



Otter Tracks



CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER –Volume 8, Issue 5, January 2018
Creekside Elementary * 20777 SE 16th Street * Sammamish, WA 98075 (425) 837-5200

Meet the Staff:

Principal:
Tera Coyle

Dean of Students:
Pamela Washington

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Andrea Garvey
(425)837-5201

Support Secretaries:
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(425) 837-5203
Paige Wagner
(425) 837-5200

School Nurse:
Linda Okamoto
(425) 837-5204

Counselor:
April Stevens
(425) 837-5208

Kitchen:
(425) 837-5243
Jenni & Lisa

Quick Links:
[Creekside website](#)

[PTSA website](#)

[Bus Pass Request](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Pay Online](#)

[Absence Form](#)

Sign up for E-News:

www.issaquah.wednet.edu/news/ENews

HaPpY hApPy 2018!

I hope that the New Year has greeted you with happiness! It has certainly greeted us with the "GO" factor as we are gearing up for many events in January. Here is just a short list of a few items that are taking place this month at Creekside:

- **January 3, 2018:** 3rd, 4th and 5th grade teachers participated in an all-day learning experience in which they put their "student" hats on to further explore *Eureka Math*. They specifically looked at a couple of different strategies to support students in their problem solving endeavors, after which they tried out their new strategies with a class of students. It was super cool as they got to work with a teaching buddy to intentionally teach a strategy. They had about ten minutes to debrief their lesson and make changes then went back into a classroom and taught the same strategy to a different group of students using their tweaked plan. It was aWeSoMe to hear how teachers were going to use their new tools with their students following this great learning opportunity.

- **January 9th, 2018:** Art Reflections Gallery at Issaquah High School (6:30 pm)

- **January 10th, 2018:** Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade teachers will participate in the same math learning the rest of the teaching team had on 1/3/18.

- **January 15th, 2018:** We honor Dr. Martin Luther King Junior ~ NO SCHOOL!

- **January 16th, 2018:** PTSA General Meeting in our library at 7 pm

- **January 19th, 2018:** Movie Night in our MPR and Gym at 6 pm

- **January 29th, 2018:** Teacher Learning Day ~ NO School for STUDENTS! ☺

On this day, the staff will be continuing our learning around Cultural Competency. We have a district-wide keynote speaker followed by an activity in our building to further our growth in this very important area.

- **January 31st, 2018:** The teaching team will participate in an afternoon of learning together. We will start our annual book study. This year we are reading The Formative Five, Better Than Carrots or Sticks (Restoring Practices for Positive Classroom Management) and Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain. We also will continue "just-in-time" learning to support our ELL population, curriculum content support and our social emotional learning.

This list makes me excited (and tired) just looking at it! ☺ It's going to be a fantastic start to another amazing year in our little utopia (Creekside Elementary).

Thanks for supporting all the work we do here! We appreciate EACH member of our learning community!

Now, stay warm!
Tera :o)



The Salvation Army extends their gratitude to our bell ringers and families as they gave us the grand total from our bell ringing on Saturday, Dec 16 ...

\$667.36!!!!

They was super excited about it! Way to go Creeksiders and thanks to Kelly Samueloff & Sheridan Rockwell too!

Interested in Volunteering or coming to school for Parent Play Date?

Then you need to sign up online to complete Washington State Patrol background check: The process for completing the WSP (Washington State Patrol) forms to volunteer in a classroom or on a field trip is online. All volunteers have to be authorized every year. Please follow the directions below to complete this process. Volunteers will not be allowed to volunteer unless they have been authorized at the district level.

Begin or Up-date (from last year) here:

<https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/human-resources/volunteers>

Thank you for volunteering at Creekside!



Planning a vacation during school days? We wish you wouldn't, however, please use the [pre-approved absence form](#) located on the [Creekside Website](#). Please avoid testing windows when planning vacations. To access to testing calendar, click [here](#).

From the Issaquah School District –

[What Every Parent Wants to Know About the Issaquah School District](#) Come learn more about the Issaquah School District on February 1 at Issaquah Valley Elementary at 6:30pm. Parents and staff will present information about school programs, behavior expectations, grading, assessment, communicating with schools, and other topics regarding education in the Issaquah School District. Interpretation available in Mandarin, Spanish, and Korean. If you need interpretation in another language, please contact Lorna Gilmour by Thursday, January 18 at GilmourL@issaquah.wednet.edu.



[The Equity Advisory Group](#) is a group of parents, ISD staff and community members who meet to advise the district on ways to improve equity. This is group is open to anyone in our schools and community. Our meetings dates are: January 25 and April 19, from 9-11:30. Check out more information [here](#).



