

Irene Reither Elementary



IRE IMPORTANT DATES

- 11/21 **Early Release – 1:15PM**
- 11/22-23 Thanksgiving – No School
- 11/26 Coffee with the Principal 9AM
- 11/28 School Board Mtg. 7PM @ MHS
- 11/30 School Late Start 10AM
- 12/3 Good Citizen Assembly 4/5 9:15
- 12/4 Good Citizen Assembly K/1 9:15
- 12/5 Good Citizen Assembly 2/3 9:15
- 12/5 4th Grade to SPARK Museum
Buckley, Needham, Sana
- 12/6 4th Grade to SPARK Museum
Whitsell, Binderup @ 9:30AM
- 12/7 School Late Start 10AM
- 12/12 Girls Read Book Club – 6:30PM
- 12/12 Guys Read Book Club – 6:30PM
- 12/13 Trojan Trait Student Store Open
- 12/14 School Late Start 10AM
- 12/20 Winter Program
Grades 4th and 5th – 9:30AM
Grades 2nd and 3rd – 11AM
Grades K and 1st – 1:30PM
- 12/21 No School – Winter Break Begins
- 12-21-1/4 Winter Break
- 1/7 Back to School
- 1/8 Good Citizen Assembly K/1 9:15
- 1/9 Good Citizen Assembly 2/3 9:15
- 1/10 Good Citizen Assembly 4/5 9:15

DAILY LUNCH SCHEDULE

- Kindergarten 11:25AM
- Grade 1 11:30AM
- Grades 2&3 11:55AM
- Grades 4&5 12:20PM

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS FOR SUCCESS – TROJAN TRAITS

WE ARE RESPONSIBLE.
WE ARE RESPECTFUL TO OTHERS,
OURSELVES, AND OUR SCHOOL.
WE ARE SAFE. WE ARE KIND.

SCHOOL START TIME 9AM FRIDAYS 10AM

Students should be in their seats and ready to learn at start time.

**JOIN OUR PTA AND SUPPORT IRE
STUDENTS – MEMBERSHIP FORMS ARE
AVAILABLE IN THE MAIN LOBBY AT IRE**

**CHECK THE LOST AND FOUND IN THE
MAIN LOBBY – THERE ARE MANY LOST
ITEMS WAITING TO BE FOUND**

December 2018

Patti Fouts - Principal

School Day: 9:00-3:35

Adrienne Somera – Assistant Principal

Kevin Hersom – Assistant Principal

Website: www.meridian.wednet.edu/ire

Office Phone: 360-398-2111 Bus Garage: 360-318-2172

CONGRATULATIONS RESPECTFUL GOOD CITIZENS

Taylor Tolsma, Tegan Jones, Tucker Siadal, Brooklin Cunningham, Mykaya Foster, Grayson Horton, Jaylin Johnson, Tavia Alexander, Kasen Forbes, Mason Simmons, Jessica Mendez Ortiz, Blake Morgan, Colt Spreckelmeyer, Alina Golovach, Mia Blankenship, Thomas Shrout, Mason Nelson, Annalise Wilkinson, Lauren Stewart, Westley Seimears, Harnaj Kheira, Connor McGee, McKenna Morgan, Mackenzie Nelson, Sophia Adams, Jesus Guzman, Amram Lanuza, Damion Hayes, Alexyce Evans, Jonah Fowler, Matthias Brooks, Israel Naranjo-Romero, Dallas Reinke, Hadasa Suarez Mondragon, Kadence Doucette, Kevin Bernal, Noah McGee, Emily DelCid, Adelina Nunez, William Larkin, Carter Rankin, Travis VanWeerdhuizen, Yuvraj Hazuria, Neidelyn Hernandez, Victoria Allen, Grant Nelson, Kasey Brennan, Olivia Hawley, Olivia Carlson-Vega, Eliza Stoner, Freddy Anderson, Lincoln Fuentes, Quinn Hovde, Camryn Hester, Jacob Brooks, Simran Mander, Piper Ruzicka, Priya Camacho-John, Nikita Litovchenko, Lily Zender, Alejandro Medina, Hailey Simmons, Caitlin West, Roman Abraham, Hailey Brooks, Addi Goering, Weston Plagerman, Drew Hovde, Rowe Abel, Bryce Wefer, Hudson Reasoner, Makoy Arnold, Karam Singh, Rylie Mattingley, James Church, Vivian Lane, Jenifer Orellana Auxume, Rubin Hutchins, Zachary Wright, Chloe Heinrich, Alexa Gonzalez-Jimenez, Devraj Bilg, Diyashoona Bilg, Sullivan Greenwald, Jaiteg Bajwa, Emara Sims, Briar Robbins, Tia Fedele, Brody Leuenberger, and Aspen Nunez are our respectful citizens for November. All of the above students will be recognized at our Good Citizen Assemblies in December, dates and times in our Important Dates column.

