



ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

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

Dear Roosevelt Families,

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year! We begin this school year with more than 50 new families to Roosevelt, increasing our student population by 20 additional students. Wow! Roosevelt also has hired several new staff members to replace teachers or specialists who have either retired or moved to other schools. Roosevelt also hired an extra teacher due to increased enrollment. We are very fortunate to have these new staff member as members of our Roosevelt community.

Jacob Baker.....	4 th Grade
Sarah Adderley.....	4 th Grade
Carrie Ferguson.....	2 nd Grade
Elizabeth Peterson.....	Preschool
Heather Holter.....	Speech Therapist
Jodi Boreson.....	School Psychologist

Roosevelt is a welcoming place with incredible parent and community support. If you are looking for a satisfying volunteering opportunity please consider volunteering at Roosevelt. We are always looking for parents to come in and buddy read, or perhaps work on math facts with our children. Teachers often seek parent helpers to work on special projects, work with small groups of students, or to help with field trips. We are also looking for parents or community members to teach after-school classes or to present mini lessons on Friday afternoons. There are many opportunities to volunteer, so don't be afraid to ask Heather at the front desk (360.596.6711) or your child's teacher if you are interested.

With so many new families starting Roosevelt, this newsletter is mostly informational, most likely repeating information which many of our families already know. Do take some time to review the information, particularly concerning issues related to safety, such as riding school buses, bikes, and attendance. The safety of each and every child is our priority. It is important that we work together to ensure this by completing all information forms accurately, letting the office know when your child is absent or is going home in a manner different than our records show.

I am readily available by e-mail at dsknoll@osd.wednet.edu. Alternatively, you may call me at 360.596.6700 to make an appointment, or to leave a message.

Sincerely,
Domenico Spatola-Knoll
(AKA Mr. DSK)

Through an active partnership among staff, students, and parents, the mission of Roosevelt School is to provide a safe, enjoyable, and challenging environment where all children develop the skills and enthusiasm necessary for lifelong learning.

Have You Returned Your Forms?

It is important for us to have complete and accurate records for your child. The following forms were passed out during the first week of school. Please return them to the office if you still have them at home.

- Emergency Form (Pink)
- Lunch Form (White)
- Handbook (Return only pages 43 & 45)
- Registration Card (Pink)
- Health Form (Yellow)

Buses, Transportation, and Pick Up



The Olympia School District Transportation Department provides safe, effective transportation for students in our school communities. It is important for us to work together to ensure that

the system runs smoothly and that we know exactly how each of our students is getting home.

If your child is a bus rider, it is important that we be notified if s/he is going home with a friend or being picked up by a parent. Children should not make their own changes without the consent of parents. Please let the office know of changes to pick up as early as possible. Please note that we are unable to release any child to a person who is not listed on the Emergency Form. **We will ID all persons picking up your child other than the legal parents or guardians with whom the child lives.**

We are also investigating ways of better communicating to parents when a child does not appear to be on a school bus. (In most cases this is because there has been a change in pick up plan which we were not aware of.) We will first attempt to contact family and friends on the Emergency Form. If we are still unable to locate the child, the police will be called. *Should there be any suspicious circumstances involved, the police will be called immediately.*

Another important point concerns parents picking up their children in private vehicles. We ask that

you park your car and collect your child from the flag pole area. It is dangerous for students to cross a busy parking lot or street without parent supervision.

We take your child's safety very seriously. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated.

STOP Signs

The Olympia Police Department is reminding parents to come to a complete and full stop at the STOP sign before turning into the school parking lot with their vehicles. The STOP signs are strategically placed for the safety of pedestrians and our students. Drivers who do not come to a complete and full stop will be ticketed.



Bicycle Safety

Students may come to school on their bicycles, but a properly fitting helmet must be worn when riding the bike. All bikes should be safely locked at the bike rack to prevent loss or theft.

Shoes With Wheels ("Heelies")

Shoes with wheels ("Heelies") are strongly discouraged for school use. If unavoidable, students are instructed to not engage the wheel mechanism at school. The use of these shoes in the playground or hallways can lead to accidents and students getting hurt. If the wheels cannot be retracted, children should come to school with other, more suitable shoes.