MUSICAL NOTES

All concerts begin at 7PM unless noted below

January 18, 2018 – Choir Festival at SUNNY HILLS 5:30-7:30	May 10, 2018 – 1 st Grade Concert
February 13, 2018 – 3 rd Grade Concert	May 22, 2018 – Kindergarten Concert
March 28, 2018 – Choir Concert	May 23 rd – Marimba Festival 6:30 -7:30
April 5, 2018 – 4 th Grade Concert	May 31, 2018 – 5 th Grade Concert
April 24, 2018 – 2 nd Grade Concert	

Mr. Tom Cady & Mr. David Johnson

For more information, please check out the Music [Website](#)



Parent Play Days – First Friday of every Month!

Sign it by the front office, pick up a badge, then head to the lunch room or playground to PLAY! Dates this year are:

Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, Apr. 6, May 4, Jun. 1

****You are more than welcome to join your child for lunch, however we ask that you bring your own so as not to overwhelm the Kitchen Staff.**

Lunch times as follows (Recess immediately follows):

First Grade: 11:20-11:40/11:40-12:00

Fourth Grade: 11:30-11:50/11:50-12:10

Third Grade: 11:45-12:05/12:05-12:25

Second Grade: 12:00-12:25/12:20-12:40

Kindergarten: 12:10-12:30/12:30-12:50

Fifth Grade: 12:25-12:45/12:45-1:00

Questions? Contact Pamela Washington

Email: WashingtonP@issaquah.wednet.edu Phone: (425)837-5205

UP-COMING Sprit Days at Creekside

DATE	THEME
January 17	Show your Culture/Heritage Day (hats allowed)
February 14	Valentine Color Day (red, pink, purple, white)
March 14	Mismatch Shoes/Outfit Day
April 18	PJ Day
May 16	Favorite Movie/Book Character Day (hat allowed)
June 13	Bring on the Summer! (Shorts/T-shirt/Shades – hats allowed)



COUNSELOR'S CORNER –

Helping Your Child Succeed in School with Good Attendance

We all know that attending school is important. If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills. Yet many of our students suffer from "chronic absenteeism".

You may be surprised to learn that "chronic absenteeism" is defined by missing only 10% or more of the school year. That is equivalent to about 18 days/year or only 2 days/month. Studies have shown that student attendance matters greatly for academic performance. Students fall behind if they miss just a day or two every few weeks.

Especially in Kindergarten and 1st grade poor attendance – as defined by chronic absenteeism, - can predict lower test scores in later grades and these students are far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade. Furthermore, absenteeism in kindergarten can affect whether a child develops the grit and perseverance needed to succeed in school and has a direct negative impact on developing the social-emotional skills needed to persist and engage in learning. While many of these absences are excused, they still add up to lost time in the classroom.

For all ages, it is important to start the year off with a commitment for good attendance. Poor attendance in the first month of school can predict chronic absence for the entire year. A recent study found that students who missed two to four days in September went on to be chronically absent for the year, missing an average of 25 days.

Getting your child to school on time, every day, unless they are sick, is something that you can do to ensure your child has a chance to succeed in school. While others can help, you are the bottom line. You can promote good attendance when you:

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine and stick to these basic routines.
- Talk to your child about why going to school every day is critical and important unless they are sick.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomachache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious or reluctant about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school – and themselves. Start building this habit in Kindergarten so they learn right away that going to school on time, *every day*, is important. School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

Build the habit of good attendance EARLY! Help your child succeed in school with good attendance!

April Stevens, School Counsellor ("Miss April")

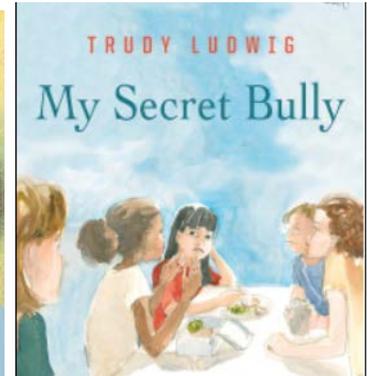
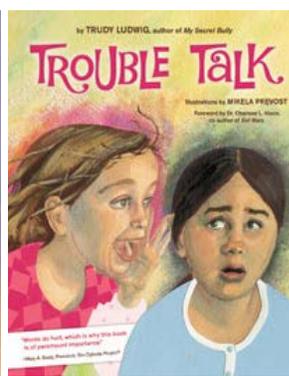
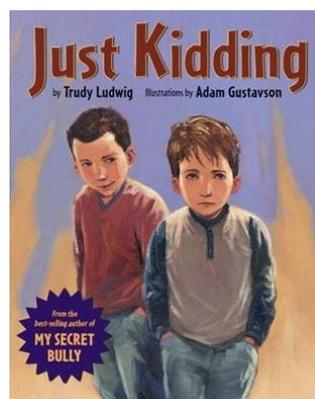
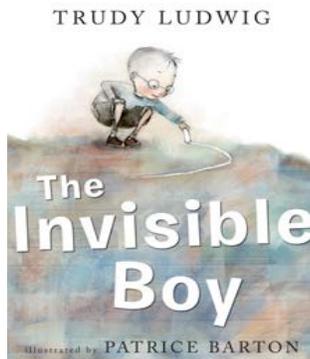


