



COUGAR RIDGE WEEKLY

Parent Newsletter

Volume 14, #2

Sept. 10, 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



Mrs. Lowe's Kindergartners perform a "Freight Train" song, with their new choir teacher, Ann Marie Petry.

Calendar



10th	All School Curriculum Night 6:00-6:45 pm Kind-2nd Grades 6:45-7:15 pm Chance to meet Other staff 7:15-8:00 pm 3rd-5th Grades 8:00-8:30 pm 5th gr. Camp Mtg
16-18	5th Grade- Camp Orkila
16th	Bus Passes can be issued
22nd	Student Council, 7:20 am, MPR
23rd	September Birthday Celebrations- during lunch
25th	Class & Individual Pictures
29th	Kindergarten Story Night, 7-7:45 pm
30th	Spirit Day

**ALL FIRST DAY PACKETS SHOULD
HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO THE
COUGAR RIDGE OFFICE.**

First Day Packet Information

This is a reminder to return all of the paperwork from the first day packets that needed to be returned. There were some very time sensitive forms enclosed along with important emergency contact information that need to be on file here at the school. We thank you for returning all your forms in a timely manner.

Parking- When parents come to volunteer or visit at school **PLEASE** be sure to park only in **unnumbered** spots or on the street. Numbered spots are assigned to staff and the spot marked **AUCTION** is also reserved. Thank you.

Transportation Department & BUS PASSES - The Transportation Department has informed us that bus passes will not be issued until Wednesday, September 16th.

Vision and Hearing Volunteers Needed!- Volunteers are needed to help with the Vision and Hearing Screening that is scheduled for **Friday, October 16th**. No experience is necessary, and training will be provided. If you can help, please contact Elaine Sakamoto at 425-957-7609 or at ehsieh1@aol.com. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Holiday Program to help families in need- 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. There will not be a separate District Holiday Program this year. The Food Bank program fills up quickly so be sure to contact your school nurse before the end of October.



Welcome Back! We're looking forward to a great year with a wonderful group of ISF/PTSA Liaisons. **What is an ISF/PTSA Liaison?** Your "go-to" guy or gal for all Issaquah Schools Foundation information. ISF/PTSA Representatives do a tremendous job of building bridges of understanding, support, and enthusiasm between our schools and the ISF. This year's ISF/PTSA Liaisons at Cougar Ridge are: Elizabeth Brown (425-746-3525) and Jill Dixon (206-295-6884). Please feel free to contact them with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the Issaquah Schools Foundation.

ISF Needs You...to Contribute to *Calling for Kids*- the Foundation's campaign to raise funds to help the District provide students with a comprehensive 21st Century education—is in full swing. Parents were mailed informational postcards over the summer and will receive personalized appeals by mid-September. **This year's campaign goal is 100% participation.** If every District family contributes, the Foundation can easily raise over 1.4 million for our schools. ISF is asking families to **join the campaign with a \$50 donation** or to **renew and, if possible, increase their previous *Calling for Kids* support.** High school students will call all families on October 20th and 21st. To avoid a call, log onto www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org to make a secure online donation or download a ***Calling for Kids*** flier. For more information, please check the ISF [website](http://www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org) or contact the ISF office, 425.416.2045.

Make ISF Your Facebook Friend! ISF is becoming social media savvy! Thanks to the volunteer efforts of Krista Mui, ISF has a Facebook page. Take a moment to join our family. You'll be privy to pictures, fun tidbits, and behind-the-scenes information. Find us at www.facebook.com.

Nourish Every Mind It's not gone...we've just moved it to the Spring. Keep reading your PTSA newsletter and watch the ISF website for the date and location.

