

# Buzzin' Around Madrona



November & December 2009



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 emphasized living free of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco and enjoyed a wonderful celebration of harvest with our PTO's Family Fun Night!

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

Our school attendance rate has started out with a current rate of 95% of students attending school for September and October. This is a strong way to start the school year for our children! 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. Even

with the flu making its rounds, most of our students have had very good attendance. 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.

# P.T.O. NEWS

Our jog-a thon was a success. We raised over \$6,500! This is down from last year, but was expected due to our current economics. Students earned a variety of fun prizes including school pencil bags, extra recess time, school lanyards, water bottles, movie money, gift certificates for books, and even limo rides and ice cream at Dairy Queen!

Our PTO and school staff also hosted our Family Fun Night on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Many students and their families attended. There were many fun, free activities such as pumpkin rolling, face painting, a photo booth, and booths to paint. We also had a jump house going. Inside the cafeteria, various snack food items were available for sale. Cold drinks were also available for purchase. It was a fun night for children and for those who worked. Thanks to everyone who volunteered in some way to make this a memorable evening for our students. A special thanks to Hidden Valley students and Lincoln Savage and College Dreamers. We couldn't put this on without your help!

Our next PTO fund raiser starts in November. It is a candle sale. Candles are a perfect gift for the holiday season. Consider allowing your child to try this sale to support our school. Information will go out soon. The sale begins November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Santa Secret Shop is a fun event that allows our students to shop for their family members safely while at school. Most of the items are very reasonably priced, making it affordable for most families. This will happen December 9-10.

## Lost and Found



**Please mark all of your child's sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, jackets, etc. with a name.** We have so many nice clothes without names on them...it really is a shame. All currently stored items will be out for conferences, so please come and look for missing items! We will donate all items not claimed on December 18<sup>th</sup> 2009 to local charities.

## Adverse Weather Information

Attached is a flyer explaining what to do in the event of adverse weather. The school buses may not be able to use their normal routes, and this flyer also lists by bus number what the alternate routes will be. **Please keep this flyer handy for weather emergencies.**

## 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.



Madrona will be accepting donations of new toys for the “Toys for Tots” toy drive starting in November.

District wide last year, we collected an outstanding **330** new toys, which was the second highest donation total in the Rogue Valley!

We are proud to be a part of this campaign which benefits needy families from Wolf Creek, Grants Pass, Murphy, Merlin and south to the Illinois Valley this Holiday Season.

The donation boxes will be located in the office. We look forward to your support in this great event.

## Donations Needed

We try to keep a few nicer clothing items on hand in case of spills, etc.

Smaller sizes for both boys and girls, sizes 5-8 are in demand, but any slightly used clothing of any size would be great.

Thanks for helping keep our Madrona Hornets comfortable!

Andrea Rodgers  
Family Advocate

## Easy Donation Opportunities

Target offers a similar program called “Take Charge of Education.” By using your Target “REDcard” and designating Madrona as the recipient, a percentage of your purchase will be donated to our school.

Don’t forget about eScrip. By registering your Safeway Club Card with eScrip, you make a donation every time you shop! Go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) or call 1-800-400-7878 to register.

We also still collect Box Tops for Education, Campbell’s Soup labels, used printer cartridges, cell phones. All of these tremendously help our school, and we thank you for your support!

Wal Mart is no longer offering a fundraiser for recycling plastic bags. We will no longer be collecting those.

## Placemat Contest Winners

We had a placemat contest for students to be creative and make placemats that will be used for our “Breakfast with the Principal” events. We really have some talented kids here at Madrona! The winners are:

August Gannett – Goodin  
Brayden Morris – Simpson  
Brianna Stark – Simpson  
Brittany Haberman – Goodin  
Drew Clem – Strickler  
Glenn Rossi – Simpson  
Hannah Bennett – Strickler  
Jordan Riccatone – Hanni  
Kasey Copeland – Law  
Kevin Willaman – Buscher  
Neill Dove – Simpson  
Reed Sandys - Buscher

## Parent Conferences

As a school, and as parents, we have an obligation to our students to meet periodically and talk about their progress. Please make sure you take this important opportunity to meet with us.

- ❖ Make an appointment you can really keep.
- ❖ Be on time and make sure you ask the questions you need to ask.
- ❖ Listen to suggestions from your child's teacher.
- ❖ If you cannot attend, make sure to make arrangements immediately to schedule a different time to talk to the teacher.

Your child's success in school impacts his or her future. Please don't miss the chance to make a difference in his or her life. Your input and questions are important! We look forward to seeing you on either December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>.



## Positive Behavior Supports

PBS is a program we have implemented this 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. Beginning this week, we replaced our old good behavior slips for red tickets. 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 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.

