



COUGAR RIDGE WEEKLY

Parent Newsletter

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Oct. 15, 2009

Cougar Ridge Elementary School
4630 167th Ave SE
Bellevue, WA 98006

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Office Hours: 8:00 am—3:30 pm

This newsletter is also available on our school website:
www.cougar.issaquah.wednet.edu
PTSA website:
www.cougarridgeptsa.org

Jackie Tanner, Principal
Natalie Fowler, Program Assistant
Margie Calderwood, Principal's Secretary
Teri Feely, Secretary / Attendance



"Reach the Summit" Student Recognition

Tomorrow is the big day where we draw tickets from the three "I Am A Bobcat who Climbs" containers. One name will be pulled for a Kindergarten-First grader, one for a Second-Third grader, and one for a Fourth-Fifth grader. The three names chosen will get to have one of "The Three Little Chairs" that are pictured above as their seat in class for next week. Good luck to all Bobcats that have received a ticket to put in the container. This month we are learning about "RESPECT". A BIG THANK YOU to our Program Assistant, Natalie Fowler, who painted our "Three Little Chairs" (not so little for our 4th-5th graders).

Calendar



- 16th Vision and Hearing Screening
- 20th Student Council, 7:20 am, MPR
- 21-22 Issaquah Schools Foundation
Calling for Kids Campaign
- 23rd Spooky Spaghetti Social, 6-8 pm
- 28th Spirit Day
- 29-30 Book Fair
- 29th Kindergarten Pumpkin Carving
6:30-7:30, MPR

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- 2nd Site Council, 6:30 pm, Library
- 3rd-4th Parent Teacher Conferences
NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- 5th Picture Retakes
- 11th **VETERANS DAY- NO SCHOOL**
- 26-27 **THANKSGIVING- NO SCHOOL**

Student directories will be going home today for the families with current PTSA memberships. Please look for your copy coming home with your youngest Cougar Ridge child.

2009 Holiday Program to help families in need There will not be a separate District Holiday Program this year. If your family is in need of some extra assistance in terms of food, clothing, necessities, please contact your school nurse ASAP to obtain information on the Issaquah Food Bank Holiday Program. The Food Bank program fills up quickly so be sure to contact your school nurse before the end of October. School PTSA's desiring to participate in a "Caring through Sharing" program will receive their families to sponsor through the Issaquah Food Bank.

Become a Corporate Sponsor for the Cougar Ridge Spring Fling Auction. 100% of proceeds go to improving the education of our students. By becoming a corporate sponsor, you receive a tax-deductible, cost-effective means of advertising your business. Contact Maria Philips at 425-502-7039 or maria_philips@yahoo.com for more details on how you can become a corporate sponsor.

Spooky Spaghetti Dinner October 23rd 6:00-8:00 pm - The amazing Dads of Cougar Ridge are hard at work planning a fantastic event for the whole family. Come for great food and lots of fun! Don't forget to wear your family friendly costume too! Pre-registration is going on now. Forms are available in the office. Purchase your tickets before the 15th and you get the early-bird price of \$6 per person and entered into a drawing to sit at our fabulous VIP table. Don't miss out! Tickets are \$7.50 at the door. Dinner will be served until 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there! Questions? Kari Alexander jkralexander@msn.com or Stacey Eastern stacey@easternfamily.net

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS: Thank you so much for all the canned food you have brought into school for Student Council's coordination to help the Issaquah Food Bank! We have donated 375 pounds of items so far!! The drive will run until Oct. 24th, and the drop-box is located in the main hallway across from the office. We need non-perishable food items like canned vegetables, plastic jars of peanut butter, canned tuna, canned fruits, dried pasta, boxes of mac & cheese, etc....**The end of our drive is the day after our Spooky Spaghetti Dinner, so please bring your items that night as we will be able to take them to the Issaquah Food Bank along with any remaining dried pasta!!!!**

The next Student Council meeting is Tuesday 10/20 at 7:20 am. Members that are interested in running for a Student Council officer position (President, Vice President, Secretary - descriptions of these can be found at: <http://www.cougar.issaquah.wednet.edu/studentcouncil.htm>) will need to be prepared to give a 1 minute (max) speech to the Council. Students running for Room Reps do not need to give a speech. **Students cannot run for office unless they have turned in a Membership Form <http://cougarridgepts.org/programs.asp> (signed by parent) with their intent to run!** All general members also need this form (most of you have turned this in already) and we will be emailing you SC updates based on the email address on that form. The officers (and committees which will be formed) help run Student Council with parent-volunteer guidance. If you have any questions please contact your parent volunteers, Shelly Hall at rogers-hallfamily@verizon.net or Krista Prescott at kristagp@comcast.net.

We are creating a database of parents who can help with supplies, snacks, and/or coordination of humanitarian projects. Thank you to all parents who have expressed their desire to help thus far!! Please contact Krista Prescott at kristagp@comcast.net if you are willing to support Student Council! Thank you!

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming!!! October 29th and 30th The annual book fair is an opportunity to purchase books at reasonable prices while directly benefiting our school. The proceeds from Scholastic are credited to Cougar Ridge to purchase books and materials for the classrooms and the library.

