

Irene Reither Elementary



IRE IMPORTANT DATES

- 4/26** Early Release – 1:15PM
4/26 Guys Read Book Club – 6:30PM
4/26 School Board Mtg. @MHS – 7PM
4/28 Good Citizen Lunch
(See lunch times below)
5/1-5 **Teacher Appreciation Week**
5/1 Parent Input Forms Available
5/4-5 SBAC Math Testing Grades 3-5
5/11 MSP Science Testing Grade 5
5/12 Olsen's class on Snow Goose
Field Trip – 9:30AM-2:30PM
5/12 PTA Skate Night – 5:30-7:30PM
5/19 Dental Van
5/26 Good Citizen Lunch
5/29 Memorial Day – No School
5/30 Post & Williams classes to
Padilla Bay – 9:15AM-3:15PM
5/31 Guys/Girls Book Club – 6PM
6/2 Volunteer Celebration – 2PM
6/9 Western Roundup – 5:30-7:30PM
6/14 Spring Concerts – K-2 9:30AM
2-3 11 AM 4-5 2:30PM
6/21 Field Day
6/22 Kindergarten Graduation
Times TBD in next newsletter
6/23 Last Day of School – 1:15PM
4th Grade NSEA field trips in next column.

COMMUNITY AGREEMENT FOR SUCCESS

BE RESPONSIBLE BE SAFE
BE RESPECTFUL BE KIND

DAILY LUNCH SCHEDULE

Grades K&1 11:20AM
Grades 3&4 11:50AM
Grades 2&5 12:20PM

HEALTH OFFICE NEEDS

In our health office we keep a few extra clothes for students who may need them for various reasons. If your children have outgrown their clothes, especially little girl pants/leggings, you may donate them to IRE. Just send clean used clothes in a bag to the office. Thank You.

SAFESCHOOLS ALERT is a resource available to report incidents in an anonymous and safe manner. This alert is found on the bottom of the MSD website. Keep Meridian Safe.

April 2017

Patti Fouts - Principal

School Day: 9:00-3:30

Adrienne Somera – Assistant Principal

Kevin Hersom – Assistant Principal

Website: www.meridian.wednet.edu/ire

Office Phone: 398-2111

Bus Garage: 398-2707

CONGRATULATIONS GOOD CITIZENS

Every month good citizens are chosen from each classroom and honored at a special lunch. **In addition to students listed in the February newsletter, the following students showing Perseverance in February were:** Jayse Martin, Madison Nelsen, Noah Gilbert, Dhiaan Sandhu, Omar Cruz, Kaiden Eden, Agustin Cerna, Eve Hayes, Caitlin West, Lea Kempf-Hernandez, Ryker Havland, Sydnie Lint, Sophia Pears, Vincent Truong, Jacob Brooks, Avery Warnock, Sawyer Strunk, Santiago Rizo, Lucas Norris, Tanner Poortinga, Sam Dortch, Maddox Leath, Damon Roberts, Damien Lee, Lucy Mauger, Micah VanRy, Zander Garvin, Dallas Reinke, Eric Chapman, Natalin Maclovio Hernandez, Mallory Warnock, and Kalli Lofquist. **Students who were Genuine Friends in March are:** Kaitlyn Storgaard, Kayson Culp, Divina Veliz, Mason Simmons, Cohen Fuller, Jaiden Schimschal, Kamber Schroeder, Harry Sabalza, Tiana Kheo, Ira Johnson, Ariel Allinson, Bailey Martin, Karla Apreza, Mia Blankenship, Yadira Alvarez, Rylen Schimschal, Nixon Spreckelmeyer, Vivian Larsen, Harlow Hurlbut, Steven Simmons, Joshua Mauger, Margarita Lopez, Alex Gehrtz, Logan Smith, Emma Pederson, Victoria Avalos, Piper Morton, Ivan Maldonado, Aria Foster, Brooklyn Thomas, Victor Cuellar, Joshua Ritter, Marisa Molendyk, Josiah Harris, Preciosa Salgado Molina, Braden Sobjack, Camden Sobjack, Tegan Jones, Isabell Botello, Austin Jansen, Presley Pen, Aaliyah Fuentes, Quincy Blaise, and Japleen Atwal.

