

Buzzin' Around Madrona



November & December 2011 

Dear Parents,

I hope this finds you enjoying our beautiful fall weather and breathing a sigh of relief that your child is settling into school and life is moving forward! This last month has been an exciting month at Madrona. We held our annual jog-a-thon in October, and kicked off our PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) program for all students. There are many rewards to be given out to students who choose to be safe, be respectful, and be responsible every day at school.

Volunteers have been flowing in helping us to provide a solid program of learning for our students. Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to volunteer in some way at our school this month! We hope to see even more of you next month!

Attendance

It is the goal of No Child Left Behind to have all students attending the school year at least 92% of the year. This translates to missing no more than fourteen days over the whole school year. Tardiness or students who leave early can also be considered

absent for a half day if more than 50% of the day is missed. Overall our attendance is great and our kids have the optimum opportunity to benefit from our school programs with such good attendance! Way to go parents!

Be aware that frequent tardiness can also severely impact a student's school success. Most teachers begin the day by reviewing the day's events and by helping students to know about any special events that will be occurring that day. This sets the tone for the day in the classroom. Often teachers begin teaching in the area of reading. This is because reading is one of the most difficult skills to obtain, and we devote a great deal of learning time to helping students become successful readers. Students who are frequently tardy or leave early often miss both the opening of class, instruction in reading, and explanations regarding homework. This has a very negative impact on these students. Many of the students will experience set backs in their academic progress due to tardiness or leaving early.

It is important that parents recognize the importance of getting their child(ren) to school on time and avoid leaving early. We are here to help, so if we can be of assistance with a chronic attendance problem of any sort, please let us know. We want to partner with you to help your child be more successful.

November Events



November 2 – Hearing screening for K, 1 & 3 and referrals for grades 2, 4, 5

November 4 – Jog-a-thon winner’s special lunch with Mrs. Van Brunt

November 10 - Honoring our Veteran’s Ceremony 7:45 am in the gym.

November 10-PTO Meeting 2:10 in the library

November 11 – **No School** – Veteran’s Day

November 17 – Parent Holiday lunch at appropriate student lunch times

November 17 – Site Council Meeting 2:10pm in the library

November 18 – Pride Day Assembly 1:00pm in the gym

November 21 – **No School** – Furlough Day

November 22 – **No School** - Furlough Day

November 23 – **No School** – Clerical Day

November 24 – **No School** – Thanksgiving

November 25 – **No School** – Vacation Day

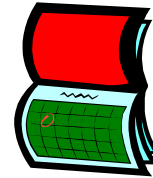
Lunch Money



Parents, please remember to put your child’s lunch money in an envelope with his/her name and classroom teacher on it! There is a self pay station set up in the cafeteria with envelopes, etc. if you would like to come in and pay in person.

You can also prepay lunches on line by going to our public website at www.threerivers.k12.or.us Select Madrona from the list of “Schools”. On the left side, select “Food Service Information” and then select “Mealtime Online Account”. Thanks for keeping your child’s account current.

“Tentative” December Events



Dec. 1 – PBIS special assembly – Yo-Yo presentation

Dec. 1 – End of first Trimester

Dec. 2 – No School – Clerical Day

Dec. 5 – Dental prevention program for grades 1, 2, 3

Dec. 8 – PTO meeting 2:20pm in the library

Dec. 14 – Parent/Student Holiday lunch in the cafeteria at appropriate student lunch times

Dec. 15 – Winter Program – K-4th grades – 6:00pm in the gym

Dec. 15 – Site Council in Library 2:10 pm in the library

Dec. 16 – Pride Assembly 10:00am in the gym

Dec. 16 – Class Parties 1:00pm

Dec. 19–**Dec. 30**– No School- Winter Break

Jan. 2 – No School

School Resumes on January 3rd, 2012.

There could be changes in dates, as well as additional upcoming events. We will keep you posted. Thanks!

Free Meals!

Breakfast is **FREE** every day for **EVERY STUDENT!** This year we must enter student numbers to re-qualify for our breakfast grant, but there is still no cost. We offer a selection of nutritious, healthy, hot or cold meals, including milk, and fresh fruit. Please plan for your child to take advantage of this.

