



# Otter Tracks



CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER –Volume 8, Issue 8, April 2018  
Creekside Elementary \* 20777 SE 16<sup>th</sup> Street \* Sammamish, WA 98075 (425) 837-5200

## Meet the Staff:

*Principal:*

**Tera Coyle**

*Dean of Students:*

**Pamela  
Washington**

*Principal's*

*Secretary:*

**Andrea Garvey  
(425)837-5201**

*Support*

*Secretaries:*

**Dolores D'Alo  
(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](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/news/ENews)

*Report an Absence:*

[CSAttendance@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:CSAttendance@issaquah.wednet.edu)

Dear Creekside Family,

It's that time of year where we are trying to squeeze in everything before the end of this school year and beginning the planning for next year simultaneously. Starting early next month teachers will begin making the class lists for the 2018/2019 school year.

I can assure you that the teachers at Creekside are professionals and devote much time, effort and care in developing classroom rosters. Luckily, our teachers have successfully done placement for many years and know the detailed process well. Every child is given equal consideration in the placement process with our goal being heterogeneous groupings that provide the best instructional setting for **each** child.

The class placement process is very comprehensive and complicated. We create classes that are balanced. We use the following factors to create our balanced classrooms:

- Class size
- Boy and girl ratio
- Achievement levels in core academic areas
- Motivational level of students
- Behavior factors regarding each student
- The compatibility of students with each other
- Independent work habits of students
- The social needs of students and their leadership skills
- Special programs
- Recommendations/information from teachers, guidance team, and principal
- Unique student needs

As parents, you may have additional pertinent information about your child that you would like **considered** during the placement process. If there is a student that your child would best be separated from, please include this information in your letter. We are not accepting friend/buddy requests as teachers will take into account peer relationships when doing placement. Please provide this information in a **LETTER** that is delivered to the Creekside office no later than **FRIDAY, MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>. EMAIL LETTERS/INPUT INFORMATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** We are NOT doing "forms" this year as we have found them to not be as informative or as effective as we had hoped.

Please remember that according to our placement policy, **verbal or written requests for specific teachers by gender or name are not appropriate and therefore will not be considered.** With that in mind, I request that you do not ask your child's current teacher about next year's class placement. We share the common bond of wanting what is best for your child. Students thrive when parents and teachers partner together to provide the best learning opportunity for all children. We value and appreciate your partnership. Thank you for understanding this challenging and important balancing act!

Tera ☺

**In the Interest of SAFETY - ALL Volunteers and Visitors to Creekside must complete a background check before visiting the school!**

The process for completing the WSP (Washington State Patrol) background check is online. All volunteers and visitors 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!**

**It's OPEN Enrollment Time for ALL New-Creekside Students!**

Enrollment paperwork is now available from the Creekside office for all new-to-Creekside students!

To pick up a packet, we ask that you please bring parent I.D. with photo, address verification in the form of a recent **utility bill** (gas, water, or electric) **and** ONE of the following: Home purchase papers **OR** property tax statement, **OR** Lease/Rental agreement (original).

Please return all the paperwork by **ASAP**, with these supporting documents:

- the child's birth certificate or passport
- Immunization records transcribed onto the CIS form included in the packet

Enrollment is not complete until schools have received the required items.

**What's the next step? Check out the [Registration Timeline](#) from Creekside's website for Tours and Curriculum Night Dates!**

**UP-COMING Sprit Days at Creekside**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>THEME</u>
April 18	PJ Day
May 16	Favorite Movie/Book Character Day (hats allowed)
June 13	Bring on the Summer! (Shorts/T-shirt/Shades – hats allowed)



## MUSICAL NOTES

All concerts begin at 7PM unless noted below

April 5, 2018 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert  
April 24, 2018 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Concert  
May 10, 2018 – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Concert

May 22, 2018 – Kindergarten Concert  
May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Marimba Festival 6:30 -7:30  
May 31, 2018 – 5<sup>th</sup> 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!**

April 6, May 4, June 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](mailto:WashingtonP@issaquah.wednet.edu) Phone: (425)837-5205

## 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](#).

# Greetings from the Creekside Library

Thank you to Creekside parent Kari Feistner for making us a beautiful library sign in honor of Dr. Seuss! It is a perfect addition to our reading space. Isn't it great!?



**Happy Spring!** Thank you to the many hard working volunteers who keep our circulation desk running so we are able to help students find great books.

About those books...we are seeing many books coming back to the library with wet pages. Starting in kindergarten, we teach book care skills...if you could please reinforce this at home we'd appreciate it. The biggest culprit is usually a water bottle leak in the backpack. Also, many students wait patiently for a book after putting it on 'hold'. Please encourage your child to return books as soon as they are finished with them!



The primary grades are completing their unit of **Washington Children's Choice Award** nominated books, and will be voting for the favorite at Creekside at the end of the month.

The state-wide winner will be announced at the end of May.

**Book Care Rules**

1. Handle **ALL** books with **CARE** and **RESPECT**.
2. **ALWAYS** use a **bookmark**.
3. Be **RESPONSIBLE** and **RETURN** books **on time**.
4. **Protect** your books.
5. **Keep** your books **CLEAN**.

