

Buzzin' Around Madrona



November & December 2012



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 support 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!

P.T.A. NEWS

Our jog-a-thon was a success. We raised about \$6,579.98! Students earned a variety of fun prizes. Our top collector was Payton Fontes in Mrs. McKee's class and second place is Aubree Schmidt. Payton won \$50.00 cash, and both girls won many other prizes! Congratulations Payton and Aubree! Mrs. Simpson's class is the top earner with a total of \$1,136.50. Way to go Mrs. Simpson's Class!

On our Pride Days, usually the last Friday of each month, kids wearing their school colors receive a free bag of popcorn.

November Events

- 5-26 – PTA Product Fundraiser Starts
- 13 – PTA Meeting in Library @ 2:20
- 15 – Holiday Lunch with parents
- 19-23 – **No School** Thanksgiving Break
- 30 – PBIS Big Event-Bug R Us Man is here
- 30 – End of First Trimester



Attendance

It is a federal mandate that all students attend school at least 92% of the school year. This translates to missing no more than twelve 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.

December Events

- 3 – **No School** Clerical Day
- 4-20 – Holiday Bazaar in Café @ Lunchtime
- 11 – PTA Meeting in Library @ 2:20
- 13 – Holiday Lunch with parents
- 13 – Site Council Meeting in Library @ 2:00
- 17-18 – PTA Holiday Craft Day
- 18 – Winter Program Kdg. thru 4th grades @ 6pm
- 21 – Winter Parties in classroom
- 24-Jan 4 – **No School** Winter Break



Lunch Money

To All Madrona Parents

There are new lunch prices this year. Lunch for all students is now \$2.10 unless your child/ren have been qualified for free or reduced prices. Breakfast will still remain free for all Madrona students. Even if your child eats breakfast at home, try to encourage them to take a breakfast bar and a piece of fruit for morning recess so they will not be hungry between breakfast and lunch.

This year our food service office is providing an internet link to their web-site where you can check your child's account balance, look at the monthly menus, and upload money to their account using a debit or credit card (for a 5% fee). You will need to know your child's student ID number to use this site. You can still send in lunch money with your child if that is easier for you. www.threerivers.k12.or.us As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at school (541)-476-6624.

Thank you

Jennifer Richardson

Madrona Kitchen Manager

New Lunch Prices

Full Price	Reduced price
1 \$2.10	1 \$0.40
2 \$4.20	2 \$0.80
3 \$6.30	3 \$1.20
4 \$8.40	4 \$1.60
5 \$10.50	5 \$2.00
6 \$12.60	6 \$2.40
7 \$14.70	7 \$2.80
8 \$16.80	8 \$3.20
9 \$18.90	9 \$3.60
10 \$21.00	10 \$4.00

Good News

Parents,

If your student participates in Good News, we will need a note from you if you are going to pick up your student early on Good News day. That way we will keep your student here at school and not let them go to Good News. Good News is on Tuesday's and they leave school grounds at 12:50 p.m.

Free Meals!

Breakfast is **FREE** every day for **EVERY STUDENT!** 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.

Celebrate Diversity in November

We are making November our "Differences Awareness Month" here at Madrona Elementary School. In order to promote this special month, we will have speakers, activities and special books on display in our library throughout November. Encourage your child to discuss some differences they notice between themselves and others in their school, and talk about what unique challenges and gifts these differences may present to themselves and others. Stop by our library throughout the month to take a peek at some of the books we have on display, we may have a book or two that can help you engage in a dialogue with your students about all the wonderful ways that everyone is unique.

T-Shirt Logo Contest Winners!

Grand Prize: Maliah Obien

1st Runner up: Sierra Combe

2nd Runner up: McKenna Lawson

We had a lot of students submit a logo and everyone did a great job!

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.

Positive Behavior Intervention & Support

PBIS is a program we implemented 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 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 drawings and purchase staff trading cards. 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 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 your child about this program!

AR AWARDS FOR OCTOBER 2012

Ready Reader

Alivia Gomez

Rising Reader

Abigail Acosta
Joseph Carpenter
Jaime Guerrero
Tristin Hanson-Damota
Kira Johnson
Rylie Terpening

Super Reader

Evana Inch
Preston Jarvis
Kloey Rich

Advanced Reader

Jordan Alford
Calvin Eagan
McKendrie Ebben
Hailee Fraser-Lindsey
Jacqueline Loeliger
Vivian Rowley
Allie Therson
Austin Verner

Star Reader

Calvin Eagan
Troy Johnson
McKenna Lawson

Classic Reader

Jack Shaver

Library Contests for 2012-13

Occasionally we will be having contests sponsored through our school library. This is what is going on at Madrona currently:

American Girl Series: This contest runs all year long. Any student who reads a series of 1 character's books in the American Girl series will get to take home a doll of their choice for 1 night. They will also receive a pin that has an American Girl character on it. This contest appeals to girls, but any boy may also take the challenge.

