

# Buzzin' Around Madrona

## OCTOBER EVENTS

OCTOBER 5, 2015

- 9 Staff Development Day – No School for Students
- 14 Parent Teacher Support Group Info Meeting @ 2:10 in library
- 15 The Great Oregon Shake Out—Earthquake Preparedness
- 16 Madrona Pride Student Awards Assemblies - Families welcome!  
K-2 @ 12:15pm
- 21 Picture Retake Day
- 21 Site Council Meeting @ 2:10 pm in Library
- 26-30 **Sprit Week!**
  - 26th— Pajama Day
  - 27th— Sports Team Day
  - 28th— Blast From the Past
  - 29th— Crazy Hair Day
  - 30th—Costumes (Masks, weapons, blood and scary costumes not permitted).
- 30 Trunk or Treat!

## Welcome Back to School!

We are so happy to have the opportunity to serve you and your child. Please let us know how we can help. Call us at 541-476-6624 from 7:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. If you have a bus issue, you may call First Student at 541-476-7733.

## School Safety

The safety of our students is our utmost priority.

Students learn safety procedures in class. We practice drills for lock downs, fire evacuation, and earthquakes throughout the year.

Our teachers keep classroom doors locked and only open the doors for staff or prearranged visitors with a badge. Students are fully supervised while out and about on campus. Staff is familiar with procedures to keep students safe should an emergency occur while students are outside of the

classroom.

Please support our safety efforts by always signing in at the front office and be sure to wear your visitor's badge in a clearly visible location.



## Trunk or Treat



We are seeking parent volunteers willing to dress up in appropriate costumes and decorate their car and distribute candy to our student TRUNK OR TREATERS. This would also call for a donation

of 400 pieces of candy per parked car.

Please sign up using the slip that comes home or by calling the front office.

We are also in need of candy donations and used costumes.

### Times:

- K & 1— 11:15-11:45
- 2 & 3— 11:45-12:15
- 4 & 5— 12:00-12:30



Is on October 15, 2015. A statewide earthquake drill is scheduled for 10:15 am. The main goal of the ShakeOut is to get Oregonians prepared for major earthquakes, so use the ShakeOut as an opportunity to learn what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. Madrona will be participating! For more info, go to: <http://www.shakeout.org/oregon/faq/>

# Parent and Family Involvement

We love our families at Madrona, and we are always happy to have everyone involved in our school community.

## Ways to Get Involved

**Site Council**—Meets every 3rd Wednesday at 2:10 in the library to discuss the school's instructional program, planning for staff development, and the implementation of the Oregon Education Act for the 21st Century

## **Parent Teacher Support Group**

This new parent involvement group will focus on planning fun events and fundraisers for the school community. An informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14th at 2:10pm.

## **Volunteer**

We can always use volunteers to help kids in the classroom, be an extra set of eyes on the

playground, and help around the school. Please help us make sure we are ready to welcome you by pre-arranging when you can come in!



We have a new computerized volunteer sign in program. All volunteers now register and sign in and out in the library.

# Special Occasion Food

We cannot serve any foods that are not prepared in a professional and certified kitchen. This means unless it comes from a licensed kitchen, we cannot serve a food item. Food items should come in the original, unopened packaging. Students can bring

homemade items for their own lunches, but cannot share those items with others. We cannot allow homemade items to be served at any school function during the school day. Thanks for following this standard at all times. Please remember this if you are supplying treats for any type of classroom celebration.



Breakfast and lunch are **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.

Our **lunch menus** are now available on line. You can access them by going to our public web site at: [www.threerivers.k12.or.us](http://www.threerivers.k12.or.us) then under the heading "Schools" select Madrona. On the left side, there is a heading for "Food Service Information", then select "Food Service Menu". Please contact our Kitchen Manager, Jenniffer Richardson at 541-476-6624 if you have any questions. We're here to help!



## Pet Free School



As much as we love our four-legged friends, Madrona Elementary is a pet-free zone. Thank you for leaving your pets at home.

## PARENT RESOURCE

Renaissance Learning is an online program that supports Madrona in reading. This program has a parent resource section that has helpful Parent Guides, answering frequently asked questions about our assessment, teaching, and learning tools. You can access it from the following website.

<https://>

[Hosted58.renlearn.com/293424/HomeConnect](https://Hosted58.renlearn.com/293424/HomeConnect)



## COMPUTERS FOR EDUCATION FUNDRAISER

Our “Computers for Education” fundraiser is complete! We collected 153 books and 1,123 postcards which qualifies us for a \$300 bonus. Including the bonus, your efforts helped to raise **over \$800** for our school technology!

