

# Irene Reither Elementary



## IRE IMPORTANT DATES

- 2/9 Early Release Day – 1:15PM
- 2/9 PTA Skate Night – 5:30-7:30PM
- 2/10 Sweetheart Swing Dance  
5:30-9:30PM @ MHS
- 2/14 School Board Mtg. 7PM @ MHS
- 2/15 Trojan Trait Student Store Open
- 2/16 No School –Mid Winter Break
- 2/19 No School – President's Day
- 2/23 Trojan Trait Coupon Reward Day
- 2/23 Dental Van at IRE
- 2/23 February Good Citizen Lunch
- 2/26-3/2 Vision and Hearing Screening
- 2/28 School Board Mtg. 7PM @ MHS
- 2/28 Guys Read – 6:30-7:30PM
- 3/2 Trojan Trait Student Store Open
- 3/5 Kindergarten Registration Begins
- 3/5 Missoula Theatre Tryouts
- 3/8 Trojan Trait Coupon Reward Day
- 3/9 Early Release Day – 1:15PM
- 3/14 Girls Read – 6:30PM
- 3/15 Class Picture Day
- 3/23 Early Release Day – 1:15PM
- 3/27-30 Parent Teacher Conferences

## SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK THANK YOU STORI ROBERTSON

### DAILY LUNCH SCHEDULE

- Grades K&1 11:35AM
- Grades 4&5 12:05PM
- Grades 2&3 12:35PM

### SCHOOL START TIME IS 9AM

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

### HOME READING COMMITMENT 15 MINUTES A DAY AT LEAST 16 DAYS A MONTH.

### COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS FOR SUCCESS – TROJAN TRAITS

- BE RESPONSIBLE      BE SAFE
- BE RESPECTFUL      BE KIND

### PTA SKATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> 5:30-7:30PM \$2.50 PER PERSON THIS COST INCLUDES ROLLER SKATES WEAR YOUR MERIDIAN COLORS

### THANK YOU TO THE BRZOWSKI FAMILY FOR DONATING NEW PLAYGROUND TOYS FOR IRE

February 2018  
Patti Fouts - Principal

School Day: 9:00-3:30  
Adrienne Somera – Assistant Principal  
Kevin Hersom – Assistant Principal

Website: [www.meridian.wednet.edu/ire](http://www.meridian.wednet.edu/ire)

Office Phone: 398-2111      Bus Garage: 398-2707

## CONGRATULATIONS GOOD CITIZENS

**Students recognized for being Safe who were not in the previous newsletter are:** Mateo Salayandia. **Students recognized for being Honest are:** Caleb Young, Bisman Sangha, Alexine Bugay, Sofia Garcia, Sofia Meza-Sullivan, Mason Apeles, Eagle Freeman, Grace Bender, Eliza Stoner, Aryan Lidhran, Addie Sosa, Mason Simmons, Asher Young, Madison Nelsen, Maximiliano Santelices, Bryan Zarza-Colin, Madyn Cline-Malarz, Kaitlyn Storgaard, Calvin Lankhaar, Jase Gilfillan, Xiomara Concepcion, Elliot Lipton, Owen Morton, Ava Wiebe, Ira Johnson, Sahil Neger, Gracie Turpin, Vincent Bernardy, Hudson Hovde, Selena DeLaGarza, Piper Morton, Keira Gonzalez, Reilly Britton, Benjamin Duersch, Savannah Harp, Peyton Munger, KC Petaia, Veronica Shtatnik, Keladry Burks, Zane Zender, Lauren Lipton, and Dennis Skripachev.

## GOOD WORKERS

Emersyn Sobjack, Keyonna Wilkinson, Reena Jhanjar, Mallory Warnock, Jessica Mendez-Ortiz, Santiago Rizo, Casey Johnson, Kayson Culp, Keladry Burks, Ivy Skar, Vivian Lane, Dougie Smith, Rylan Jenkins, Cayson Williams, K'lia Edwards-Amador, and Jaden Richter have been honored for their good work. Examples of their good work are displayed in the main hallways. Stop by and have a look.

