

Buzzin' Around Madrona



January/February
2009 

Dear Parents,

The months of January and February tend to be our worst months for attendance. That is mostly due to frequent bouts of colds, flu and sometimes illnesses like strep throat. We want to help you in any way we can. Remember it is important for you to decide if your child is in mild discomfort or is truly ill. Any child that is throwing up, has an unexplained rash, diarrhea, or a temp above 100, should probably be kept home. All illnesses are excused with a phone call or note from you within 48 hours of the illness. The best defense against illness is to help your child get plenty of rest, eat a healthy diet and wear appropriate clothing for the weather. Also, make sure your child washes his/her hands often. This helps remove harmful bacteria that can make you and your child sick. Please call us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's attendance or health issues.



Adverse Weather Conditions

Winter is upon us, and it's time to advise our parents what to do in case of adverse weather conditions. All of our local radio stations start making announcements as soon as the school district notifies them of a delayed start. 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 also broadcast news about delayed starts. Those stations are:

KOBI	Channel 5
KDRV	Channel 12
KTVL	Channel 10

Sometimes weather conditions leave some roads blocked or unsafe to travel even though school is still being held. Under these circumstances "straight line routes" will be run. Attached to this newsletter is a copy of those bus routes. Please keep it handy for those bad weather days.

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.

SMART Program

We are still in need of volunteers for our SMART reader program. SMART is looking for volunteers to read just one hour a week, with two children, now through May. The children are Kindergarten through second grade that need a little help with reading. Children in SMART discover that it's fun to read and show more interest in learning. If you would be interested, please call Jennifer Staton at 541- 734-5628 or cell phone 541- 840-3337, or email her at jstaton@getsmartoregon.org

Lost and Found

Please mark all of your child's sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, jackets, etc. with a name! If items are marked, they are promptly returned to their owner, but if they aren't they are placed in a small closet in the back of the cafeteria. There are so many nice things that have not been claimed. Please come and take a peak when you have a chance.

Skipper's Night Out

Thank you to Skipper's restaurant and all of our family and friends who attended our recent fundraiser on January 13th. We brought home just over \$200 for our school. Skipper's is the only restaurant in our area that offers this easy fundraiser. They donated 20% of the food purchased that evening to our school. Their employees also donate all tips collected! They truly have a heart for our kids! Please make sure you thank them the next time you are in for a meal! Their support is appreciated!

From the desk of the family advocate

Winter months can be hard on our Hornets! With our playground forming puddles, often students will need to change to dry clothing, and/or dry shoes. We are very happy to provide students with these supplies, however, it is important that we have these items returned to the school, so that we do not run out. If your child comes home with something we have "loaned" him/her, please make sure that the item is washed and returned to school promptly. This will help to keep our supply closet well stocked and available to all of our Hornets. Thank you, Andrea Rodgers.

Attendance

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's appointments, death in the immediate family and family emergencies. All other absences are unexcused. We call periodically to check on kids who are out two or more days if we have not heard from you. Make sure you have done this within 48 hours or your child's absence becomes unexcused regardless of the reason.

P.T.O. News

Thanks for supporting the many fundraisers the PTO does. Upcoming fundraisers for spring include a coin drive, bulb sales, and a carnival. Please help our PTO by supporting the fundraisers, and/or by donating your time to help with activities. Remember that every single penny raised by PTO goes directly into making the Madrona learning experience for your child better and more exciting!

We are collecting plastic grocery type bags for a special recycling program offered by Wal-Mart. Any day students may bring in empty plastic bags and turn them in. We earned over \$250 last year for our empty bags! Wow!

Albertson's is offering to share a percentage of proceeds with schools through their Community Partners Program. Simply link Madrona's number (49000118317) to your regular Albertson's Preferred Savings Card, and they will send us a percentage of your purchases. You can register either by mail or online at www.albertsons.com Please see the attached flyer for more information on how to sign up. This is another really easy way to help earn cash for your school. Please consider signing up!