Visiting Roosevelt

Parents are very welcome to visit the school and meet with staff. We do ask that all visitors stop by the office first to sign in and obtain a visitor's badge. Regular Roosevelt volunteers will also need to sign in and collect your pre-made identification badge. Please note that any visitor without a badge will be approached and asked to sign in at the office.

Absences and Tardies

We would like to thank all our families for making sure that your children arrive at school on time and ready for class. The first bell rings at

8:55 a.m. and students should be in their seats by 9:00 a.m. Children who arrive after 9:00 a.m. will not only lose valuable class time, but will also be marked as tardy in our reporting system.

If a trip to the doctor or dentist is required, we ask that whenever possible, families schedule these appointments for after school or during the lunch hour. Frequent morning appointments, for example, will result in a child missing important components of our reading program that in turn may make it difficult for the child to make the progress we expect and would like. Your continued support in this matter is greatly appreciated!

If your child is going to be tardy or absent, please call our attendance line at 596.6703.

Arrival/Departure Times

8:40 a.m.	Breakfast is served
8:40 a.m.	Supervision in Gym begins. (<i>There is no gym 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 (705.2642) offers before and after school Y-Care in the cafeteria for students who need to be dropped off before 8:40 am.

Meeting With Your Child's Teacher



If you need to meet with your child's teacher before school, please make an appointment with the teacher ahead of time. Teachers are busy preparing lessons, at meetings, or working with students. If it is an urgent

need, please call or come into the office to speak with us and we will assist you.

Dress for School

Please make sure your child leaves home dressed appropriately for the day's weather. School is a

place of learning and activity so clothing should be appropriate for both. We ask that students cover their midsection and do not wear short shorts, short skirts/skorts or spaghetti-strap tops. Shoes should allow for running in PE and recess. Open-toed shoes or flip-flops restrict physical activity and can be dangerous. For cold weather, be sure your child has a warm coat, a hat or hood for rain, and appropriate shoes that allow for physical activity and running while also keeping the feet dry. We also ask that students do not wear or bring makeup to school.

Please label all coats, backpacks, and lunch bags with your child's name and room number. In case of loss, these items will be much more likely to be returned to their owners.

A Note from Ms. O'Donnell

Dear Roosevelt Students, Parents and Community,

I want to thank you for a wonderful and memorable 17 years. I was born and raised here and feel I have become a well-rounded teacher because of the Roosevelt Community.

It was a difficult decision to leave such a wonderful place. Roosevelt will always have a special place in my heart and the friends I have made here will always remain important to me.

Thank you again for many years of wisdom and memories. Roosevelt will always be a grand old school, a high ranking school and the best in the west. Where the kids are smart and do their part. Roosevelt is in my heart to stay!

Mrs. O'Donnell

PS I'm in room 8 at Madison if you ever want to stop by.

PSS My email is sodonel@osd.wednet.edu

"Rise Up Reading"

With Wonderful Books from the Roosevelt Library

All Roosevelt students have access to our impressively large collection (over 14,000 titles) of books, and they participate in library classes each week during the school year. Thanks to the support of our P.T.A. and annual book fair, we're

able to purchase new books that support the curriculum, provide independent reading practice, and enlighten readers of all ages. We look forward to meeting new families to our school, and giving you a tour. Whether you're interested in something from our "New Books" display, or an old favorite, we're confident you'll find something you'll enjoy. Literacy is a key to success in life, and we're here to help that happen!

Summer Readers Celebrate with Ice Cream

All Roosevelt students who participated in a summer reading program such as the one at Timberland Regional Library are invited to join us for our annual ice cream sundae celebration at Bigelow Park on Thursday afternoon, September 27th. The T.R.L.'s "Congratulations, Summer Reader!" Certificate will serve as proof of your child's participation. We are collecting those certificates in the library, and will send home permission slips with more specific information. If you have questions, please contact me in the library at 596-6702.

A big thank you goes to Julie Cotterell, and her P.T.A. crew who are gathering the sundae ingredients and serving the yummy treats!