## SUBSTITUTES NEEDED IN ALL AREAS

Currently Meridian School District is experiencing a shortage of substitutes in a variety of areas.

If you are interested in working with students and/or supporting your local school district, Meridian School District is looking for substitute help. Working in the schools as a substitute offers flexible hours and can lead to permanent employment. Currently we are searching for paraeducators, student monitors, certificated substitutes, custodians, bus drivers and food service workers. If you are interested in working for Meridian School District as a substitute or know someone who is, please contact Patty Streubel at [pstreubel@meridian.wednet.edu](mailto:pstreubel@meridian.wednet.edu), or phone 360-398-7111, or stop by the school district office @ 214 W. Laurel Rd. to pick up a substitute packet. Forms are also on our website at [www.meridian.wednet.edu/employment](http://www.meridian.wednet.edu/employment)

## KINDERGARTEN ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR

Kindergarten registration will be available online beginning March 5<sup>th</sup>. Go to [www.meridian.wednet.edu/ire](http://www.meridian.wednet.edu/ire) and click on the gold box at the bottom of the page, New Student Online Enrollment. New kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. We have a computer in the IRE office for registration that is available for public use.

## PBIS AND TROJAN TRAIT STUDENT STORE

Did you know that Irene Reither Elementary is a PBIS school? PBIS stands for Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports. Here at IRE we explicitly teach, reteach and positively reinforce school wide expectations both school-wide and in the classroom. The Trojan Store is an example of how we positively recognize students for demonstrating our school wide expectations.

**Trojan Traits: We are Responsible We are Respectful We are Safe We are Kind**

<https://www.pbis.org/school>

At IRE students are recognized for showing great behavior and following the above Trojan Traits to be able to earn Trojan tickets for the store. When students are observed demonstrating these traits they are given a Trojan Trait Ticket which they can use to purchase items in the Trojan Store.

Store items include: pencils, books, small—med—large treasure box items, Trojan school spirit wear, and free coupons- such as extra recess, popcorn/pizza with the principal, sit by a friend and more. Students will be able to buy a small item for even 1 Trojan Ticket or save up several tickets to buy a larger item. All classrooms have a storage system to help students who do save their tickets for larger items.

We are happy to say we have our Trojan Trait Store up and running! We have had 2 successful store sessions and more to come! The store will continue through the rest of the year. Thank you all for supporting and being patient as we have worked out the day to day running of the store.

**Future Store Dates are:** February 15 March 2 & 22 April 19 & 30 May 25 June 14

Reward dates are when the students can redeem coupons they purchased at the Trojan Store. The dates generally follow the store. When students purchase a coupon- the student is told when the reward date is. The coupon purchase is recorded, and the teacher is informed. If your child is ill or absent on the reward day, please let their teacher know and they can redeem their coupon the next reward day.

**Future PBIS Reward dates are:** \*(Days where students who purchased coupons will be able to redeem)

February 23 March 8 & 26 April 26 May 10 June 1 & 14

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the following people and businesses for donating items and time to our Trojan Ticket Store: Connie Bennum, Debi Johnson, Melissa Haugen-Mezzaros, Richelle Urie, Angie Brooks, Stori Robertson, Adrienne Somera, Janene DeJong, Elizabeth Needham, Angie Richardson, Michelle Wilson, Andrea Ames, Tori Brzozowski, Kacey Hersom, Joanne Wiebe, Chelsea Williams, Mrs. Christopherson, Laurel Baptist Church, IRE PTA, Meridian High School Boosters, and the following businesses: Whatcom Co. McDonalds, Dairy Queen, Papa Murphy's, Walmart, Lynden Safeway, Ferndale Grocery Outlet, Costco, Cash and Carry, Darcy Galbraith Dentistry, WA Dairy Council and more to come. If you are interested in donating or have any questions please contact Kevin Hersom at: [khersom@meridian.wednet.edu](mailto:khersom@meridian.wednet.edu).