Birthdays and Biographies: This contest will change monthly. Students must read 1-4 book selections from our monthly poster characters and report about it to either their teacher or to the librarian. Example: 1st graders read 1 selection, 2nd graders read 2 selections, etc... Younger students may read the book with an adult. Students completing the requirements before the month's end get to select a prize from the library prize box, and also may put up a "bee" about their favorite book.

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.



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.

**2012/2013
ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS
Straight Line Routes For:
Hidden Valley, Lincoln Savage, Madrona, Williams, Fruitdale,
Jerome Prairie, Applegate**

In the event of adverse weather conditions parents are advised to tune in to Radio Stations KRWQ, KAJO, KLDR, KBOY and TV Stations KOBI (5), KDRV (12), KTVL (10) or the 3 Rivers School District Web Page for information on 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 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

A Parent's Guide to the Standards for Mathematical Practice

As your child works through homework exercises, you can help him/her develop and apply the eight Mathematical Practices by asking some of these questions:

- 1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.**
 - What problem are you asked to solve?
 - Have you solved similar problems?
 - What is your plan for solving the problem?
 - Did you use a different method to check your answer?
- 2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**
 - Can you think of a number sentence (equation) to match the story (situation)?
 - What do the numbers in the number sentence mean?
 - How are the facts in the problem related to one another?
- 3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.**
 - What does your answer mean?
 - How can you be sure that your answer is correct?
- 4. Model with mathematics.**
 - What number sentence (equation) describes this problem?
 - What numbers will you use to solve the problem?
 - How are the numbers in the problem connected?
 - Is your answer reasonable?
 - What does your solution represent?
- 5. Use appropriate tools strategically.**
 - What tools can help you solve this problem?
 - Which tool is the most useful for this problem? Why is that your choice?
 - Did you begin by estimating the solution?
- 6. Attend to precision.**
 - What do the symbols that you used mean?
 - What units of measure are you using?
 - Explain what [term from the lesson] means.
- 7. Look for and make use of structure.**
 - What do you notice about the solutions you've just completed?
- 8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.**
 - Are there shortcuts for solving similar problems?

Home & School CONNECTION[®]

Working Together for School Success

November 2012

Madrona Elementary School
Mrs. Lise Van Brunt, Principal

IMPORTANT NOTES

Vocabulary builder

A key ring and some index cards can help your youngster practice vocabulary words. Suggest that she write words on the fronts of index cards and definitions on the backs. She can hole-punch the cards and slide them onto a key ring. It's a portable study tool that she can use anywhere she goes!

Talking about drugs

When your child takes medicine, use the opportunity to bring up drug safety. Together, read the directions carefully. Then, explain that prescriptions can be harmful if taken by someone else or if you don't follow the instructions. You might also let him know there are drug-free ways to feel better, such as using ice for an injury.

Left or right?

Does your youngster sometimes mix up left and right? This trick can help. Tell her to make an L with each hand using her thumbs and forefingers. The L on the left is correct, and the one on the right is backward. To figure out left and right, she can make Ls and remember that left starts with L.

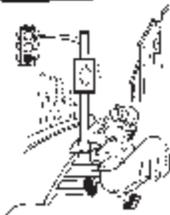
Worth quoting

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
Dr. Seuss

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Why did the chicken cross the road?

A: Because the light turned green.



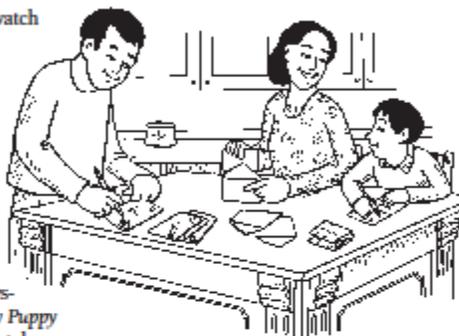
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Becoming more responsible

It's a wonderful feeling to watch with pride as your child takes responsibility for himself. But how do you get to that point? Consider these suggestions.

Read stories

When you read together, have your youngster point out characters' responsible behavior. For instance, in *The Paperboy* by Dav Pilkey, a boy has a job delivering newspapers. And in *Just Me and My Puppy* by Mercer Mayer, Little Critter takes care of his dog. After you read, ask your child to think about ways he is responsible—and about new responsibilities he might be ready for.



finishes each task, he can move the magnet to "Done." At bedtime, his completed chart will show how responsible he was.

