



# Otter Tracks



CREEKSIDE ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER –Volume 9, Issue 2, October 2018  
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## Meet the Staff:

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Jenni & Lisa

*Quick Links:*

[Creekside website](#)

[PTSA website](#)

[Bus Pass Request](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)

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Hello Staff, Students and Parents!

Happy FALL y'all!

First of all – **A HUGE SHOUT OUT and THANK YOU to our Creekside Families and to our PTSA for a FUNTASTIC HAWK-A-THON FUNdraiser ! Thank you for your continued generosity and support!**

Now... 'Tis the season to get everyone in tune to our safety procedures and plans. At Creekside, we pride ourselves on the social, emotional and physical safety of all members of our learning community. Here is a deeper look at what we are doing at Creekside:

## **Social and Emotional Safety:**

- We are celebrating the fact that we have full time Positive Behavior Social-Emotional Support (PBSES) Coaches and a full time School Counselor, as well as a School-Based Health Counselor.
- In our Classrooms, teachers are using our SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) curriculum to teach students how to be proactive problem solvers in social situations.
- This past month of school, our entire school team has been working hard to ensure students know and follow "THE CREEKSIDE WAY." The Creekside Way is a tool that teaches the expected behaviors for each location in our building for each part of our school day.
- We are continuing our Cultural Competency journey and look forward to learning more ways to help all families feel welcome at Creekside and part of our team. We are HOPING to do a parent panel this year to learn from our families that come from different parts of the World. If you are interested, please let our Family Partner Liaison, Wenli Mithal, know. Wenli can be reached at [mithalw@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:mithalw@issaquah.wednet.edu)

## **Physical Safety:**

- This first month of school has been our "Safety Month" where we practice our drills and review the expectations for all staff and students.
- We of course, want our visitors and volunteers to be safe as well! So...here is a little reminder to all guests at Creekside on what to do in the event of these types of emergencies:

### ○ ON CAMPUS:

#### ▪ Fire Drills/Alarms

Head out to the back field as soon as you hear the alarm. Meet Dolores near the opening to the sand field where you will see lots of other adults standing. Dolores will check you off so that we know you are safely out of the building. © Please AVOID going

onto the field with your child's classroom. Sometimes the fire fighters like to test us. They will hide a parent volunteer and hold us accountable to KNOWING who is missing. We also ask that adults role model for our students on how to have a "zero level voice" during our drills.

- **Earthquake Drills**

During an actual earthquake or a drill we use the duck and cover method. Please model this for the children. We want to make sure all the vital organs are covered so ensure that your head and torso are fully protected by a desk or a table. We also have a "zero level voice" as we need to be able to hear instructions if the power goes out. Once the shaking stops, we exit the building and follow fire drill/alarm procedures.

- **Lock Down Drills**

In a lock down we secure the building and ask that you go into the **closest** room (yes, this may not be your child's classroom and that is OKAY). The teacher will be getting further instructions via the computer/e-mail system so stay tuned for further instructions. This could be as simple as a bear on the playground (we had one walk the parking lot this summer) or it could be as ugly as the police have called and notified us of a bad person in our area.

- **RUN, HIDE, FIGHT**

This is the one we hope to NEVER experience, yet need to be prepared for the worst. If we hear gun shots on campus, the teachers have been trained to do what is best for their classroom in the given situation. They have the options to RUN with their students, HIDE with their students or FIGHT the bad person. Please follow the guidance of the teacher you are working with or manage yourself, but let the teacher take the lead with the children.

- OFF CAMPUS:

- **Please do not call the school.**

It is critical that we keep phone lines open for emergency agencies and district personnel in order to best respond to the emergency.

- **Please do not go to the school.**

Do not go to the school until the announcement has been made through phone, email, web or radio/TV. We know this will be very difficult for any parent but, having extra people on campus can actually impede the school and emergency agencies from effectively doing their jobs. Keep in mind, it may not be safe for anyone to be on school grounds. We want everyone safe – that includes you. We also want to be able to ACCOUNT for each child and this will be hard to do if we have extra people on school grounds.

