



ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1417 SAN FRANCISCO AVE. NE. • OLYMPIA • WASHINGTON 98506 • (360) 596-6700

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY: 1908-2008

November 2007

Dear Roosevelt Families,

How I love the holiday season! It is my favorite time of the year. Although we can reflect upon what we have and what we are accomplishing at any time of the year, our November calendar gives us specific dates where as a nation we come together. We came together as a school community on November 14th for our Veterans' Day assembly where we took time to think about the sacrifice our men and women in uniform have made in serving our country. We paid tribute with our time, our song, and hearts. This week families all over America will come together around a Thanksgiving table and share in friendship and food.

Many of us have much to be thankful for at this time of the year; family, friends, good health, and a steady income. Some families, however, may find themselves without some of the very things which many of us take for granted. Family members may not be present (perhaps deployed), poor health may be taking its toll on a loved one, or perhaps a parent has recently lost a job. Whether these are temporary setbacks or something more long-term, the fact remains that food still needs to be placed on the table, a roof kept over the family's head, and kids need to be fed, dressed and ready for school.

In previous years, our recently elected School Board Member Frank Wilson, planned, coordinated and distributed items to Roosevelt families in need, but with his child moving on to middle school, we have lost Frank and his expertise! However, Roosevelt is proud to reintroduce Franks' original concept as the "Holiday Gift Drive", a program intended to provide the children of Roosevelt families who may be having a little financial hardship, with a gift for the holidays. We urge all families and community members to participate in adopting a child and providing a wrapped gift for the holidays.

In closing, the Roosevelt staff and I would like to wish you and your families a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Domenico Spatola-Knoll
Principal

Roosevelt Holiday Gift Drive

Every year at this time, the Roosevelt and greater community offers support to families during the holidays. This year, we are holding a Holiday Gift Drive to collect gifts for Roosevelt families.

If you are interested in participating, stop in and see our secretary, Debbie Lindquist.

- Debbie has a list of all the items that have been requested by families.
- Choose the item(s) that you would like to purchase, Debbie will give you an item tag with the information you will need.
- Purchase the item, wrap it and return it to the office by December 5 with the gift tag attached.
- You could choose to give a cash donation. Some donors do not have the time to purchase a gift, so feel free to give a cash donation and we will do the shopping.

Lisa Palazzi, a Roosevelt parent, has offered to help coordinate the Holiday Gift Drive. As we near December 5th, she will be e-mailing an updated list of items that are still needed for our families.

If you have questions feel free to contact Michele Zodrow, counselor, at 360.596.6704, Debbie Lindquist at 360.596.6700 or Lisa Palazzi at pacificrim@tss.net.

Thank you for your support.

SFA News

We are completing our first eight week cycle of SFA reading. All students will be tested to determine progress made at this point. We will then analyze the results to best determine how to proceed. Students that regularly practice at home develop greater fluency and vocabulary. Research shows that fluent readers tend to do better in all subject areas. During the month of October, 68% of our students completed their at home reading every week and returned their pink “read and respond” forms every Friday. During September, 73% of our students completed their at home reading. This is a 5% drop in at home reading practice. Please be sure that daily reading is a

regular part of your family routine. The success of our children depends on it.

Many students and parents have been asking when AR (Accelerated Reader) will start. As soon as our district website is up and running we will begin. We anticipate this will be coming soon. We will plan a kickoff assembly when everything is ready to go.

Question of the month: How can I help my child increase their vocabulary?

Answer: Children learn the meaning of most words indirectly, through everyday experience with spoken and written language. Young children learn most meanings through conversations with other people, especially adults. The more spoken language children have, the more word meanings they have. Children also learn word meanings from listening to adults read to them. It is especially helpful when the reader pauses during reading to discuss the meaning of unfamiliar words. Children with greater vocabularies get more meaning from what they read.

Looking for Reading Buddies

Do you love reading and sharing the joy of reading with others? Do you pick your child up from school every day? Would you consider coming to school 20 minutes early at the end of the day?

You just might be the perfect reading buddy for a student in need of extra attention and support. Please contact Mrs. Harkness at 360.596.6728.



With your assistance we can help more Roosevelt students succeed.

Volunteers Needed

Roosevelt is very thankful for the many volunteers who come through our doors each day to work with our children. We are, however, seeking volunteers to help our collaboration afternoons.



If you are available to volunteer from 1:00pm to 3:00pm on Fridays, please contact Heather in the office at 596-6711 or hgajkowski@osd.wednet.edu. Thank you!

Enrichment Classes for Kids

This is an exciting opportunity for our parents and community members to get involved by providing meaningful enrichment opportunities for all our children. If you have a hobby or interest you would like to share, this is the opportunity you have been waiting for!

Ideas for enrichment classes include, but are not limited to:

- Chess Club
- Weaving
- Stamp Collecting
- Foreign Language
- Art/Drawing
- Dance
- Photography
- Reading Circle
- Reader's Theatre
- Yoga

The number of students, age range, and duration of a class or session can be tailored to meet your needs. We would love to have you here!