VOICE Mentor Program- (Volunteers Of Issaquah Changing Education) The VOICE Mentor Program is looking for community volunteers to work one on one with Issaquah students. These students are referred by teachers and counselors as needing extra support whether it is academic, social or emotional. The Volunteer commitment is one hour per week through the school year. The Volunteers work in the school setting in partnership with the school staff. ***Our volunteers routinely state that they make a strong bond with their student and "get more than they give."*** We strive to make the students and mentors time together meaningful and valued. Placements are made based on the mentors' interests. Whether a mentor's passion is literacy, ELL students, math or another area, we have a place for you in Issaquah schools. **Please help us recruit your neighbors, friends, relatives or colleagues to become a mentor.** For further information contact: Susan Gierke, VOICE Mentor Director
E-mail: VOICE @issaquah.wednet.edu Phone: 425-837-7139

Parent Volunteer Opportunity - We are looking for parents who are usually home during the day to help with the release of students in the event of an emergency. These people would be contacted and asked to come to the school and assist the staff in efficiently releasing the student to the parent or guardian listed on the emergency release forms. Parents volunteering cannot have any younger children with them. Please contact the main office if you are interested in offering assistance at 425-837-7300.

Is your child interested in learning Spanish or Mandarin Chinese this year? Foreign language classes will begin in late October and will be held one day a week after school in the Multipurpose room. Classes will be held only if minimum participation is met. For more information and a registration form please email Suzanne Marston at smarston7@comcast.net or pick up a flyer and form near the school's main entrance.

Chess Club- The Cougar Ridge Chess club will begin meeting Wednesday, September 23. The club meets from 7:15 AM - 8:10 AM every Wednesday morning in the Multipurpose room. There is no charge to participate and all ages and skill levels are welcome. Please call Jill Dixon with any questions at 206-295-6884.



Crossing Guards needed!!! Come suit up with a smile and one of our O' so stylish yellow crossing guard vests and help us for fifteen minutes in the morning or afternoon. Crossing Guard assistance is needed while our 5th graders attend Camp Orkila for three days from Wed to Fri, Sept 16th, 17th and 18th. We need parents to help patrol our intersections on Wed morning, Sept 16th from 8:00 to 8:15 am, Wed afternoon from 12:25 to 12:40 pm, Thurs & Fri morning from 8:15 to 8:30 am and Thurs & Fri afternoons from 2:50 to 3:05 pm. Please contact Elaine Sakamoto at ehsieh1@aol.com or 425-957-7609 if you can help.

Reminder to all who graciously volunteered to be the Room Parent for their child's classroom: training will be held on Wednesday September 23rd at 7:15 pm in the Multi-purpose room here at Cougar Ridge. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kate Emerson at dkesea5@comcast.net. Thank you for volunteering for this important job!

Spring 2009 WASL Results WASL results from spring 2009 testing will be available in Family Access for students who tested in grades 3-12, beginning the afternoon of Friday, September 11. Families without internet access may request paper copies from their child's school. Forgotten log-in or password information for Family Access may be obtained from individual schools.

High school score reports, including 10th grade science scores, will be mailed home on September 16.

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has created one-page summaries of learning expectations for students in grades K-10 called Your Child's Progress. These summaries may be viewed or downloaded at the following link on the OSPI website.

<http://www.k12.wa.us/resources/default.aspx>

Results from the August WASL testing will not be available until November or December. This year the Measures of Student Progress (MSP) will replace the WASL for grades 3-8 and the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) will replace the high school WASL.



Get Ready to Wrap... What do chocolate, gift wrap and green frog oven mitts have in common? All of these items (and more!) can be found in the Innisbrook Catalog for this year's Fall Fundraiser! This important event raised money for classroom enhancements and programs for Cougar Ridge. Sales kits will be going home with students on Thursday, September 10th. In addition, we will have a table set up at

Curriculum Night, September 10th, to answer any questions you may have regarding our fundraiser. Please share the brochure and/or website link (user friendly site makes it easy at www.innisbrook.com) with friends and family to help support Cougar Ridge! This year we have a special incentive for participation....If we reach our sales goal of \$10,000, Ms. Tanner will literally...



GO BANANAS!

If you have any questions please contact Holly Zakharenko at 425-956-3649 or holly@zakharenko.com.

Community Class and Sports Offerings: When you receive an E-News from Cougar Ridge please be sure to read to the bottom of the E-News to the "Cougar Ridge's Community Flyers". This is where you can find out about after school classes being offered and non-profit activities and sports team information.