- **When picking up your child(ren) after an emergency, have your ID ready. It is required by law.**

Do not take your child and go home without following the proper notification procedures. These procedures will look different depending on the situation, so please follow any communication provided. We ask for your patience as we navigate safely reuniting each child with the appropriate adult.

- **LEVEL 2 Disasters**

It is VERY important for you to have a back-up plan and a back-up plan to the back-up plan! ☺ Level 2 disasters can be unpredictable and you may be stuck in a situation where you yourself are not able to pick up your own child(ren) from school. Please work as a family to secure back-up plans so that your children can leave school with a neighbor, a relative, or a friend. In order for us to allow children to leave with anyone other than their parent or guardian, we MUST have these people listed on our emergency documents that are kept in the office and on Skyward. These documents are taken outside with us during each drill and will also go out during a real emergency. These documents allow us "clearance" to dismiss your child(ren) to someone other than you. We can't rely on phone calls as we won't be in our building and most likely the cell phone service will be bogged down due to the emergency that we are experiencing. So, it is best to plan ahead and be prepared prior to any emergency that we could experience during the school hours.

A few extra safety items:

- School Parking Lot  
PLEASE remember...
  - ...to PULL FORWARD!
  - ...your child should be able to get out of the car INDEPENDENTLY without your help. If assistance is needed, please park your car and help your kiddo outside of the pull through drop off/pick up lane.
  - ...speed limit is SLOW!!! Your speed should allow you to stop if a little one darts out in front of your car.
- Vestibule
  - ...is COMPLETE and we are feeling super safe with this new added security.
  - ...when you visit us at Creekside, come to the office and sign in, get a badge and we will buzz you into the rest of our building.
- Community
  - **Crossing Posts:** Please follow the crossing guard's guidance at our neighborhood crosswalks for school arrival and dismissal times. There will no longer be a crossing guard at the entry points of the Crossing's neighborhood. We are adding additional crossing support closer to our building with the increase numbers of walkers and car traffic.
  - **Bus Loop:** Please do NOT enter the bus loop at arrival and dismissal times so that this area is reserved for our nine buses.

***Safety doesn't happen by accident.***  
***~ Author Unknown***

Thanks for keeping Creekside a SAFE place to grow and learn!  
Tera ;o)

**LAST MINUTE MESSAGES AND REMINDERS:**

Per the ISD Elementary Student Handbook –

“Message should be called into the school office at least ONE hour prior to dismissal.” We receive many, many phone calls during the last 30 minutes of the day. This is an extremely busy time in the office and we cannot guarantee that messages are received. Please do not change dismissal plans during the day, and use the student's planner to write reminders for after school plans on specific days.

In addition, buses are dismissed at 3:47 (1:37 on Wednesdays) and will no longer be held for the two or three students that have not checked in with their after school enrichment class. The instructors of the individual enrichment classes are responsible for contacting parents when students miss a class.

We thank you for your understanding!

**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!**



*MUSICAL NOTES*

- December 4 – Choir Festival at Sunny Hills (Time TBD)
  - December 11 – Choir & Marimba Bands Concert
  - February 12 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Program
  - April 4 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert
  - April 23 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Program
  - May 7 – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Program
  - May 21 – Kindergarten Concert
  - May 30 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert
- (All concerts start at 7PM in the Commons)

**Mr. James Abernethy & Mr. David Johnson**

[AbernethyJ@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:AbernethyJ@issaquah.wednet.edu) and [JohnsonD3@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:JohnsonD3@issaquah.wednet.edu)



**PARENT PLAY DAYS – FIRST FRIDAYS ON THE MONTH  
STARTING OCTOBER 5th**

In order to accommodate our growing student population, resulting in tighter spaces in the lunchroom, we are changing Parent Play Days this year to the mid-morning and mid-afternoon recesses, NOT the lunchtime recess.