Greetings from the Creekside Library

Dear Creekside Families,

One of the events that our fabulous PTSA is sponsoring this year is an Author Visit. We are excited to welcome Trudy Ludwig, author of The Invisible Boy (winner of several literary awards); Trouble Talk (a story about rumors and gossip); Just Kidding (a story about the effects of teasing); among others. If you would like to learn more about her, please visit her website at www.trudyludwig.com.

In addition to primary and intermediate assemblies on Monday, February 26th and an evening parent presentation the same evening (see reverse), Trudy will be autographing books. If your you or your child would like a book signed, please purchase and deliver to Mrs. Siefkes by Friday, February 16th. Her books are available at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.



If you would like to have a book autographed, please stick a post-it note inside the front cover of the book with the following information and deliver to Mrs. Siefkes by Friday, February 16th:

Your child's name

Your child's classroom

To whom the autograph should be addressed

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Siefkes -Teacher-Librarian

SiefkesJ@issaquah.wednet.edu

Happy Reading from your Creekside Librarians - Meagan Rhodes & Julie Siefkes

VOICE Mentor Program Helping Students find their VOICE

VOICE is an in-school volunteer mentoring program helping students in ALL Issaquah schools. VOICE is powered by caring community volunteers who donate one hour a week to mentor students in a one-to-one school setting.



ONE MENTOR ONE STUDENT ONE HOUR

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, location preference and time availability.

Please help us recruit your neighbors, friends, relatives or colleagues to become a mentor.

For further information contact: Website: VOICEMentorProgram.org, Heidi Kayler VOICE Mentor Director E-mail: VOICE@issaquah.wednet.edu, or Teresa Bretl VOICE Mentor Director (Skyline High feeder Zone) BretlT@issaquah.wednet.edu Phone: 425-837-6801. VOICE is made possible by Issaquah Schools Foundation Donors In Cooperation with the Issaquah School District. For more info, go to: <http://isfdn.org/people/#category-filter=.programs-staff.voice>

Winter Weather is Here – Snow Day, Snow Stops, and Emergency Notification Information

All ISD parents received the ISD 2017-18 school year Emergency Transportation Bulletin in the mail last month. This mailer included information on snow routes and emergency stops (see the table below for affected Creekside stops), as well as program cancellations and schedule changes due to inclement weather. The bulletin also includes information on communication of school delays or closure. [An electronic copy of the Emergency Transportation Bulletin can be found on the district website here.](#)



When SNOW ROUTES are announced, these are the affected changes for Creekside:

Neighborhoods

Sammamish Woods, Loree Estates
Lancaster
SE 24 Way, SE 24 St., 200 Ave. SE @ SE 29 St.
212 Way SE; Pennington

Snow Route stops are here:

SE 24 St. @ 212 Ave. SE; SE 22 Pl. @ E Lake Samm. Parkway SE
SE 8 Ave. & 218 Ave. SE
212 Ave SE @ SE 24 St.; Rockmeadow-SE 34 @ 207 Ave. SE
212 Ave. SE @ SE 34 St.

If you do not see your neighborhood listed, your regular bus stop will not change.

January 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec 31	 1	2 Back to school!	3	4	5 Parent Play Day Bank Day!	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 MLK Jr Day No School	16 PTSA Meeting 7pm	17 Show your Heritage- Culture Spirit Day	18 Choir Festival at Sunny Hills 5:30-7:30	19 PTSA Family Movie Night	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Teacher Work Day – No School for Students	30	31	Feb 1	2 Parent Play Day Bank Day	3

WHAT'S ON THE SCHOOL LUNCH MENU? Click here!

Upcoming Events

February 19-23 Mid Winter Break

February 26 – Author Trudy Ludwig visit to Creekside

April 9-13 – Spring Break

June 20th – Last Day of school, 11:45 AM release time (pending snow dates)