Anticipating another great year of reading adventures!

Margo Hill, Roosevelt's Teacher-Librarian



SFA News

Roosevelt's Success For All (SFA) reading classes began on Friday, September 14th. All students, grades 1 through 5 were tested and placed in reading groups according to their present skill level. Every 8 weeks we will reassess students to monitor their growth and identify which individuals may benefit from additional tutoring. Students who have shown significant growth may be moved to a higher reading group.

Please help our students become successful readers. We ask parents to:

- a) Make sure children are at school daily by 8:55. Reading classes are held throughout the school from 9:15 until 10:45.
- b) Each student should read for 20 minutes at least four times per week. Parents are asked to sign the pink "At Home Reading" slips weekly and return them on Friday.
- c) Postpone doctor and dentist appointments until after reading time. Lessons are built upon one another and are so packed that students need to be in class every day for maximum growth.

School Community Council Members

Our School Community Site Council meets once a month to assist with the governance of our school with special projects and managing the budget of the Roosevelt Foundation. Meetings are open to anyone interested in attending. Most decisions are made using a consensus model but if a vote is needed, only members may vote. For more information call or email Mr. Spatola-Knoll

Math Tubs

Over the summer, the Math Curriculum Group has been working hard on collecting all of the items paid for by last year's Auction fundraiser. We raised \$750.00 at that auction to go toward a goal of math tubs for each pod within the school. These tubs may be used at any time – when parent helping, playing after school or any time you think it would be helpful to your child or other students. They will be set up this month and there will be easy instructions for their use within the tubs. They are filled with games, rulers, counters, clocks and other fun math activities that only take a few minutes or can be used for longer play. Check them out! Any questions, feel free to contact Anne Hanlon-Meyer at 352.5874 or Karin Ganz at 352.3482.

EPICC: After School Enrichment Classes.

The EPICC program (Enrichment Program Involving Caregivers and Community) has been created in order to provide after school enrichment activities for our students. It is an exciting opportunity for our parents and community to get

involved in their local school and to provide meaningful enrichment opportunities for all our children.

Jessicarae Nuñez will be coordinating our after school enrichment program through EPICC. You may contact Jessicarae with your ideas for after school enrichment classes for our students. For more information please call 349.1311, or send an email to jessicarae@awildiris.com

Volunteers Needed

Parent volunteers are an important and much needed part of our school. We are always looking for new volunteers and ideas, so if you have tasks you would like to take on, contact our volunteer coordinator, Heather Gajkowski at 596.6911, or your child's teacher. We will get you set up with what you need and point you in the right direction!

Here is a partial list of volunteer ideas and opportunities for you to try. There are many other things we have left out, so if you don't see what you are interested in, ask!

- Classroom Help
- EPICC
- Field Trip Chaperones
- Garden Club
- Buddy Readers
- Homework Club
- Math Facts Help
- Office Volunteers
- Passport
- PTA
- Reading With Children
- School Council
- Student Banking
- Lunchtime Reading Assistance
- Student Store
- Teacher Collaboration 1-3 Friday Only
- Other Activities Which May Be Needed

TITLE 1 Information

Title 1 is the largest federal aid program for our nation's schools. The intent of Title 1 schools and the No Child Left Behind Act is to improve the performance of all our students. Each state receives a basic grant for the program annually. The state then sends allotments to school districts based on the number of low income families.

Roosevelt is a school-wide Title 1 School because its free/reduced lunch count is 33.1%. Each eligible student generates funding for this program. Those funds allow us to provide extra help to students in reading and math. If our free or reduced numbers drop, we will lose much of our Title 1 funding, and the ability to maintain some of the great programs we have at Roosevelt. It is important therefore, that families who may be eligible, fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch form which was sent home the first week of school.

What are Title 1 funds used for at Roosevelt?