P.T.O. NEWS

Our jog-a thon was a success. We raised about \$4,800! Students earned a variety of fun prizes including cash, extra recess time, and lunch with Mrs. Van Brunt. Our top collector was Areana Harris in Ms. Goodin's class. She won \$50.00 cash, in addition to many other prizes, and lunch with Mrs. Van Brunt! Congratulations Areana! Mrs. Brucher's class was the top selling class and will have an ice cream party on Friday, November 4th. We also had two students who collected \$200.00. They were Kira Johnson in Mrs. Strangis' class and Troy Johnson in Mrs. Fisher's class. They were also awarded many great prizes and get to enjoy lunch with Mrs. Van Brunt.

Our next fundraiser is candle sales. Information will be coming home shortly.

On our Pride Days, usually the last Friday of each month, kids wearing their school colors receive a free bag of popcorn. They can simply wear black and yellow or they can purchase a Madrona tee shirt for \$9.00. We also have adult tee shirts for \$11.00 or hooded sweat shirts for \$20.00 for both youth and adult sizes. They are nice quality shirts.

Lost and Found

Please mark all of your child's sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, jackets, backpacks, lunch pails, etc. with a name. If a name is found on an item, we can promptly return it to the owner, so please, please make sure you mark those clothes. Also, remember to check periodically in our lost and found if you think your child has left something here. It is located on the wall to the right as you enter the cafeteria. The Lost and Found will also be out at conference time.

State Assessment Tests



Each year all third, fourth and fifth grade students are assessed in both reading and math achievement. At some grade levels, writing or science may also be assessed. These assessments are aligned with the state learning objectives for each grade level in these areas. These assessments are one of the indicators that a student has successfully learned the skills needed in that subject area. Our students will begin those assessments in November. Our students work hard along with our teaching staff to achieve those goals. You can support good learning success by making sure your child is doing their homework each week and that he or she is reading at home on a regular basis. Good attendance, reasonable bed times, eating a nutritious breakfast, and your interest in what is happening at school are all ways you can help your child to achieve his or her highest potential. Talk to your child each day about what they like in school, what is difficult and who they enjoy as their friends at school. Just showing interest reminds your child that you value them and their school experience! Last year our students showed excellent gains towards meeting and even exceeding statewide learning goals. This year, we hope to continue that success with your help! Thanks for being our partners in this amazing learning journey!

Positive Behavior Intervention & Support

PBIS is a program we implemented last year to support good student behavior at school. The hope is that with students making better behavior choices throughout their day, less time is lost from instruction, thus everyone achieves more while at school. If we help kids learn to alter their behavior and make good choices, they will benefit. Using positive feedback, setting expectations and teaching the expectations to kids on a daily basis, helps students grow more rapidly. We have begun a school wide reward system to help acknowledge students who are making good choices at school and on the bus.

Students earn the tickets by following rules and procedures on the bus and at school. Adults will hand the tickets out to let kids know when they are meeting the expectations. The tickets will be turned in and used in monthly and trimester drawings. Students whose names are drawn will be eligible for small privileges and sometimes goodies like Madrona T-shirts, water bottles, special school supplies, or other things of that nature. Privileges can be small like having the opportunity to help somewhere at school, to attend a special event, or to do a special project in art. Kids love to have those privileges and will work hard for the recognition and opportunity to do something different at school.

Please encourage your student to work hard at school each day by following our three main rules of being safe, respectful and responsible. Those three rules cover just about anything that we do at school. You can always ask when talking to your child about his or her behavior, Was it safe to do at school? Was it respectful to others? Was the child's action responsible and aimed at

learning? Your discussion around behavior choices can really help your child to know that you take their education at Madrona seriously.

Another way to involve and support students in positive behavior choices will be attendance at trimester assemblies with special fun themes. These special 30 minute assemblies will be to thank kids who have managed their behavior at school well for the trimester. Students who demonstrate poor choice making at school or on the bus, will not have the privilege of attending the extra fun PBIS events. Students with a total of 6 or more slips to the Ed lab for poor behavior in either the classroom or on the playground will not attend the assembly. Students with more than one office behavior referral or more than one bus citation during the trimester will also lose the privilege of attending the assembly. Thank you parents for supporting our students by talking to them about this program!

Education of All Disabled Children/Young Adults

Public law 105.17 known as I.D.E.A. (Individualized Disability Education Act) requires that school districts provide a free and appropriate education to all disabled children/young adults ages 0 to 21.

Three Rivers School District requests the identification of any disabled children/young adults between the ages of 0 to 21, who are not enrolled or currently being served by the district schools.

If you know of any disabled children/young adults between the ages of 0 to 21 who are not receiving educational services, please call the Special Education Department of the Three Rivers School District. The phone number is 862-3111.