4TH GRADE SALMON ENHANCEMENT FIELD TRIPS TO BELLEWOOD FARMS

4th grade students will be attending an upcoming field trip with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA). NSEA is a community-based nonprofit organization in Whatcom County who believe that salmon are an essential part of our environment, culture, and economy. Our students will take a bus to Bellewood Farms and explore the creek. Students will test the water quality of the stream, study and teach their classmates about native plants, and find and identify aquatic insects. With this knowledge we hope students will become good keepers of our salmon streams. Field trip times are 9:30 on the following dates: 4/27th Shaffer 4/28th Needham 5/1st Post 5/25th Williams 5/26th Whitsell.

Students should bring a sack lunch and dress for the weather.

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

Students have been working on improving their lunchroom and lining up behaviors. Classrooms work towards winning the '**Golden Tray**' Award each month. February and March 'Golden Tray' classroom winners are: Eining, Brainard, Otten, Updike, Post, Whitsell, Fellers, and Rexroat. Students have also been working to earn the classroom '**Perfect Attendance**' Award. Each day a class has perfect attendance, they earn a letter of the words PERFECT ATTENDANCE. Once a class earns the 17 letters, the class will earn a reward. The following classes have recently received a reward for perfect attendance: Rensink, Ballard, Post, Williams, and Pederson. Great job students!

KINDERGARTEN ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

We are now registering kindergarten students for the next school year. New for our district is online registration. Go to www.meridian.wednet.edu/ire and click on kindergarten registration. Read the information and click on the gold box. If you need a language other than English, choose the 'Select Language' at the top of the page. New kindergarten students must be 5 years of age by August 31st, 2017. We have a computer available in the office for registration, that you are welcome to use. Just stop by the IRE office.

CLASS PLACEMENT PARENT INPUT FORMS ARE AVAILABLE MAY 1ST AT THE IRE OFFICE

We recognize that parents have information about their child that merits consideration and may be relevant to next year's class assignment decision. Parent input forms for the 2017-2018 school year will be available May 1st. Completing this form is optional and is due back to the school office by Friday, May 19th. While the district will consider all relevant information presented, classroom assignments remain the prerogative of the school and no guarantee is made for placing a student according to parental request. The principal will make the final class placement with all available data.

OUT OF DISTRICT ANNUAL ACCEPTANCE FORM

Families who do not live in the Meridian School District boundaries are required to complete the 'Request for Non-Resident Admission **annually**'. The receiving school district effectively becomes the 'resident' school district for all matters related to the education of the student. The receiving school district will receive funding for 'resident' students. Visit the Meridian School District Office and complete this important admission form. Thank You.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART RAISES \$9,450!!

Thank you to our generous community for supporting the American Heart Association again this year. The amount raised is truly wonderful!! The top fundraiser was Lincoln Hoefer in Mrs. Whitsell's 4th grade class. He raised \$500. Students who raised \$150 or more are: Garrett Gilmore, Anya Edin, Mia Blankenship, Lily Lange, Fallon Vickers, Josephina Francisco-Woodenlegs, Olga Kovalenko, Kerri Barnes, Makayla Bachman, Bailey Martin, and Damon Packard. A BIG THANK YOU goes out to everyone for helping to make Jump Rope for Heart a huge success!

GUYS READ BOOK CLUB, APRIL 26TH 6:30-7:30PM

Guys will be reading *The Wild Robot*, by Peter Brown.

Guys and Girls Read final combo meeting will be Wednesday, May 31st from 6-7:30PM. They will be reading *Liberty*, by Kirby Larson.