If you would like to join your child for some play-time on the playground on the first Fridays of the month, please make sure your background check is up-to-date (see link above). Here are the recess times for Parent Play Days:

- Grades 3 and 5 – 10:45 to 11:05
- Grades 1 and 4 – 2:20 to 2:40
- Grades K and 2 – 2:40 to 3:00

## Matt Glover is coming to town!

Matt Glover, is a nationally known literacy consultant and author who has been working with teachers in the ISD for six years. He will be sharing his expertise with ISD parents on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30 in the Admin Board Rooms (565 NW Holly Street). Matt will teach parents strategies designed to support children in reading and writing. More info is available [here](#) or for background info, click [here](#) to learn more about this opportunity.

## Fall Sprit Days at Creekside

<u>DATE</u>	<u>THEME</u>
October 19	Heavenly Hats Day – Pay \$1 to wear your hat, proceeds go to Heavenly Hats Charity
October 31	Wear <b>Orange</b> Day – to STOMP out BULLYING
November 21	Apple Cup Rivalry Day – <b>UW</b> or <b>WSU</b> !
December 19	PJ Day

## News From Your Creekside Library



Happy October! A few reminders from the library...

\*If part of your child's books are returned on library day, (say two of the four allowed for checked out) he/she may check out the remainder of the limit for the grade level.

\*If none of the books are turned in on library day, your child may come in another time that works for the classroom teacher. No need to wait until the next library class! Having a special place to keep library books can help your child find them in a rush.

\*If your child would like to renew a book he/she is enjoying, your child simply needs to tell the volunteer at check-out time. (No need to bring the book in)

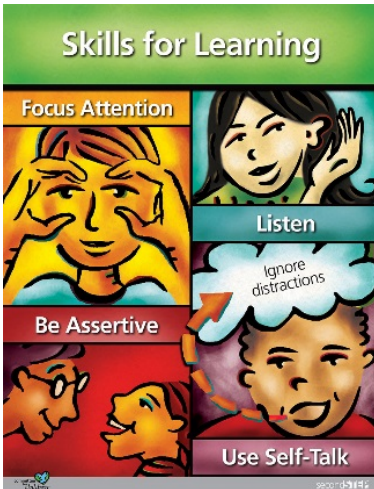


Happy Reading!

Mrs. Cromwell and Mrs. Siefkes, Creekside Librarians

[CromwellA@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:CromwellA@issaquah.wednet.edu) and [Siefkesj@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:Siefkesj@issaquah.wednet.edu)

## From our PBSES Coaching Corner



This month, our school wide theme is skills for learning: listening, focusing attention, using self-talk to stay on-task, and being assertive when asking for help with a learning task. In our morning announcements, we'll be reminding students of these skills, which help students be successful learners.

In the classroom, *Second Step* lessons teach skills for learning. Please read the [Home Links](#) for your child's grade, which describe why these skills are important and including fun activities to do with your child to practice them. We hope

you enjoy them!

© Allison Lehr & Stephanie Wright

PBSES Coaches

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Click [HERE](#) for PBSES District Website




## HEALTH ROOM CHANGES FOR THIS YEAR

### Health Room Slips

After seeing yellow health room slips all throughout the school (garbage, gym, playground, on the floors in the hallway, etc.), we have decided to stop sending these slips home with kids who visit the health room throughout their school day. Of course, if a kiddo has a head injury or any other serious

concerns, we will call families and let them know.

Eryn Belles, RN at 425-837-5204

October 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sept 30	1 Before & After school enrichment classes begin	2	3	4	5 1 <sup>st</sup> Bank Day; Parent Play Day (see times on page 2)	6
7	8 Teacher Work Day – No School for students	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Halloween Bash! 5:30-7:30	27
28	29	30	31 	Nov 1	2 Bank Day; Parent Play Day; Student Photos Makeup Day	3

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

**Upcoming Events**

November 2 – Bank Day

November 2 – Photo Retakes

November 2 – Parent Play Day

November 6 – Vision & Hearing Screening

November 12 – Veterans Day Observed (School is closed)

November 20 – PTSA General Meeting 7PM in library

November 22-23 – Thanksgiving Holiday