Make a magnetic chart

Have your youngster divide a sheet of paper into three columns. In the first one, he can list his responsibilities, including personal tasks (brush teeth, do homework) and household chores (make bed, set table). The other two columns should be labeled "To do" and "Done." Let him post the chart on the refrigerator and put magnets in the "To do" column. As he

Share household jobs

Do a family chore or project together. This will teach your child that people depend on each other to be responsible. For instance, you could mail party invitations, pack lunches, or wash the car. Each family member picks a step: fill out invitations, write addresses, or stamp, stuff, and seal envelopes. If everyone is responsible, you'll get the job done quickly!♥

Math games

All you need are dice and playing cards for these games that will build your child's math skills.

Guess my roll. Toss two dice without letting others see. Then, use addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division to give clues about your numbers (4, 5).

Example: "If you divide my total by 3, you get 3." The first person to name the numbers rolls next.

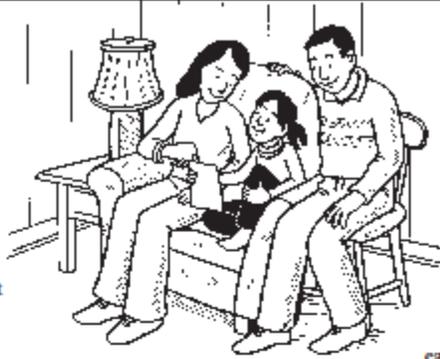
Add to 50. Who can collect playing cards that come closest to 50—without going over? Remove face cards, deal two cards to each player, and stack the rest. Take turns drawing one card and secretly adding your numbers (ace = 1). Stop drawing when you have 50 or think the next card will put you over. When everyone is finished, announce your totals. **Variation:** For a younger child, play to 20.♥



My report card

How is your youngster doing in school this year? Her report card can give you valuable information about her progress. Try these steps for reviewing it with her.

1. Think first. If you get the report card at a parent-teacher conference, ask for advice about discussing it at home. If your youngster brings the report card home, ask how she feels about it before sharing your thoughts.



2. Start with the positive. Perhaps your child brought up her spelling grade from last year, or maybe she got good citizenship marks. Mentioning something like this sets a pleasant tone for your report card discussion.

3. Focus on effort. Try to make comments like "All of that studying really paid off!" (instead of "You're so good at science!"). This lets her know she earned the grade by working hard and can inspire her to try hard next grading period.

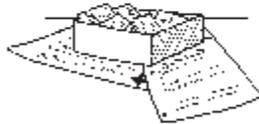
4. Finish with a plan. Talk about any grades that are lower than expected, and brainstorm ways she can bring them up. Share her teacher's advice from your conference, too.♥



Coping with worries

Q: My son spends a lot of time worrying. He is always asking questions like "What if I fail my test?" or "What if we have a fire?" How can I help him feel less anxious?

A: Talk through worries with your child. Then, come up with a plan to help him feel more in control. When he is nervous about a test, offer to quiz him the night before. If he is anxious about fires, make a family emergency plan together. He could draw a fire escape map and organize a household fire drill, for example.



You might also have your son make a "worry journal" or a "worry box." He can write down his concerns in a notebook or jot them on slips of paper and keep them in a box under his bed. Simply putting them into words can help him work on conquering his fears.

Finally, if your child's anxiety seems to be interfering with his schoolwork or friendships, talk to his school counselor or pediatrician.♥

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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ACTIVITY CORNER

What will I be?

Your child has probably wondered what he will be when he grows up. Take his imagination a step further and encourage him to write a description for his perfect job. He'll learn about careers—and get some writing practice.

Begin by having him read job listings in the newspaper or online. He might discover interesting positions like park ranger or flight attendant. He'll also find out about job duties (leading park tours, keeping passengers safe) and skills needed (knowledge of plants and animals, friendliness).

Then, suggest that your youngster create an ad for a job he would like. If he enjoys building with Legos and drawing pictures, he might want to be an architect. He could write, "We need a creative person to design buildings. You should know how to use design software." Tip: He can find facts about all kinds of careers at bls.gov/ooi.♥



PARENT & PARENT

Family exercise leaders

My kids saw me working out with an aerobics video recently and asked if they could join in. We had fun together, and when we finished, my daughter showed me the sit-ups she had learned in PE. Then, I suggested that we make exercise a regular part of our week.

Now we take turns choosing an activity and leading the workout. I showed

the kids how to do Zumba moves, my daughter held a jump-rope contest, and my son organized relay races in the backyard.

One time I surprised the kids with a trip to an indoor pool, and another day, we went roller skating at the park. Working out as a family is helping us stay fit. And taking turns picking the activity means we don't get tired of the same old routine.♥

