANKS YOU!

Dear Cascade Ridge PTSA,

Thank you so much for supporting my class through the Coyote Grant. My little learners are so excited for the new seating options (and so am I). This will allow them to have more choice in the classroom and will better meet their individual needs. With the grant we were able to get 2 rockers, 3 stability disks, and 4 stability balls. I am looking forward to seeing the students thrive with the resources you have helped provide. I really appreciate your generosity! Thanks Again.

-Mackenzie Lee

MATH CLUB

The Math Club Team is very proud to share that Cascade Ridge Math club was awarded **5th place** in the Math is Cool competition, held in Des Moines on March 10. The 5 teams of our Math Club competed against 69 teams from 22 schools. Because of their excellent performance, Cascade Ridge Elementary has been invited to compete at the Masters level of Math is Cool.

The 5th place was a team effort and we are very proud of all our students who contributed to the success.

Congratulations to Truman Lau, Steve Ling, Rayn Ramzi, Claire Yang, Bailing Hou, Nina Shetty, Vasudha Ravivarma, Varun Jayanth, Sreenija Stanam, Spencer Mundel, Shrihun Sankepally, Ronak Kothari, Aran Pandey, Navya Challa, Naveen Challa, Nakula Prabakaran, Li Xie, Haolin Cong, Fiona Li, Emma Ferng. Great work! We are very proud of you!!

A special mention for individual high scores achieved by:

Ronak Kothari for highest for Overall Individual Contest

Nina Shetty for 100% in Mental Math

Emma Ferng and **Vasudha Ravivarma** for 100% in the Q1-Q30 section

For all their hard work and dedication to the Math Club, a huge thanks to the 5th grade coaches:

Veena Rao

Jyot Kumar

Reham Shehata

Michelle Yip

In addition to the weekly classes that started in October, the coaches got the teams together over the weekends to prepare the students for the contest. Thank you coaches for all your time and for sharing your passion.

The Math Club is coordinated by Kanika Arora. Thanks Kanika, for keeping us organized and working out all logistics so we can participate in large numbers. Also, for Math Club an all-inclusive program where all kids are welcome to take their love for Math to the next level.

Thanks to our Principal Mrs. Kleinkopf for her support and encouragement!

Last but not the least, a big thanks to all the parents who helped out with the driving, proctoring and scoring and for encouraging the kids.

5th Grade also participated in the Washington State Mathematics Championship in Blaine and enjoyed the experience.

They are now looking forward to the Seattle Math Olympiad on April 29. We wish our teams the very best!



PTSA BOARD NOMINATIONS

The 2017 Cascade Ridge Nominating Committee proudly submits the following slate of nominees to the general membership for election to the 2017-2018 PTSA Executive Board:

President	Jaime Foreman
Executive Vice President	Sandy McNees
Treasurer	Lisa Righetti
Secretary	AJ Henderson
VP of Fundraising	Angela Fischer and Holly Briscoe
VP of Communications	Swati Jain
VP of Programs	Darlene Baker and Viji Vasu
VP of Community Relations	Paula Koransky
VP of Volunteers	Stephanie Middleton

Please join us at our next General Membership meeting on Friday, April 21st at 8:30am in the Coyote Café, when we will elect the 2017-2018 PTSA Executive Board. Also, thank you to this year's PTSA nominating committee: Sandy McNees, Angela Fischer, Dafna Tarlowe, Michelle Lyman, Ripal Shah, and Paula Koransky.

COME OUT AND PLAY!

Don't forget to 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. The kids love to see their loved ones during the school day. 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. Upcoming dates are...

Upcoming dates are...

April 7th

May 5th

June 2nd

CASCADE RIDGE PTSA: WE'RE ONLINE, ALL THE TIME!

Did you know you can have school and PTSA events automatically added and updated into your calendar app of choice? Checkout the details at: <http://cascaderidgeptsa.org/Event/ViewElsewhere> (you'll need to be logged into your PTSA account.)

Another way to stay connected: "Like" us on [Facebook](#)! Get the most up to date information on all upcoming school and PTSA events, Spirit Days, late-breaking news and everything else relevant to our school community right in your news feed. If you like our page already but aren't seeing our news on your feed, make sure to check our page every Monday for new posts. Don't forget to tell your Cascade Ridge friends to like us too!



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>



Festival of Cultures

COMING April 20th!



Fill in a Post Card!

Hello Cascade Ridge Students, Parents & Staff!

The Festival of Cultures is fast approaching... Tell us more about your culture in preparation of this fun event!

- 1. Find the display board near the office.**
- 2. Pick a blank post card & fill it with exciting information about your heritage country. If you want to attach your picture too, go ahead!**
- 3. Return it to the display board ASAP.**
- 4. We will hang the post cards all around the school!**

The Festival of Cultures will take place on April 20th! There will be international displays, food, games, entertainment and much more!

We have representatives from China, Egypt, Finland, Germany, India, Japan & The Netherlands!

Is your country not represented yet? Email us!

FestivalOfCultures@cascaderidgepta.org