No Child Left Behind

Our school receives federal funds for Title One programs that are part of the No Child Left Behind Act. Under this law, you have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s). If you request this information, the district will provide you with this information in a timely manner. You have the right to request the following information:

- If the teacher has met state licensing requirements for the grade level and subjects in which the teacher is providing instruction
- If the teacher is teaching under an emergency status for which state licensing requirements have been waived
- The type of college degree major of the teacher and the field of discipline for any graduate degrees and certificates
- If your child is receiving Title One services from paraprofessionals and if so, his/her qualifications

If you would like this information, please contact Madrona Elementary School.

VERY IMPORTANT WEATHER INFORMATION

Winter is upon us, and it's time to advise our parents what to do in case of adverse weather conditions. **It is important that you follow the steps below in the event of a delayed start or school closure. Please start with step one. It is the fastest, most effective way for us to reach every parent.**

1. Make sure your phone numbers and email addresses are up to date with the school. We will use our new "Synrevoice" communication system to notify all parents via phone and/or email of delayed starts or school closures. Synrevoice will start calling at about 5:30am. **You must say "Hello" in order to activate the message.** If you do not receive a phone call or email, you might want to consider checking with the office to verify your phone numbers and email addresses are correct. If you followed all of these steps, and you did not receive a phone call or email, proceed to step 2.
2. Access our website at www.threerivers.k12.or.us as early as 5:30am to find out if there is a delayed start or school closure. If you don't have internet service, proceed to step 3.
3. All of our local radio and television stations start making announcements as soon as the school district notifies them of a delayed start or school closure. The local radio stations are as follows:

KAJO	1270 AM	476-6608
		476-5256
KLDR	98.3 FM	474-7292
KRWQ	99 FM	474-3026

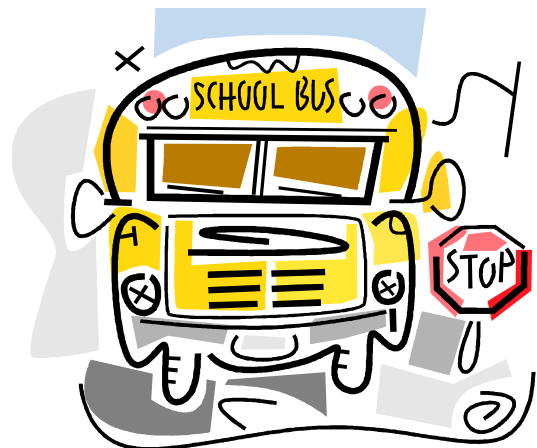
KRRM	94.7 FM	479-6497
KBOY	95.7 FM	779-2070

Our local T.V. stations are:

KOBI	Channel 5
KDRV	Channel 12
KTVL	Channel 10

4. **Contact the school only as a last resort.** First of all, there may not be anyone at the school office in the event of a school closure. Secondly, if there is any staff at school, no one arrives until 7:00am. You can find out earlier what the status is by using one of the previous steps. Finally, it may be difficult to get through to the school as the lines may be busy handling other calls. There are only two phone lines available.

Sometimes we are able to continue school on time when the weather is bad, but it is not safe for the buses to travel some routes. In that event, attached is a list of straight line routes that buses will use to pick up students. Please post it somewhere handy.



**2011/2012
ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS
Straight Line Routes For:
Madrona Elementary School**

In the event of adverse weather conditions, parents are advised to tune in to Radio Stations KRWQ, KAJQ, KLDR, KBOY, and TV Stations KOBI (5), KDRV (12), KTVL (10), or the Three Rivers School District Web Page for information school bus schedules.

Sometimes weather conditions leave some roads blocked or unsafe to travel but school is still being held. Under these circumstances "straight line routes" will be run. This is the information you will get on the web page or radio/TV stations.

When straight line routes are run, the roads affected are listed below. If you live on one of the roads that the buses cannot travel, you may bring your student to the nearest intersection of the main road traveled. This will also be the stop for the afternoon drop off.

ROUTE#	STREET NAME
B-07	Missouri Flat, Kubli Road, Slagle Creek, Humbug (Right & Left Fork), Scott Drive
B-08	Grays Creek, Copper Drive, Past Hidden Valley HS on Murphy Creek
B-09	All roads will be traveled
B-10	All roads will be traveled
B-11	Moonbeam
B-12	Weatherbee, Keen Road, Bull Creek, Turtle Lane, Cheney Creek Road