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 or call 1-800-400-7878 to register.

We still collect Box Tops for Education, and Campbell's Soup labels. Attached is a flyer with more information about both programs. In fact we are only 2,000 labels away from getting a video camera for our school! So please don't throw those labels away. Check out the easy to save pages in the newsletter. We also still collect used printer cartridges, and cell phones. All of these tremendously help our school, and we thank you for your support!

Coin Drive

The PTO will be encouraging all students to participate in our annual coin drive. Each class will be collecting change in cans that will be in each class. The two classes with the top amount of money turned in will each win a special treat. The money from the coin drive goes towards the computer lab. Currently the PTO helps pay for an hour of computer lab assistant time for the primary students in our school. This is an important fund raising event. Please help us out by collecting your loose change this month and sending it our way. The dates for the coin drive are Feb. 9th - 20th. We hope to be hearing lots of "KA-CHING" sounds in those cans! Start saving those coins now!

Help Wanted!

Your PTO is in need of donations and volunteers for the upcoming Spring Carnival. This event will take place in May, and is much like our Fall Carnival was, except the theme will be for spring instead of fall. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact Chrystal Hyde at 761-5746.

January Events



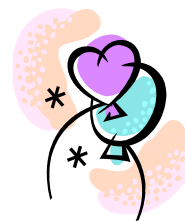
- Jan. 5** – School resumes from Winter Break
- Jan. 5-31** – Oregon State Assessment Testing for grades 3, 4, and 5
- Jan. 5-16** – DIBELS testing all grades
- Jan. 6** – NASA presentation for 2nd – 5th grades
- Jan. 6** – Hoop Shoot 2/3 girls at lunch time
- Jan. 7** – Hoop Shoot 4/5 girls at lunch time
- Jan. 8** – Hoop Shoot 2/3 boys at lunch time
- Jan. 8** – PTO meeting at 2:10pm in the library
- Jan. 9** – Hoop Shoot 4/5 boys at lunch time
- Jan. 13** – Skipper’s Night Out fundraiser for all Madrona families 5-8:00pm at Skipper’s
- Jan. 14** – Breakfast with the Principal
- Jan. 14** – Vision screening 12:30-1:30pm in the gym
- Jan. 15** – Vision screening in the gym

- Jan. 19** – Martin Luther King Day – No School
- Jan. 23** – Progress Reports go home
- Jan. 27** – Science Fair projects due at school
- Jan. 28** – Science Fair judging and Open House 6:00-7:00pm in the gym- Awards begin at 6:45pm
- Jan. 29** – Site Council meeting at 2:20pm in the library
- Jan. 30** – Pride Day Assembly 12:45pm in the gym. This will be for December and January award winners.

February Events



- Feb. 2-27** – STAR testing for Grades 2-5
- Feb. 4** – Breakfast with the Principal 7-7:30am in the cafeteria
- Feb. 9-20** – Coin Drive fundraiser
- Feb. 9-27** – Writing Assessments for 4th Grade
- Feb. 11** – District Science Fair
- Feb. 12** – PTO meeting 2:20pm in the library
- Feb. 13** – District Science Fair Open House
- Feb. 13** – Valentine’s Day parties in classrooms at 12:45pm
- Feb. 14** – Happy Valentine’s Day! Happy 150th Birthday to the State of Oregon!
- Feb. 16** – No School – President’s Day
- Feb. 18** – Rogue Valley Opera “Opera Antics” 12:45pm in the gym
- Feb. 19** – Site Council meeting everyone is welcome 2:10pm in the library
- Feb. 20** – Lockdown Drill 1:30pm
- Feb. 26** – Parent Conference information goes home
- Feb. 27** – Reading Day Assembly 8:00am in the gym
- Feb. 27** – Pride Day Assembly 1:00pm in the gym



Hoop Shoot



Emily Silva, one of our 4th grade students, wrote this beautiful poem. She read it in front of the school on January 15, 2009. We wanted to share it with you.