In May and June we will focus on using the library catalog and exploring various genres.

You can find the **Washington Children's Choice Award** nominated books at any King County Library...

A Bike Like Sergio's The Cow Who Climbed a Tree Darkest Dark Don't Call Me Choochie Pooh! Everyone Loves Bacon Hare and Tortoise Highest Mountain of Books in the World Madeline Finn and the Library Dog Magic Word Marvelous Thing That Came From a Spring	More-igami Nanette's Baguette Pirate's Perfect Pet Plants Can't Sit Still Princess and the Warrior: A Tale of Two Volcanoes Quackers Quit Calling Me a Monster! Stick and Stone Thunder Boy, Jr. Well-Mannered Young Wolf
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Happy reading from your Creekside Teacher-Librarians, Julie Siefkes and Leesa Ganir



### *From our Creekside Student Support Coach* How Do You Calm Down?

Calming our bodies when we experience strong emotions can be a difficult task and is something that students at Grand Ridge El. are learning how to do through *Second Step* lessons devoted to teaching emotion management. Managing emotions effectively helps students succeed academically and get along well with others. Students are taught to notice their own feelings by paying attention to clues in their bodies and use

their *Second Step* skills to calm down by following these steps:

- Stop—Use your signal
- Name your feeling
- Calm down: Breathe, count, use positive self-talk

*Second Step* lessons specially teach about calming down strong emotions such as anger, disappointment, frustration, and anxiety. The [Second Step Home Links](#) describe why managing strong emotions is important and include optional fun activities to do with your child to help him/her identify strong feelings and calm down. We hope the Home Links will give you tools to use together when your child is upset.

You can also use the [Booklist for Parents and Educators](#) to learn more. I highly recommend the [ParentWiser interview with Tina Payne Bryson](#), author of [The Yes Brain](#) and [No Drama Discipline](#).

# 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](http://VOICEMentorProgram.org), Heidi Kayler VOICE Mentor Director E-mail: [VOICE@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:VOICE@issaquah.wednet.edu), or Teresa Bretl VOICE Mentor Director (Skyline High feeder Zone) [BretlT@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto: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>

## **From the Issaquah School District –**

**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 group is open to anyone in our schools and community. Our remaining meetings date is: April 19, from 9-11:30. Check out more information [here](#).



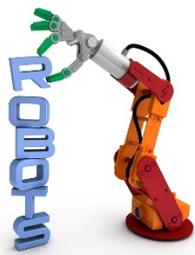
## **Summer School Registration opens March 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Elementary Summer School** will be offered to current kindergarten through fifth grade (K-5) students in the Issaquah School District. The Elementary Summer School program will provide an excellent

opportunity to reinforce skills and to get a jump-start on the next grade-level learning.

**All Elementary Summer School classes are dependent upon staffing.** Classes will be held weekdays from July 9 through August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9 AM to 12PM at Clark Elementary School. Tuition will be \$400.00. Applications will be on the district website beginning March 5.

**Summer Robotics Class** will be returning again this summer. The Robotics program is a two-week class for **current** 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students only. This course will teach the fundamentals of robotics using LEGO Mindstorm Kits. Two sessions will be offered, *Session 1* runs weekdays from July 9 to July 20, *Session 2*, runs weekdays from July 23 to August 3. Both sessions will meet between 9 AM-11:00 AM at Clark



Elementary School. Tuition for this two-week program will be \$250.00 and applications will be on the district website beginning March 5. **A minimum of 12 students will be required for this class to proceed.**

### **Automated Lunch Balance Notifications Starting March 12**

The ISD Food Service Department has developed an automated lunch balance notification system that sends an e-mail to parents and guardians when a student's lunch balance is low or account is in arrears. No action is required to begin receiving these notifications. Those who may wish to opt out may do so at any time via the instructions at the bottom of the automated emails. The low lunch balance e-mail notification system will go live on March 12, 2018. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Food Service Director, [Brian Olson](#) by email or 425.837.5061 by phone.

### **Issaquah Park & Rec Summer Day Camps**

Issaquah Parks & Recreation **summer day camp** online registration begins on Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 noon. Day camps include Mighty Mites, Kindercamp, Camp 'Quah and Adventure Camp. For further information and camp details, please call 425-837-3300 or visit [www.issaquahwa.gov/daycamp](http://www.issaquahwa.gov/daycamp).

April Calendar on next page...

April 2018							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3	4	5 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Concert	6 Bank Day, Parent Play Day, Lost & Found donated to charity	7	
8	<b>Spring Break!</b>					13	14
15	16	17	18 PJ Spirit Day	19	20	21	
22 Earth Day 	23	24 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Concert	25	26	27	28	
29	30	May 1 	2	3	4 Bank and Parent Play Day	5	

**[WHAT'S ON THE SCHOOL LUNCH MENU? Click here!](#)**

**Upcoming Events**

May 16 – Favorite Book or Movie Character Dress up Day

May 18 – Talent Show

May 22 – KDG Concert

May 23 – Marimba Festival

May 25-28 – Memorial day extra long weekend

May 30 – June 1<sup>st</sup> – Spring Book Fair

May 31 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade concert

June 15 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion

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