REPORT CARDS

Teachers will be posting final grades on November 27th and report cards will be ordered on November 28th from Skyward. Parents can expect to receive the report cards by Friday, November 30th. Report cards will be sent home with students. Please sign the front of the report card envelope, and return the empty envelope to your child's teacher. The teacher will know that all students have received their report cards when all envelopes are collected.

COFFEE WITH THE PRINCIPAL

Parents, families and community members, are invited to join IRE principal, Patti Fouts for coffee with the principal on the following dates and times: November 26th, 9-10AM, January 28th, 2:45-3:35PM, March 25th, 9-10AM, May 20th, 2:45-3:35PM.

This is an opportunity to improve communication with families. Mrs. Fouts looks forward to meeting with you.

**ABSENCES ADD UP
9 OR LESS IS BEST!**

WINTER PROGRAMS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

Families are invited to attend our Winter Programs (See dates and times in the IRE Important Dates column above).
~In order to accommodate all of the families who would like to attend, we have divided the grade levels into groups.

~Each group will perform songs of the season, and show what they have been learning in music class.

~We encourage families to leave children at school following the winter programs.

~In the event that it is necessary to take your student out of school following a performance, please send a note to your child's teacher in advance.

~Due to limited parking, we encourage families to carpool.

We look forward to seeing you at our Winter Programs.

THANK YOU PTA BOARD FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR

This volunteer team does so much for IRE. Thank you, thank you!!

President: Melissa Abraham

Vice President: Chelsea Williams

Secretary: Fawn Morgan

Treasurer: David Reasoner

CONGRATULATIONS TO DESIGN AN AD WINNERS

IRE participates annually in the Lynden Tribune Design-An-Ad Contest. The following students will have their ads published in the November 21st Lynden Tribune. Great job to the following students: Avyana Ewing in Mr. Rensink's class and Abigail Wright in Mrs. Updike's class.

HIGHLY CAPABLE REFERRALS

Meridian School District is now accepting referrals of students to participate in services for highly capable students. Teachers, staff, parents, students and members of the community may refer a student (WAC 392-170-045). If you would like to refer a child, please complete a referral form and return it to Rosalind Schumann through your school office. **Forms are due no later than December 14th, 2018 for students to be assessed.** Referral forms are available through the main offices at all Meridian schools, or you can download a form from the Meridian School District website. If you have any questions, please email Rosalind Schumann at rschumann@meridian.wednet.edu.

WATCH D.O.G.S.

We invite ALL the dads who signed up to be a WATCH D.O.G. to access meridianpta.org and find a time to Watch D.O.G. at IRE. Either in the classroom, cafeteria, or playground, we need you! This can be a half day or a whole day, once a week or once a month, hey, we'll take you for a one-time position! All participants must complete the WATCH form, which is available at the IRE office. Thank you to Mr. Cargill, Mr. Mauger, Mr. Williams, Mr. Sambeek, Mr. Sipress, Mr. Hawley, Mr. McEvoy, Mr. McConnell, Mr. Hudspeth, and Mr. Tipton for being Watch D.O.G.S. this past month. For more information contact assistant principal Kevin Hersom at khersom@meridian.wednet.edu

GIRLS AND GUYS READ BOOK CLUBS FOR 4TH AND 5TH GRADES DECEMBER 12TH 6:30-7:30PM

~Girls Read will meet in our building B old library. Girls will read and discuss *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson* by Bette Bao Lord.

