



COUGAR RIDGE WEEKLY

Parent Newsletter

Volume 14, #6

Oct. 8, 2009

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

Office Phone: 425-837-7300
Attendance Phone: 425-837-7232
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



Nancy Stewart, a local singer/songwriter performs for the Kindergarten students.

Calendar



13th	Sage Curriculum Nite, 5-6 pm, Port. 2
13th	Destination Imagination Info Mtg, 7:00 pm, MPR
14th	October Birthday Celebrations
15th	PTSA General Membership and Board Mtg, 8:45 am, Port. 6
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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Today we had our first "Reach the Summit" assembly to kick off our new student recognition program. Students understand that at school reaching the summit means being a successful learner and accomplishing goals. Just like mountain climbers have tools to help them reach the summit there are "tools" (traits) students can use to help them be successful in school and to become responsible and productive citizens.

Each month we will be focusing on a "tool" to reach the summit. The "tool" for October is RESPECT. At the assembly staff presented a skit about respect. What great performers we have on our staff! Students will be discussing what respect looks like and sounds like with their teacher and creating a chart for their classroom. Also at the assembly we recognized our fifth graders as our school leaders and will be expecting them to lead by example. As leaders they will do the presentation to highlight the "tool" for the month at future assemblies.

Throughout the month students who are making choices to help our school be a great place where everyone can learn and be successful may be recognized with a "I am a BOBCAT who CLIMBS - Ask me why" slip which entitles them to be in the drawing to sit in the teal BOBCAT chair for a week!

At the end of the month teachers will identify the students who have done an exceptional job of emulating the "tool" and they will be presented a "BOBCAT Tool to Reach the Summit Award" at an all school assembly. Please be sure to ask your students about the assembly and what they think it means to be respectful.

Vision and Hearing Volunteers still needed: Volunteers are still needed to help with Vision and Hearing Screening on Friday, Oct 16th. There are two shifts, the morning shift is 8:15 am to 11:15 am and the afternoon shift is 12:15 pm to 2:35 pm. No experience necessary and training will be provided. If you can help, please contact Elaine Sakamoto at ehsieh1@aol.com or call 425-957-7609. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

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.

SAGE Curriculum Night: Tuesday, Oct. 13th from 5-6 pm in Port. 2 for parents of SAGE students.



Have you heard the D.I. BUZZ? Come find out what **DESTINATION IMAGINATION** is all about....**Tuesday, October 13, 7:00-8:00 pm** in the Cougar Ridge Multi-Purpose Room. Destination Imagination is an exciting, team-building, creative problem solving program with a culminating tournament in March. Teams will be forming soon, so parents and kids come see for yourself why kids all over America say: "I DO DI, DO YOU?" **We are in need of several parent volunteers to help us have another successful year.** Questions? Contact Adina Florsheim at 747-1291 or adina_florsheim@msn.com.

Issaquah Special Needs Group: Save the date and spread the word! The first meeting of the Issaquah Special Needs Group will take place on **Tuesday, October 13th, 7:00-8:30 pm at Issaquah Middle School.** Come meet other parents with special needs students from around the Issaquah School District. Help brainstorm ideas for future topics at our monthly meetings. Kick back and relax a little! It will be a casual atmosphere with light refreshments. Come for the whole time or drop in for a short stay. Check out our information web page: <http://www.issaquahptsa.org/parented/attachments/SpNdsPrntGr.pdf>

PTSA: Our next meeting is Thursday, October 15th at 8:45 a.m. in P-6. It is a Joint Board and General Membership Meeting. We will be voting on requests from our Cougar Ridge staff to fund curricula and programs. This is a great opportunity to participate and stay informed of PTSA funding and upcoming events. We hope to see you there.

The 40th annual PTSA Reflections Art Competition is underway! 12 Finalists will be chosen and receive Cold Stone Ice Cream certificates! Entry Forms, Rules, and Guidelines (by artistic category) are available in the Reflections binder in the front hallway or at www.wastatepta.org/programs/reflections/forms.html.

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming!!! On **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/cougarrridge>. Volunteers are needed to help. We particularly need volunteers for Thursday Oct. 29th, 3:45-6:00 pm and 5:45-8:30 pm and Friday Oct. 30th, 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

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 174 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...please help if you are able!

The next Student Council meeting is Tuesday, October 20th at 7:20 am. Students that are interested in running for a Student Council officer position (President, Vice President, Secretary or Room Rep - descriptions of these can be found at: <http://www.cougar.issaquah.wednet.edu/studentcouncil.htm>), will need to be prepared to give a one minute (max) speech to the Council. The Officers (and committees which will be formed) run Student Council with parent-volunteer guidance. If you have any questions please contact your parent volunteers, Shelly Hall at rogers-halffamily@verizon.net or Krista Prescott at kristagp@comcast.net.

Calling all parents of Student Council members: We are creating a database of parents who can help with supplies, snacks, or coordination of humanitarian projects. This might be a 1-time need or more if you'd like. Please contact Krista Prescott at kristagp@comcast.net if you are willing to support Student Council! Thank you!

ISF Calling for Kids Needs You! In September, all families were mailed a red envelope asking for donations to Issaquah Schools Foundation. Please give generously! ISF's **Calling for Kids** fund drive will help the district provide our students with the comprehensive 21st Century education they need for success. **This year's campaign goal is 100% participation.** If every District family contributes, the Foundation can raise over \$1.4 million for our schools. ISF is asking families to: **Join Calling for Kids** with a \$50 donation, a \$5 per month gift via EFT or whatever they can afford. **Renew and if possible, increase their previous Calling for Kids support.** High school students will call all families on October 20th and 21st. Log onto www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org or call 425.416.2045 to make your donation today. Thank you!

Spooky Spaghetti Dinner October 23rd 6:00-8:00 pm - Pre-sale tickets are selling fast! Please pre-register your family for this great event ASAP. Forms are available in the office. All pre-registered families will be entered in our drawing to sit at our special VIP table. Don't miss out! Deadline for the drawing is October 15th. Questions? Kari Alexander jkralexander@msn.com or Stacey Eastern stacey@easternfamily.net

There are still spaces left in the Spanish and Mandarin Chinese classes - Foreign language classes will begin in late October and will be held one day a week after school in the Multi-purpose room. There are openings in the Monday afternoon beginning Spanish class and in the Friday afternoon Mandarin Chinese class. For more information and a registration form please email Suzanne Marston at smarston7@comcast.net

Parent Education: The Parent Ed bulletin board, located in the main hallway just outside the office, provides information on lectures, seminars and other suggested resources. Feel free to check out books in the PTSA Parent Ed resource library, located beneath the bulletin board. Any donations of "gently used" Parent Ed books would be greatly appreciated!! For more information and/or suggestions about this year's Parent Ed program, please contact Natasha Vorley @ nvorley@gmail.com.



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 up-stairs 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 the school 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 will go home with your student next 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.

5TH GRADE ORCHESTRA REGISTRATIONS are being accepted for 5th grade students to participate in orchestra classes held at Issaquah Middle Schools. Classes are held on Mondays and Fridays, 7:30-8:00 AM beginning in October. Information and registration forms can be obtained at <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/academics/Programs/orchestra.aspx>. For information about the orchestra program, please contact Jana Dalpez, 425-837-6948.