GOOD WORKERS FOR FEBRUARY, MARCH, AND APRIL

Kestin Gardner, Gracie Marshall, Zacarias Antonio, Hanne Feller, Jack Anderson, Sydney Tenkley, Daniel Blankenburg, Aaliyah Fuentes, Kaiden Eden, Omar Cruz, Adelle Ashmore, Dilpreet Virk, Benjamin Duersch, Sofia Cruz, Emersyn Sobjack, Reese Gilfillan, Tiana Kheo, ZoeAnne Sutterley, Alexis Neil, Eve Hayes, Abner Bird, Finley Allen, Lily Lange, Wyatt Leuenberger, Nikita Litovchenko, Brandon Zarza-Colin, Fran Manookin, Esmerelda Nunez, Colt Spreckelmeyer, Ayden Ness, Mia Blankenship, Vanessa In Kheo, Mariah Evans, Emerald Reynolds, Mackenzie Heinz, Melissa Mendoza, Ryder Watson, Kody Gordley, Eden Bernardy, and Lyra Wilson.

MERIDIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT IS LOOKING FOR A NEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

May 1st is the deadline to apply for the school board district #5 position. Citizens who are interested, and live in the northeast section of the district must submit an application to Superintendent Tom Churchill. After reviewing the applications the School Board intends to interview candidates on May 10th.

NEW DISTRICT MEAL CHARGE POLICY FOR 2017-2018

Beginning August 30th, 2017, all students who intend to buy food through the school meals program must pay in advance or pay as they go to purchase items. No credit will be extended. A courtesy meal will be offered to any student that does not have sufficient funds to cover the expense of the meal. This change is reflected in the recently revised Board Procedure 6700P. Thank You.

WHATCOM COUNTY SHERIFF'S PRESENCE AT IRE

Whatcom County Sheriff's office is beginning a new program to promote healthy and positive relationships and interactions with students across Whatcom county school districts. Each school in the Meridian School District has been assigned a sheriff to be on campus from time to time to interact with students in a positive manner. The sheriff designated to our building will be Deputy Scott Mellema. If you have any questions regarding this program, please call the IRE office and ask to speak with Mr. Hersom – Assistant Principal, 360-398-2111, or email at khersom@meridian.wednet.edu

SAFETY BUS BOARDING PROCEDURES

When exiting the bus and the need exists to cross the street to their destination, students will adhere to the following:

- 1) Stand at the right front corner of the bus, off on the shoulder or sidewalk.
- 2) Make eye contact with the driver, but remain standing at this location.
- 3) When safe to cross the road, the bus driver will signal the student by motioning in a horizontal manner with their arm.
- 4) The student then walks across the road, at least 10 feet in front of the bus, while looking both directions for safety.

When waiting at a bus stop in which crossing the road is required to enter the bus, students will adhere to the following:

- 1) Remain standing on the shoulder of the road or sidewalk as the bus comes to a complete stop.
- 2) Make eye contact with driver, but remain standing at this location.
- 3) When safe to cross the road, the bus driver will signal the student by motioning in a horizontal manner with their arm.
- 4) The student then walks across the road, at least 10 feet in front of the bus, while looking both directions for safety.

DENTAL VAN FRIDAY, MAY 19TH

The Dental Van will be at IRE to provide fluoride treatments for students previously served this school year. Also, this is the last chance for a dental exam for students that may have missed the previous dental van services in February. Registration forms need to be completed for students that have not yet been served, and would still like to have an exam. Contact Sheree Johnston, Family Services Coordinator @ 318-2486 for more information.

SHOE GIVE PROGRAM

Blue Skies for Children's annual Shoe Give Distribution is underway. This program is for homeless, low-income, and foster families. If a child is eligible for free or reduced lunch, they are eligible for this program. Families must call for an appointment. Call 360-756-6710 for more information and to make an appointment. Each child may receive one brand new pair of athletic shoes and a pair of socks. This is a great opportunity. Program will end May 25th.

BELLINGHAM WHATCOM COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITIES WAITING LIST OPENING

The Housing Choice Voucher waiting list will open to accept applications on May 1st-31st. Pre-applications may be picked up and turned in at 208 Unity Street, Bellingham. If you have questions, you may call 360-676-6887 or email bellinghamhousing.info@bwcha.org. Information is also on their website: www.bellinghamhousing.org.

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, Assistant Superintendent, 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.