~Guys Read will meet in the IRE Library. Guys will read and discuss *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls.

~Here's how it works: A book is chosen. Girls and a parent read it together or on their own. Then the club meets to talk it up, eat snacks, and have fun! It's so simple, yet so perfect, just how book clubs are supposed to be.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP AT LUNCH

Lunch is a busy time at IRE, with 691 students having lunch every day. We invite volunteers to join us for lunch, helping students' open their lunches and helping custodians and student monitors with all of the busy tasks that occur during lunchtime. You are welcome to IRE from 11:25AM-1PM each day. Each volunteer must complete the WATCH form which is available at the IRE office.

BOX TOPS RESULTS

Congratulations to Mrs. Otten's class for collecting the most box tops in October! Please keep sending them in, (in packs of 50 if you have a lot)! Each month, the overall top class will get a fun surprise! Thank you to chairperson Marguerite Cargill.

TROJAN TROT RESULTS OLD NEWS BUT GOOD NEWS

Another record setting year with our school community raising \$28,967.39. Top earners: Liam Urquhart \$718, Emree Van Leeuwen \$570, and McKenna Morgan \$560. Thank you students! Top class earners: Kindergarten – Bruland, 1st grade – Li, 2nd grade – Rhodes, 3rd grade – DePeralta, 4th grade – Sana, 5th grade – Martin. Thank you!!

COLD WEATHER IS HERE

November is here, leaves are falling, and there is new snow in the mountains. Although the afternoon temperatures are in the 50's, the morning temperatures will begin to dip below freezing. As the temperatures begin to drop, parking lots and walkways can be icy. Please walk safely and inform the school office of slippery areas. Our students will play outside every day for recess. **Each student should dress appropriate for the weather.**

FLASH ALERT FOR SCHOOL DELAYS OF CLOSURES

Meridian utilizes Flash Alert to notify all major radio and TV media outlets of any delays or closures. Be sure to listen or watch these local stations. Families can sign up for Flash Alert through the district's website, just click on the link at the bottom of the page. You can also get a text from KING 5 as soon as they receive notice of a closure. You can set up your alert at <http://www.king5.com/alerts>, visit the website and follow the instructions.

COMPUTER CLASS

IRE students are using Typing.com, an online typing tutor, to learn about proper touch-typing techniques and to improve their keyboarding skills. Learning to touch type helps students be more productive and better prepared for success in school and beyond. Using Typing.com, students can practice and master the keyboard one lesson at a time. It allows them to pick up where they left off in the course and displays a keyboard and hand diagram as they type to reinforce proper finger placement. Students each have their own username and password and can log in from any online computer at www.typing.com/student. From the teacher account, our computer instructor, Mrs. Brown, can monitor your child's progress, typing speed and accuracy. Encourage your child to practice at home. If you have questions, contact Jenni Brown, Technology Instructor @ jbrown@meridian.wednet.edu

HEAD LICE

It is peak head lice season!

~Lice do not transmit any diseases and are considered a 'nuisance' rather than a public health problem by the Health Department as well as the Centers for Disease Control and most doctors.

~Lice can only crawl; they do not jump or fly. This means that head-to-head contact is the most likely way to contract lice.

~By the time lice infestations are noticeable, the student has typically had lice for a month, and therefore screenings are not effective in reducing the amount of head lice in a school at any given time.

~Education and prevention efforts are better uses of time.

~Lice do not live more than 24-48 hours without a human host.

~It is recommended that parents check their child's head for the presence of lice and nits (eggs) on a weekly basis.

~Keeping long hair in braids or ponytails, not sharing combs, hats or hair accessories may be helpful in preventing transmission.

~If two or more students from the same class are found to have head lice at the same time, the office staff or school nurse will send home a letter to parents of all students in the class, asking that they check their child at home.

THANK YOU IRE FAMILIES FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THAT WE SHARE EVERY MONTH. WE SHARE THIS INFORMATION FOR THE SAFETY OF FAMILIES, STUDENTS, AND STAFF.