## JUMP ROPE FOR HEART FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>-9<sup>TH</sup>

IRE will once again participate in the American Heart Association's *Jump Rope for Heart* event. We will be kicking off the event during the week of February 5th-9th, and donation envelopes will be due by March 9th.

Each student will be bringing home a collection envelope and the American Heart Association is encouraging us to use their online program as well, to ask relatives and friends who may live far away to donate to this worthwhile cause. All thank you gifts will be distributed at the end of the event, including the wristband, the first monster friend Jax, and the two online monster friends Charger and Disco.

Please include the \$5 coupon and any online donation information in the envelope along with the other donations. Please remember to make checks payable to the AMA.

**New this year, anyone who brings in \$50.00 or more will get their name added to the new JRFH banner which will hang in the gym!** Thank you, From Mrs. Arnold PE Teacher

## GUYS READ FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> AND GIRLS READ MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup> 6:30-7:30PM

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls are invited to join a book club for exciting reading and discussion of great, great books. Reading with no homework! This is just for fun. Simply read the month's book (parent too).

On Wednesday, February 28th, guys will meet in the IRE library to discuss *The Magician's Nephew*, by C.S. Lewis. On Wednesday, March 14th, girls will meet in the old library in Building B. to discuss *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen.

### **GIRLS ON THE RUN IS SO MUCH FUN**

Exciting news! Tracie Gulit has volunteered to be our Girls on the Run coach. This amazing program is committed to improving the lives of young girls. Girls at 29 schools will be running, walking, and skipping this season! Amidst the conversation, laughter, hugs and energy awards, girls will witness transformational changes in their lives. The program may end in ten weeks, but for coaches and girls, the finish line is just the beginning. The YMCA would be happy to work with families to ensure that all girls interested are able to participate. For more information and to register visit: [www.whatcomymca.org/gojr-online-registration.html](http://www.whatcomymca.org/gojr-online-registration.html)

### **MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE CASTING CALL SPONSORED BY THE MERIDIAN PTA**

Auditions for the production of 'Aladdin' will be held on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:45PM in the lunchroom. There are roles for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Approximately 50-60 students will be cast to appear in the show with the MCT Tour Actors/Directors. There is no guarantee that everyone who auditions will be cast in the play. The MCT Tour Actors/Directors will be giving presentations to all second graders during music class all week. Students willing to audition must arrive by the scheduled starting time and stay for the entire two-hour session. This is a group audition – no advance preparation is necessary, but a smile never hurts. Students should be ready to come and have a good time! Information and permission slips will be available soon. Permission slips are required to stay after school for auditions and practices.

### **ASSESSMENT INFORMATION TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE STUDENTS**

Our EL department will be giving the ELPA21 Annual Assessment to our English Language Learners beginning February 20<sup>th</sup>. Each winter, we assess students' yearly growth in speaking, listening, reading and writing. This online computerized assessment is given during the school day and takes about two hours. You will receive a testing report of your student's growth in the spring. For more information, contact Patty Vandyke, EL teacher, at [pvandyke@meridian.wednet.edu](mailto:pvandyke@meridian.wednet.edu).

### **WATCH D.O.G.S. (DADS OF GREAT STUDENTS) UPDATE**

We have had a great turnout of dads volunteering at IRE making an immediate positive impact for staff and students. We are looking for dads to continue to volunteer on a daily basis. We even have a dedicated parking space for all WATCH D.O.G.S. It is on the west side of the parking lot marked with a big yellow WATCH D.O.G.S. sign. Please come by IRE for more information or visit the PTA website @ [www.meridianpta.org](http://www.meridianpta.org) to sign up.