The Book Fair will be open for purchasing on Thursday, Oct. 29, from 8:15 am-8:30 pm, and Friday, Oct. 30, from 8:00 am-4:00 pm. You can learn more about the Book Fair at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/cougarridge>

Volunteers are needed to help. We particularly need volunteers for Thursday Oct. 29, 3:45-6:00 pm and 5:45-8:30 pm and Friday Oct. 30, 3:45 - 6:00 pm. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Sora Brown at (425)736-6134 or sorabrown@gmail.com.

SKATE NIGHT: Mark your calendars for the ever-popular SKATE NIGHT! This fall's skating event is right around the corner on **Wednesday November 4th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm**. The rink is reserved for Cougar-Ridge-only skating. Nov. 4th is a day off of school for students (conferences), so it's a perfect way to work off some extra energy! \$5 per person skating at the door (CASH ONLY) which includes roller skates. Roller blades are an additional \$4 if you would like to rent them...or you can bring your own. Remember that children must be accompanied by an adult. Any questions - please contact Krista Prescott at kristagp@comcast.net. Come roll around at **Bellevue Skate King 2301 140th Ave NE, 425-641-2046** with all your friends!

PTSA Legislative News and Updates

REPORT ON 2009 WSPTA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The Cougar Ridge PTSA Legislative Chair, along with other members of the Washington State PTA (WSPTA), attended the WSPTA Legislative Assembly in SeaTac on October 2nd and 3rd to consider modifications and additions to the current WSPTA two-year agenda and to talk about working together to move these ideas from platform to legislative action. Following a vigorous and thoughtful debate, delegates approved two amendments to the current top five issues, and one amendment to the WSPTA Legislative Principles. In addition, the delegates adopted two new issues, one dealing with arts and education, and the second urging increased funding for highly capable students. For the full results of the Assembly's actions, check out the WSPTA website at http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/headlines/Issue_Results_2009_Leg_Assembly.pdf. In addition to voting on issues, delegates were able to attend classes that ranged from novice level explanations of the state legislative process to updates on the current status of the implementation of House Bill 2261.

INFORMATION ABOUT I-1033 NOW AVAILABLE ON WSPTA WEBSITE

The WSPTA Legislative Assembly also discussed Initiative 1033 because of the Initiative's potential effects on public education and other services to children. If adopted, the initiative would limit the total revenue that could be expended in any calendar year to the amount received in 2009, plus an adjustment based on a national inflation index and any increase in the general population. The Office of Financial Management has estimated that this initiative would reduce revenue to the state's general fund by about \$6 billion in support over the next six years. More information about the initiative is online at http://wei.secstate.wa.gov/osos/en/PreviousElections/2009/GeneralElection/Pages/OVG_20091103.aspx#ososTop.



BOBCAT MUSIC NEWS



CHOIR BASH for 4th and 5th Graders Choir Bash is an annual event sponsored by the Issaquah High School Choral Department. All feeder schools are invited to send students to this special festival. IHS students and directors plan this afternoon of sharing of music activities, singing and movement. This year's Choir Bash will be on Tuesday, October 27 at Pacific Cascade Freshman Campus (PCFC) from 3:30-5:30. Miss Petry will be attending the Choir Bash. **Students will need to be transported by parents or in carpools to this event. They need to arrive by 3:30 and be picked up promptly at 5:30.** This is not a concert for parents, but many parents sit in and watch since they drive their kids anyway. Parent seating will be limited to sitting on the risers on the stage or standing upstairs on the balcony as students will take up the entire floor. **Please let Miss Petry know by Friday, October 16th if your student plans to attend.** (Email: petrya@issaquah.wednet.edu). She will need to let IHS know how many Cougar Ridge students are attending.

4TH GRADE RECORDER ORDERS Fourth graders will be beginning a recorder unit later this month. Order forms went home with your student last week. **Each 4th grade student will need to have a recorder at school on music days for the remainder of the year.** Some parents choose to order two recorders so that their students have one at school and one at home to practice with. That is your choice and certainly not a requirement. If you already own a quality recorder, your student is welcome to use that as well. (I do not encourage use of dollar store or toy recorders as they are out of tune and make ensemble playing difficult.) If you have questions or concerns, please contact Miss Petry at petrya@issaquah.wednet.edu or 425-837-7264.



Cougar Ridge Family Fitness Night- Come one, come all - to our First Family Fitness Night of the year. Come and play tennis, climb the climbing wall, learn to hula hoop again or shoot some baskets with your family. All parents and students in the **third thru fifth** grade are invited on **November 12th from 5:30 pm- 7:00 pm** for some fun and fitness. Our next Family Fitness Night will be on **January 12** for the Kindergarten-second graders. **FREE NIGHT OF FUN!!!**



Destination Imagination is an exciting, team-building, creative problem solving program with a culminating tournament in the spring. Interest in **DI** was so great last year that we had to turn kids away! Teams are forming now, so don't miss out on this unique opportunity. Volunteers are needed to make this another outstanding **DI** season.

If you missed the Destination Imagination Info Night, but want to know more, stop by the front office for an Information/Registration Packet. Registration is due **Monday, November 2.**

"I DO DI, DO YOU?"