## Attendance Reporting

As you know, students who have excellent attendance are more likely to have solid achievement at school. We can't teach them if they aren't here! It is required by law for the school to average 92% attendance or higher each year. For students to reach that goal, they must miss no more than 12 days of school over the entire year. That means missing on average no more than 1 day per month. Parents are the most important decision makers about attendance. You have the choice to schedule appointments, shopping, dance lessons and vacations at times that will not impact your child's attendance. Be aware and make good choices for your child.

Please remember that **school begins at 7:40am**. Students arriving after that time are marked “Tardy” and must come to the office to receive a late slip. Student attendance is based on being here the full day. If a child missed too much of the day, it will be marked as an absence. We know that sometimes it is unavoidable to schedule appointments during school time, and those are notated as “Office Tardy” which means that they are “excused”, but they still count as a Tardy, and are counted against perfect attendance. Children can only earn a perfect

attendance award if they are not tardy or absent.

**A parent must excuse student absences. It is required that you let us know when and why your child is absent.** *You can help us with this in two ways. You can **call us** the day of the absence and tell us why your child is out, or you can **write a note** and send that in on the day your child returns to school. Absences are only excused for illness, doctor or dentist appointments, death in the immediate family and family emergencies. All other absences are unexcused. We may call if we have not heard from you, or if the absence reason is unexcused. Make sure you have called or sent a note within 48 hours, or your child's absence becomes unexcused regardless of the reason.*

## Bus Information



We hope your child's ride each day is a safe and comfortable experience. Sometimes there are problems. Please do not hesitate to call our bus company, First Student, to ask questions or to voice a concern about a problem on the bus. They are eager to help resolve

any issues for our families. The number is 541-476-7733. They open at 5:00 a.m. and close at 5:00 p.m. If you don't feel a problem is being addressed you can also call and talk to our staff or Mrs. Carpenter.

Please be aware that the bus drivers require a bus pass issued by the Madrona office anytime your

child is going to ride the bus anywhere other than his/her normal stop. The only way that a bus pass can be issued is by **BOTH** children having a note from their parents. At no time is a child allowed to get off at an undesignated stop, or to ride a different bus without a pass issued by the office. Thank you for making those plans ahead of time and ensuring that your child has a note.



# Madrona School Song

We have the tradition of singing a short, silly school song at the end of our awards assemblies. Many of our students are learning it for the first time. I'm providing the words below so your child has the opportunity to practice for fun at home. Go Hornets!

Words to Madrona Song :

Up and away Madrona Hornets.

Up and away upside down!

Up and away Madrona Hornets

Keep your stingers off the ground!

When you hear the school bell ringing,

And you see the kids rush in,

Then you know Madrona Hornets,

Have turned their homework in!

Then we cheer:

M- A- D- R -O -N- A! Madrona, Madrona, Yeah!!!!

## Have You Filled a Bucket Today?



This month, we are focusing our Positive Behavior Support lessons on Kindness. We kicked off the month with a story called, "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud. The message from the story encourages everyone to fill a bucket with acts of kindness.



## Automated Phone Calls

We have a system that will periodically make telephone calls to all our parents. This system is called "Synervoice". What a wonderful tool this is, and we hope that it will help us to communicate with you. We use this system to notify parents of upcoming events, attendance, days that are impacted by inclement weather, emergencies, or other reasons which may require us to reach everyone in a timely manner. When you receive a call from Synervoice, you must say "hello" to activate the message being sent to you. If you see a call from Madrona on your phone, please do not just call. Listen

to the message first, otherwise our phone lines get jammed with multiple calls. If you don't say anything when we call, you will not get a message. It is also connected to our student information system, therefore it is very important that the information you provide to us on your students' enrollment form is accurate and kept up to date. If you have a phone number change or disconnection and we try to send you a message, you will obviously not receive it. So, please help us keep you informed by notifying the school office when personal information changes.

## Student Skills Training

Madrona is fortunate to have staff members from the Options for Southern Oregon Children's Resource Team (CRT) working with us as educational partners this year. The CRT will be offering several skill groups throughout the year. The groups provide students with the opportunity to learn more about the process of stress, peer pressure & interaction as well as how they can become better problem solvers as they progress through elementary school and on into middle school.

We will also have staff on hand to talk to students dealing with a crisis situation. For more information, please contact Mrs. Carpenter.