## Special Events



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 PBS assemblies. Students with 3 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 one office behavior referral or one bus citation during the trimester will also lose the privilege of attending the assembly. We just started tracking the student behavior this week, Nov. 3-6<sup>th</sup>. No behavior prior to November 3<sup>rd</sup> will count for the assembly we will have in early December. We will have two more big PBS assemblies later in the year. Thank you parents for supporting our students by talking to them about this program!

You will notice that I often invite parents and family members to join our school for special events like assemblies and performances. I need your help with a small problem that occurs sometimes when you do attend. We need you to sit in the chairs provided along the walls of the gym. There are usually plenty of seats for all the parents who come. If you sit in the seats in the middle that are set up for our students, it causes a problem for the little guys behind you. They simply can't see over your adult bodies. Our gym floor is not sloped theatre style so we seat kids somewhat by size in those rows. The primary students sit on mats on the floor and the upper grades sit with third in front, fourth in the middle and fifth at the back of the rows. Even doing that, some of our kids really have to stretch to see. So please, look for a chair along the sides of the gym, or in the very back rows after all classes are seated. If there are no seats available, ask me and I will get one for you. Thanks so much for your consideration!

## Yarn Needed!

One of our 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes is learning to crochet and is in need of skeins of nice, soft, yarn. If you have any skeins you are willing to donate, please send them to the office.

## Free Meals!

You mean there really is such a thing as a free meal? At Madrona there is! Breakfast is free every day for **EVERY STUDENT!** We offer a selection of nutritious, healthy, hot meals, including milk, fresh fruit or juice for free. How could you pass that up?

## Good Nutrition At School



The Federal government regulates school nutrition for all students who eat meals using our food service. Along with that is a healthy eating act that all school districts are obligated to address with supporting policy. For elementary students we encourage all students to make good eating choices each day both in the cafeteria and when we have events in our classrooms. Parties have specific suggested menu guidelines that encourage offering some healthy food snacks such as fruit trays, vegetable trays with low fat dips and things like light popcorns, trail mix, and pretzels. Some high fat and high sugar items can be offered, but should not be the only choices at parties.

In the same light we want to strongly encourage parents who pack their child's lunches to keep that same kind of balance in what is provided. Make sure lunches are balanced with healthy portions of fruits, vegetables and lean proteins. Limit the carbohydrates and high sugar or fat items. Make sure that dairy items are included whenever possible. We also appreciate parents limiting items like candy, cakes, cookies, and chips in school lunches. Please consider sending juice, milk or water for drinks rather than soda. These efforts are made to help your child to grow up healthy and strong and to have the chance to learn to how to make good food choices for themselves when the opportunities arise. Your child's good health habits are a lifetime gift you can begin giving now.

## 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 began those assessments in October. 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 and your interest in what is happening at school are all ways you can help your child to achieve to 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!

# Jog-A-Thon Winners!



Our annual jog-a-thon was a success despite the failing economy. We raised \$6,500! The students who sold the most are taking a limousine ride to Dairy Queen with Mrs. Van Brunt on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Below is a list of all our winners. Way to go Madrona Hornets!

## Limo Ride Winners:

Hannah Bennett  
Troy Johnson  
Maliah Obien  
Madeline Terpening  
Jayson Grossen  
Areana Harris  
Eva Bernard  
Taylor Ivy  
Ryan Kuykendall  
Cody Traughber

## \$100.00 Winner:

Areana Harris

## Top Class:

Simpson

## Most Laps Per Class:

### **Strickler 1 - Kindergarten**

Hannah Bennett 26 laps  
Connor Daily 26 laps

### **Strickler 2 - Kindergarten**

Cristal Madris-Delgado 17 laps  
Owen Smith 19 laps

### **Kramer – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Arora Davis 28 laps  
Eric Hookland 33 laps

### **Witcher – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade**

Vivian Rowley 30 laps  
Hunter Gaines 28 laps

### **Fisher – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

Riley Arnold 32 laps  
Lindsey Eells 32 laps  
Carlos Garcia 41 laps

### **Simpson – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Garrett Eells 34 laps  
Taylor Ivy 34 laps  
Glenn Rossi 34 laps  
Jenelle Hurley 39 laps

### **Zelenka – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Christopher Therson 40 laps  
Aubrielle Garcia 30 laps

### **Law – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Kasey Copeland 42 laps  
Aubrey Richner 38 laps

### **Goodin – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Chris Pearson 48 laps  
August Gannett 35 laps  
Laissi Traughber 35 laps

### **Hanni – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Trajan Hurd 44 laps  
Aleah Torres 31 laps  
Jennifer Mason 31 laps