- Salaries for our Title 1 teachers and paraprofessionals
- Extra supplementary books and software
- Parent education classes and family literacy activities

Key Elements of the *No Child Left Behind Act*

- Highly Qualified: Teachers and paraprofessionals must be highly qualified. All of our staff meet this rigorous standard.
- Student Accountability: Each 3rd-8th grade student is tested on the WASL in reading and math. Students who do not meet the standard on the tests are given extra support and placed on student learning plans.
- Adequate Yearly Progress: Each school is given a "Report Card" which tells how successful the school has been in reaching all groups of students. Roosevelt not only makes adequate yearly progress, but exceeds many other schools with similar student populations.
- Parent Choice in Failing Schools: More choices are given to parents in schools that are failing to meet adequate yearly progress. Parents can transfer their child from a failing school or be provided supplemental services if the school is not meeting adequate yearly progress. Fortunately, Roosevelt is not a failing school, and students continue to learn and grow each day.

District Seeks Parents to Serve on K-12 Science Task Force

The Olympia School District invites interested parents to apply for membership to the K-12 Science Task Force. This committee will study student performance, district goals, current research on best practices in science education, the State standards, and important work at the state and national levels. With input from stakeholder

groups, the committee will develop priorities for the refinement of the current science program. The twenty month commitment to the task force will begin October 15, 2007 and extend through spring 2009. In the first year, the Task Force will meet on one Monday per month, from 3:45 to 5:45.

Representatives on this committee are expected to act as liaisons to the stakeholder groups they represent. The District is seeking four parent members, one for each of the following levels (K-Gr.2, Gr.3-5, Gr.6-8, Gr. 9-12).

Applications, due September 25, can be picked up at Knox, the Roosevelt Office, or by contacting: Debbi Hardy, Curriculum Director 360.596.8551

Thank You for the Donations!

A big “thank you” goes out to the congregation of Olympia First Baptist Church and The Olympia Square Dancers at Lac-a-Do Hall. They collected and donated many school supplies for Roosevelt students. Supplies donated include: backpacks, pencils, markers, scissors, tissues, glue sticks, colored pencils, crayons and pens.

Any family needing help with school supplies should contact our school counselor, Michelle Zodrow at 596.6704. All requests will be kept confidential. Again, thank you to Reverend Sievers and the entire congregation of Olympia First Baptist Church, and also to the Olympia Square Dancers. Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated!

Kelso’s Choice



This fall marks the fifth year of our school-wide adoption of Kelso’s Choices. This program teaches children to distinguish between big problems (those that are unsafe, dangerous, against the law, or causes a child to feel safe or frightened), and small problems. *The only solution for big problems is to report them to a trusted adult as soon as possible.*

If it’s a small problem, students are encouraged to try at least two of the nine problem-solving strategies before reporting the problem to an adult.

If, after two attempts the child is unsuccessful at solving the problem, it is time to ask an adult to help.

Problem-solving strategies include:

- Go to another game or activity
- Share and take turns
- Respectfully talk it over and listen to each other
- Ignore the problem behavior
- Tell the person to stop the problem behavior
- Apologize
- Make a deal or compromise
- Wait and cool off before attempting to solve the problem yourself.

Many Roosevelt families have found Kelso’s Choices to be useful for problem solving as well. We have provided a copy of the Kelso’s Choices Wheel for your use at home.

If you have any questions about this curriculum, please feel free to call Michele Zodrow at 596.6704.

Calendar

Sept 20thCurriculum Night
Sept 28thEarly Release Day. Students go home at 12:52
Oct 6thPTA Harvest Festival
Oct 12th – 18th Conference Week
Oct 19thNo School
Nov 12thVeterans’ Day. No School
Nov 22nd- 23rd ..Thanksgiving. No School
Dec 7thEarly Release Day (12:52)
Dec 19th–Jan 1st Winter Break
Jan 21stMartin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)
Feb 15th-18th ...Mid-Winter Break
Mar 7thTeacher In-Service Day (No School)
Mar 24th-28th ..Spring Conferences
April 7th-11th ...Spring Break
May 26thMemorial Day
June 16thLast Day of School

Roosevelt Elementary Parent and Community Member Volunteer Opportunities

Roosevelt prides itself on having a very dedicated and involved parent community. We have many opportunities for parents to help all our children succeed in having a wonderful elementary school experience. Volunteer opportunities are varied, and can often be accommodated to meet your time commitment or schedule. This list of volunteer opportunities is growing as you can see by the list below. Why not consider volunteering at Roosevelt? You'll find the experience extremely rewarding and satisfying.