For more information on presenting after-school enrichment classes, please call 360.349.1311, or send an email to jessicarae@awildiris.com.

If you prefer to volunteer or share your interests in the classroom, during school hours, please contact Heather in the office at 360.596.6711 or email hgajkowski@osd.wednet.edu. Thank you!

The Roosevelt Foundation Coat Exchange

The Roosevelt Foundation Coat Exchange is still available outside the gym to make sure that every student has access to a warm coat as the cold weather settles in. If your child needs a winter coat, please feel free to take one. If your child has outgrown a coat that's still in good condition, please consider donating it to the coat exchange!

Thank you!
Melinda Spencer

Bus Drivers Wanted

Do you like to travel? Do you like driving? How about working for the Olympia School District as a school bus driver?

Drivers make \$12.97 per hour the first year, \$13.91 the second and \$15.90 the third year. Drivers also earn State retirement and Teamsters retirement.

Olympia Transportation Department will train. Call 360.596.7700 for more information.

Arrival/Departure Times

In recent weeks we have seen children dropped off at school well before 8:40 am when there is no staff to supervise.

The bell signaling the start of school rings at 8:55am. Gym supervision begins at 8:40 am. Please keep these times in mind when dropping off your children at school.

8:40 a.m.	Breakfast is served
8:40 a.m.	Supervision in Gym begins. (<i>There is no supervision before this time.</i>)
8:55 a.m.	School Starts (First bell)
9:00 a.m.	<i>Students must be in their seats by 9:00am to avoid being marked tardy.</i>
3:17 p.m.	Dismissal

The YMCA (360.705.2642) offers before and after school Y-Care in the cafeteria for students who need to be dropped off before 8:40 am.

Picture Retakes



Was your child absent on Picture day? Did your child blink or grimace? Don't worry; Picture Retake Day has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 28th! Watch your child's Red Folder for more details.

STOP PRESS: JUST IN!

Accelerated Reader / Renaissance Place

Olympia School District has purchased the web-based version of Accelerated Reader which gives school access to thousands of book titles! We were scheduled to begin in September, but software glitches caused one delay after another.

Unfortunately, this meant that our busy readers were unable to take AR tests. Well the wait is finally over; AR is in finally the building!

We still have one or two challenges to iron out, one of which is how to get kids back on the computers and taking AR tests. We have been working on several approaches which we soon be sharing with families. Thank you all for your patience and understanding.

Parent Notes to the Office

With so many students attending Roosevelt, it is very difficult to keep track of parent notes explaining absences or requesting a child be excused early for a dentist appointment. Many of the notes we receive read something like this:

Hello,

*I would like to pick up
Sammy at 2:45 today for
a dentist appointment.*

*Thank you,
Jane*

Although we appreciate the note, the office is unable to respond appropriately because we don't know which of our Sammys this is.

It would be very helpful to the office if notes from home included the following information:

Child's Full Name

Teacher's Name

Parent Full Name

Phone Number

This information will help us better respond to families' needs. Thank you!

Medication at School:

If your child has a need for any medication to be taken at school (including over-the-counter medications like cough drops, Tylenol, etc) we must have a current school year Medication Administration Authorization form signed by the parent *and* a physician. To ease the situation, you may call your child's doctor and request that they fax the authorization to: Tonya Bosch, RN at 360.596.6701. Once received, we can make arrangements for you to sign the form. This is a good time to start thinking about medications for 5th grade CISPUS (Claritin, Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Inhalers, ADHD medications, etc). Just have the doctor indicate for "Outdoor School." Any medication that your child needs to have administered outside the home **MUST** have an authorization.

Understanding Test Scores: Parent Education Classes

Confused by the MAP score reports? Trying to understand what is "standard" on the WASL? Alice Burman will explain, in simple terms, what all the numbers mean.

Knox Administrative Center
1113 Legion Way SE
November 6, 2007
6:30-8:00 pm

There will be free child care at Madison Gym.

Call Kathie Axtell at 596-7560 or
kaxtell@osd.wednet.edu to register

K-4th Math for Parents: Parent Education Classes

How can you help your child in math? Learn how you can support and extend your child's mathematical thinking without a homework tug-o-war!

Knox Administrative Center
1113 Legion Way SE
6:30-8:00 pm

There will be free child care at Madison Gym

Call Kathie Axtell at 596-7560 or
kaxtell@osd.wednet.edu to register.

Calendar

Nov 16th Report Cards Went Home
Nov 22nd- 23rd . Thanksgiving. No School
Nov 26th Passport Check Day
Dec 7th Early Release Day (12:52)
Dec 17th Passport Check Day
Dec 19th-Jan 1st Winter Break
Jan 21st Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No
School)

Feb 15th-18th ...Mid-Winter Break
Mar 7th Teacher In-Service Day (No
School)
Mar 24th-28th ..Spring Conferences
April 7th-11th ...Spring Break
May 26th Memorial Day
June 16th Last Day of School