SCHOOL DAY MONDAY-THURSDAY 9:00AM-3:35PM FRIDAY 10:00AM-3:35PM

√Students are welcome to be at school beginning at 8:40AM Monday-Thursday and 9:40AM on Fridays

√Students are welcome to be at class beginning at 8:50AM Monday-Thursday and 9:50AM on Fridays

MORNING DROP OFF

To ensure safety for all IRE families, please follow these important guidelines:

- 1) Students dropped off before school will go to the supervised area between Building A and B, or to the IRE gym.
- 2) **Please do not park in the drop off loop.** The area is clearly marked with No Parking signs.
- 3) If your child can safely and independently exit your vehicle, pull to the curb and let your child get out of the car. Do not get out of your car on the driver side.
- 4) If your child cannot safely and independently exit your vehicle, and/or if you need to come into the school building, even briefly, please park in a designated parking space and use the crosswalk to enter the school safely.
- 5) **The first row of the parking lot is not a drop off zone. Use the drop off loop to drop off a student.**
- 6) When in the drop off line, please try to stay single file through the loop, without passing other cars. While this may be less convenient at times, it is essential for student safety.
- 7) The drop off loop in the morning is exactly that, a drop off loop. Vehicles should move slowly, allow students to exit vehicle, and continue on.
- 8) Students who arrive after the school start must be signed in at the school office before proceeding to class.

AFTERNOON PICK UP

- 1) School dismissal time is 3:35PM. This is a very important time for each class, as they are wrapping up the events of the day. Please honor this time by waiting until 3:35 to pick up your child at the parent pick up area. Please do not pick up your student before 3:35PM unless there is a family emergency.
- 2) All students will be sent home on the school bus unless other arrangements have been made.
- 3) If you plan to pick up your student at the end of the school day, please send a note with your student to give to their teacher the day before, or the morning you are picking up, or call the school office **by 2:30PM.**
- 4) If you would like your student to ride another route home, please send a note to school with the full name, address, and bus route the student will be riding. Send the note with your student to his/her teacher, or call the school office **by 12:00 noon.** We are not able to change bus routes after 12:00 noon.
- 2) Our student end of day pickup area is at the fence/gate area between Bldg. A and B.
- 3) At the parent pickup area, please find the sign out clipboards and sign out your student. Your student will be dismissed to you by the staff at the parent pickup area. Please do not go to the IRE office to sign out your student.
- 4) Due to the amount of people picking up students, and safety for all IRE families at the parent pick up area, we ask that you **do not park in or drive through the drop off loop.** The drop off loop is clearly marked with no parking signs.
- 5) Please park in a designated parking space in the paved or gravel area, use crosswalks, and walk to the parent pick up area. **Do not park along the east curb which is a driving lane.**

EARLY DISMISSAL NOTIFICATION

Students who are leaving school early during the day, must have written parent or guardian permission. Please send this notification to the school office that morning or the day before. All notes must be clear and must include the child's full name, and time they will be picked up. The end of the day is a very important time for each class, as they are wrapping up the events of the day. Please honor this time by waiting until 3:35 to pick up your child at the parent pick up area. Please do not pick up your student before 3:35PM unless there is a family emergency. Thank You.

AMAZON SMILES

Did you know that Amazon offers a 5% of purchase price kick back to the Meridian PTA if you link your account to The Meridian Parent Teacher Association and purchase through Amazon Smile? To link your Amazon account to our school, click on this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-3029022>
Remember, you must access Amazon via the [Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) for purchases to qualify. Unfortunately, this does not work with the mobile app, so if you have a big purchase be sure and do it from your computer. Amazon does offer a great little Amazon Smile button for your toolbar or a favorites link. Once you get the hang of it, it's great and can really add up to help our school! Let us know if you have any questions! Thank you.

MERIDIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The MSD does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: **Title IX, ADA, and Compliance Coordinator (RCW 28A.640/28A.642)** Kurt Harvill, Assistant Superintendent, 214 W. Laurel Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226. 360-398-7111. **Section 504** questions can be directed to Aaron Jacoby, Director of Special Services, 214 W. Laurel Rd., Bellingham, WA 98226. 360-398-7111.