Classroom Volunteers: Volunteers are welcome to work directly with the kids in the classroom. Contact your child's teacher(s).

Centennial Year: Roosevelt Turns 100 this year! Both the PTA and the Site Council have plans to mark this milestone with activities and events.

EPICC: (Enrichment Program Involving Caregivers and Community), an after-school program, offers children opportunities to learn additional hands-on skills outside the classroom. To share a skill or talent with Roosevelt students, volunteers can offer a class. There are also other ways to volunteer. Contact Jessicarae Nuñez at 349-1311 or email jessicarae@awildiris.com.

Junior Programs: Live children's theatre for all students (except ½ day K). Volunteers needed to usher and coordinate.

Reading and Lunch Buddies, Library, Office Volunteers: There's always a lot to do in the Library and in the school office. Reading buddies and lunch buddies team up with the kids for learning and fun! Contact Librarian Margo Hill or Heather Gajkowski at 596-6711.

PTA: Contact Lisa Perry 956-1718: Join the PTA and put your talents to use helping us earn money for school assemblies, library books, teacher supplies, field trips, and for numerous other activities. Help is also needed to organize and staff annual activities. Here's a sampling.

Carnival/Auction: Roosevelt's Annual Spring Carnival and Auction Fundraiser is an evening of fun activities for the kids, dinner, dessert, and the chance to bid on some fabulous items in the Auction. Volunteers with enthusiasm and/or experience are needed to plan and staff carnival

activities, procure, transport, and display items for the auction, staff the event, and help with follow-up.

Make A Difference Day: Parents and kids lend a hand to weed our schoolyard, tend the garden, pick up litter, and beautify our school grounds. Help to organize or just show up!

Passport Club: This optional program conducted during school allows children to learn geography at grade-specific levels and travel with a "passport" with stamps from various countries.

Room Representatives: Be a liaison between your child's teacher and classroom parents.

Roosevelt Dreams Garden Committee: If you're interested in helping the Roosevelt Dreams Garden bloom, join the garden committee.

Sally Foster Gift Wrap Fundraiser: Help earn money for Roosevelt through selling Sally Foster gift wrap, chocolates and gifts. Sale begins in mid-September. Look for packets to come home with your child.

Spaghetti Feed/Harvest Festival: An October evening of food, games, prizes and fun! Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks.

Sock Hop: Jan/ Feb fun for the whole family. Costume contest, great music and dancing. Volunteers needed for a variety of tasks.

Student Store: The popular Roosevelt Student Store will be open for business once a month. Students earn Star Bucks through their teachers. Star Bucks can then be used to purchase items in the School Store.

Teacher Appreciation: Help with this very important task!

Washington Mutual Savings Program: An opportunity for your child to open a savings account and make weekly deposits at Roosevelt.

Site Council: The Site Council is a group of teachers, parents, and neighborhood members who meet monthly to assist with the school governance

and managing Roosevelt Foundation monies. Contact Mr. DSK at 596-6700 or at dsknoll@osd.wednet

Teacher Collaboration Days: Volunteers are needed to help with classroom activities on Fridays from 1-3. Come once, or many times; whatever your schedule will allow. Call Heather in the office at 596.6711.

Please contact me! I am interested in the following volunteer activities:

Classroom Volunteer

EPICC

Junior Programs

Library Volunteer

Office Volunteer

Lunch Buddy

Reading Buddy

Passport Club

Site Council

PTA

Carnival/ Auction

Centennial Year

Make A Difference Day

Room Rep

Roosevelt Dreams Garden Committee

School-wide Quilt Project

Spaghetti Feed/ Harvest Festival

Sock Hop

Student Store

Teacher Appreciation

Washington Mutual Savings Program

Other _____

Name: _____ (CAPITAL letters, please.)

Student: _____ Teacher/Grade: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Best Time to Contact: _____

(Please return your completed form to the school office. Thank you)