Our hoop shoot winners were as follows:

8-9 year old girls: Brittiny Murphy

8-9 year old boys: Kenny Willaman
Runners up: Cole Lawson, Kenny Bigham, Ruben Martinez, Arin Lowry, Garrett McGinnis, and Isaac Davies

10-11 year old girls: Carly Cubic
Runner up: Leiya Ravencroft

10-11 year old boys: Zachary Morris
Runners up: Kaley Morton, Nick Stark

These winners will participate in the Elks Hoop Shoot at Grants Pass High School on Saturday, January 19th.

Vincent Can Gogh

Mrs. Buscher's 5th grade class won the "Vincent Can Gogh" competition again this year! This is a project that all elementary schools compete in to help the Josephine County Food Bank with canned food donations at Thanksgiving time. They created a snowman out of jelly beans, peppermint and spearmint candies, and, of course, canned food items, and called him "The Can-Dee Man". They won \$300 for art supplies for our school! Thanks 5th graders!

Imagine If...

Imagine if you could change the world in a single little word.

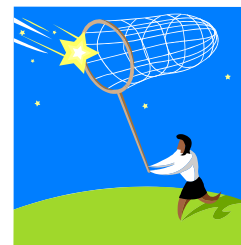
Imagine if you could change the world and no one ever even heard.

Imagine if bunnies could bark or you could change light into dark.

Imagine if the world was yours and you could open all locked doors.

Imagine if....

By Emily Silva



Battle of the Books

It's that time of year again. Battle of the Books is here and we need your help! We are looking for parent volunteers who are willing to lead practice sessions starting the week of Feb. 16th from 11:20 to 12:30 about three times a week. The days are subject to our volunteer schedules.

There are two sessions, the 2nd and 3rd graders will practice from 11:30-11:55 the 4th and 5th graders will meet from 12-12:30. If you can stay for both sessions it would be greatly appreciated, however, if you need to do $\frac{1}{2}$ hour sessions we will try to accommodate that. You will be given the directions on how to ask the questions so there is consistency during practice. You will orally ask the students pre-set questions about the books they've read. Practices will be in the center of one of the pods so there will be an assistant at hand if you need assistance with student behavior. If you have any questions please feel free to call the school and speak with Miss Phelps or Mrs. VanBrunt.

Please return this page to Mrs. Brown in the library.

Yes, I would like to volunteer for both sessions on the following days: _____

Print your name

Daytime phone #

Yes, I would like to volunteer but, can only do one session on the following days: _____

Print your name

Daytime phone#



Dear Parents,

We are starting “Battle of the Books” at Madrona School. This is a reading competition designed to encourage students to read and broaden their reading interests. Students in grades 2-5 are eligible to participate. Students read from a selected list of ten books over a period of about two months and then teams will be formed. Practices for the test and competition will begin the week of Feb. 16th during lunch recess. Students should try to attend at least two out of three practices a week. Teams will be chosen on how they perform in practice and the results of the written test Mrs. Van Brunt will give on Friday April 3rd. Each student that chooses to participate will be required to read all ten books. They will also be taking Accelerated Reader tests on the books they have read, passing with at least 80%. Students must have read at least four books by the time practices begin the week of Feb. 16th. Ten books must be completed by Friday April 3rd in order to take the test. Parents are allowed to work with students and read with them as needed. This year’s book titles are:

Group #1 3rd /4th grades

- 1. The Family Under the Bridge
by Natalie Savage Carlson
- 2. Dear Mr. Henshaw
by Beverly Cleary
- 3. The Grand Escape
by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- 4. Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes
by Eleanor Coerr
- 5. Baby
by Patricia Maclachlan
- 6. The House of Wings
by Betsy Byars
- 7. On the Long Trail Home
by Elisabeth J. Stewart
- 8. Red-Dirt Jessie
by Anna Myers
- 9. George’s Marvelous Medicine
by Roald Dahl
- 10. Misty Chincoteague
by Marguerite Henry