### **Buscher – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Jesse Ramirez 46 laps  
Carly Cubic 36 laps

### **Watson / Jones – Multi-handicap**

Bodeven Locust 9 laps

## 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.



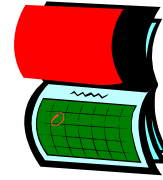
## November Events



- November 4** – 4th Grade field trip to Siskiyou Field Institute in O'Brien
- November 5** – PTO Meeting 2:20 in the library
- November 6** – Limo rides for Jog-A-Thon winners
- November 6** – Hearing Screenings for K, 1, 3 in the library
- November 11** – No School – Veteran's Day
- November 19** – Site Council Meeting 2:10pm in the library
- November 19** – Parent Holiday lunch at appropriate student lunch times
- November 20** – 2 Hour Late Start Friday (School begins at 9:40am)
- November 20** – End of Trimester
- November 20** – Pride Assembly 1:00pm in the gym
- November 23** – No School - Clerical Day
- November 24** – No School - Clerical Day
- November 25** – No School – Budget Reduction
- November 26** – No School – Thanksgiving
- November 27** – No School – Vacation Day



## "Tentative" December Events



- December 2** – Evening Conferences 3:00-7:00pm
- December 3** – Conferences 7:00am-7:00pm
- December 4** – No School
- Dec. 9-10** – Santa Shop
- Dec. 10** – PTO meeting 2:20pm in the library
- Dec. 15** – Winter Program – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> grades – 6:00pm in the gym
- Dec. 17** – Parent/Student Holiday lunch in the cafeteria at appropriate student lunch times
- Dec. 17** – Site Council in Library 2:10 pm in the library
- Dec. 18** – Pride Assembly 10:00am in the gym
- Dec. 18** – Class Parties 1:00pm
- Dec. 21 –Jan. 2** – No School- Winter Break

### School Resumes on January 4th, 2010.

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



# Lifeskill Winners for October "Responsibility"

## Kindergarten:

Troy Johnson  
Kylee Kelsey  
Calie Morton  
Katie Shaw  
Marissa Beck  
Soren Emmons  
Kloey Rich  
Benjamin Schultz

## 1<sup>st</sup> Grade:

Calen Clem  
Jada Hurley  
Madeline Terpening  
Maliah Obien  
Charlee Lilla-Bare  
Marco Ordaz  
Selah Sandys  
Allie Therson

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:

Billy Barnes  
Sierra Combe  
Chris Dillon  
Carlos Garcia  
Joseph Gerson

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:

Jenelle Hurley  
Brooklyn Hurd  
Taylor Ivy  
Brycen Stevens  
Aubriella Garcia  
Andrew Martin  
Chris Therson

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

August Curran  
August Gannett  
Zachary Hanson  
Erika Simpson  
Isaac Davies  
Ethan Hill  
Dalia Linares  
Autumn McLaughlin

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Victoria Hauser  
Ruben Martinez  
Ashley Pearson  
Elizabeth Therson  
Kali Henderson  
Randall McCoy

## Multi-handicap:

Tanner Gunn  
Alex Kleiman  
Nathan Badger

# Math Masters for October

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Devin Pine  
Aubrey Richner  
Anthony Brelinski  
Taylor Decker

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Lexi Guzman  
Kevin Willaman  
Chris Davis  
Ruben Martinez  
K.J. Frankel  
Pasquelina Godfrey  
Kali Henderson  
Kaley Morton

# Accelerated Reader Achievements

## **Independent Reader**

Melba Ordaz

## **Super Reader**

Eva Bernard

Elijah Hayes

Brooklyn Hurd

Tasha Seurer-Myrick

Cody Traugher

## **Super Reader 2**

Colton Heath

McKenzie Orton

Robert Pettijohn

Robert Swanson

## **Super Reader 3**

Tanner Bingham

## **Advanced Reader**

Melyssa Bushnell

Taylor Decker

Elijah Hayes

Kelby Keely

Dalia Linares

Mattia Sakraida

## **Advanced Reader 2**

Haley Reynolds

Jorden Riccatone

## **Advanced Reader 3**

Brittany Haberman

Angelica Quevedo

## **Star Reader**

Mary Backes

Isaac Davies

Elijah Hayes

Alexandra May

Lillian Melvin

Jasmine Pinkerton

Aubrey Richner

## **Star Reader 2**

Lucas Nielsen

Elizabeth Therson

# Community Corner

## Christmas Bazaar



Hidden Valley High School is holding their annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, from 9:00am – 4:00pm. This is the most talked about craft fair in the area, featuring some of Southern Oregon's finest handcrafts. There is free admission, raffles throughout the day, and Famous Taco Soup, sandwiches and yummy desserts. The Proceeds will benefit the Class of 2010 Drug and alcohol free graduation celebration.

## Basketball Sign Ups



The boys and girls club is starting their basketball registration. They have divisions for all ages, Kindergarten through High School. Sign ups are on November 4<sup>th</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30-8:30pm at the Boys and Girls Club. If you are interested, there are flyers in the school office. Have your child pick one up, or come in and see us!