### **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. Thank you.

### **DENTAL VAN FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>**

The first visit of the Unity Care N.W. Mobile Dental Unit will be at Meridian on 2/23/18. This dental check-up is available to any child/student ages 1-18. Registration forms have been distributed to students and are due back to school by Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. The van will be at our school to provide dental sealants on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, and to provide fluoride treatments on Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. For questions, please contact Sheree Johnston, Family Resource Coordinator, at [sjohnsto@meridian.wednet.edu](mailto:sjohnsto@meridian.wednet.edu) or call 360-318-2486.

### **SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS**

Skyward is a great resource for IRE families. Here are several reasons:

- ~Student information updates – be sure the school always has your current contact information and email.
- ~Access to student grades and tests.
- ~Access to student attendance.
- ~Conference scheduling.

Contact the school office for your login and password. You may access Skyward on the Meridian School District website. Be sure the Login Area drop down menu says Family/Student Access. Access the following link to personalize your Family Access experience - <https://youtu.be/tt0qLVSjxZ4>

## **HOW TO KEEP IRE STUDENTS SAFE DURING DROP OFF AND PICK UP EACH DAY**

### **DROP OFF - 8:40-9:00AM**

To ensure safety for all IRE families, please follow these important guidelines regarding morning student drop off:

- 1) Please do not park in the drop off loop. The area is clearly marked with No Parking signs.
  - 2) 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.
  - 3) 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.
  - 4) **The first row of the parking lot is not a drop off zone.** Use the drop off loop to drop off a student.
  - 5) 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.
  - 6) 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.
  - 7) **School start time is 9AM.** Students should be in their seats and ready to learn at that time.
  - 8) Students arriving after the 9AM bell must be accompanied to the office by a guardian. Please park in a designated parking space and sign your student in at the office.
- Thank you for your help with these safety procedures.

### **PICK UP – 3:30PM**

The end of the school day is 3:30PM. The end of the school day is a very important time for each class. Please honor this dismissal time. Thank you for the support of our new parent pick up procedure at the new area beyond the fence. Feedback from staff and families supports this safe, successful and speedy process. Thank you for finding a place to park when spaces are limited. We appreciate the concern for safety shown by not parking in the loop during parent pick up time. We must keep this area clear to assure safe transitions at the end of the school day.

## **MHS 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SWING DANCE FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> 5:30-9:30PM**

Meridian Music Boosters will be hosting this festive occasion. Swing dance lessons, beverages and snacks are included with admission. Special desserts may be purchased. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased through Kimberlee Cruz at 360-223-0426 and Angie Richardson at 360-927-9636(text only). Tickets will also be available at the door. Entertainment will include the MMS select choir, MMS jazz band, MHS jazz ensemble, and special guests the Bellingham Youth Jazz Band. Profits will go toward the bands performance trip to Disneyland in June.

## **BELLINGHAM PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Adults or children from families residing within the city limits of Bellingham who qualify for food stamps; TANF; are foster children; or are eligible for free or reduced lunch according to the USDA Federal Lunch Program income guidelines shall receive \$200 scholarship per calendar year to be used for Parks and Recreation programs. Such programs include Arne Hanna entrance fees (where there are showers and a hot tub) or community garden spaces or others. For more information call 360-738-1196 or [kristi.slette@wfcn.org](mailto:kristi.slette@wfcn.org)

## **OUR LOST AND FOUND IS GROWING – STOP BY THE MAIN LOBBY TO COLLECT ANY MISSING BELONGINGS.**

## **OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSES ARE LOOKING FOR SLIGHTLY USED BIG DUMP TRUCKS THAT CAN BE PLAYED WITH AT OUR EARLY CHILDHOOD PLAYGROUND. IF YOU HAVE A DONATION, CALL 360-381-2481. THANK YOU.**

The Meridian School District 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 employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Title IX, ADA, and Compliance Coordinator (RCW 28A.640/28A.642) Kurt Harvill. Section 504 questions and complaints can be directed to Dr. Carolyn Jenkins. Meridian School District #505 214 W. Laurel Rd. Bellingham, WA 98226. 398-7111.