Group #2 4th/5th grades

- 1. Black Beauty
by Anna Sewell
- 2. Where the Red Fern Grows
by Wilson Rawls
- 3. Maniac Magee
by Jerry Spinelli
- 4. The Return of the Indian
by Lynne Reid Banks
- 5. The Secret Garden
by Frances Hodgson Burnett
- 6. The Fledgling
by Jane Langton
- 7. Hatchet
by Gary Paulsen
- 8. Call it Courage
by Armstrong Sperry
- 9. Flip-Flop Girl
by Katherine Paterson
- 10. The Silver Chair
by C.S. Lewis

*Please talk with your student about the commitment of participating in the “Battle of the Books”.

Please return this portion to the Library by Wednesday, Jan. 28th :

_____ has my permission to participate in the “Battle of the Books”.

Parent/Guardian’s
Signature

I agree to read at least 4 books by Tuesday, Feb. 17th and ten books by the test on Friday, April 3rd.

Student

Student’s Teacher

Lifeskill Winners for December

"Perseverance"

Kindergarten:

Charlee Lilla-Bare
Natasha Combe
Hailee Fraser-Lindsey
Breanna Boyle
Hunter Gaines
Michael Graeber

1st Grade:

Stephanie Silva
Brandon Wells
Skyler Fox
Areana Harris

2nd Grade:

Max Davis
Brayden Morris
Chris Therson
Damion Wayland
Taylor Ivy
Grace Satterfield

3rd Grade:

Kitty Kurutz
Jazzmin Morton
Isaac Simonian
Devin Pine
Mackenzie Silva
Makayla Watts
Kenny Willaman

4th Grade:

Christian Hill
Kelby Keeley
Arin Lowry
Jennifer Mason

5th Grade:

Andrew Aguilar
Christine Nutting
Andrew Taylor
Latecia Torres
Tyoma Loginov
Cameron Macdonald
Kristina Patrick
Sydney Schultz

Math Masters for December

3rd Grade

Cody Milburn

4th Grade

Zach Smith
Elizabeth Therson

5th Grade

Azure Kurutz

Accelerated Reader Achievements December 2008

Independent

Peyton Hyde
Kelsey Kieling
Lucas Nielsen

Super Reader

Tyler Cook
Joseph Gerson
Hope Gettys
Austyn Jacobsen
Tyler Krun
Eric Torres

Super Reader 2

Carly Cubic
Glenn Rossi
Adrienne Still
Aleah Torres

Super Reader 3

Christopher Davis
Taylor Decker
Caleb Prince

Super Reader 4

Leiya Ravencroft

Advanced Reader

Kaleb Johnson
Miranda Johnson
Cameron Macdonald
Marcus Peckham

Advanced Reader 2

Christina Nielsen
Megan Schiavone
Erika Simpson

Advanced Reader 3

Jared Scherrer

Advanced Reader 4

Zachary Smith

Star Reader

Owen Stevens
Elizabeth Therson

Star Reader 2

Gabe McLaughlin

Honors

Michael Staykow



Community Corner

Grants Pass National Little League



All sign ups are being held at
Competitive Athletics
545 NE E Street
Grants Pass, OR 97526
541-479-1001
(across the street from Colonial Plaza)

Cost: \$65 per child
January 24, 2009 9:00am-3:00pm
January 31, 2009 9:00am-3:00pm
February 5, 2009 5:00pm-8:00pm

Registration dates are for both
American and National Leagues. For
more information call American
League Hotline at 541-787-5037
Or
National League Ken Garrison at 541-
479-8522

Grants Pass Youth Soccer Club



Spring Season Registration is upon us!
January 12th – February 17th

Come in or have your student pick up a
flyer in the office for more information!

We have the new Spring Grants Pass
Recreation Guides available in the office
if you didn't receive one already. Stop
by or have your student pick one up!