

# Centennial Elementary School

*Principal, Shannon Ritter*

*October 2017*

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## Hello Centennial Families and Students ~

It has been a terrific start to the year and I am enjoying getting to know all of our new friends here at Centennial. As you may have noticed, construction is really starting to ramp up. Here are some quick updates regarding construction:

- The Boulevard crosswalk has been upgraded and the work is almost complete. Flashing lights will be added by the end of October. We are so pleased to have this addition to help increase safety for our students and families!
- The mini-building work is moving along nicely. Last week there was lots of rumbling and shaking. I was so impressed by the students in Mrs. Anderson's classroom. The machines were moving and grooving right outside their window and they weren't distracted at all. Mrs. Anderson just keep teaching her heart out and those sweet little 1st grade students were all fully engaged, soaking up the new learning. A 4th grade student made the comment that it's like sitting in a massage chair! Kuddos to our students and staff for continuing the learning, even while "getting a massage"! The mini-building is estimated to be done in late April - May 2018. You can get a sneak peek of what is to come by driving past Pioneer Elementary School.
- The main building modernization planning is in full gear and it is going to be incredible. A team from Centennial has been meeting regularly with the architects and district personnel to help plan and provide feedback. The modernization work will officially begin once the school year is complete in June of 2018. The estimated completion date is late August of 2019. Exciting times to come.
- And lastly, our parking lot has been impacted due to construction. Due to the tight entrance to our school, we are asking the cars waiting in line to not block the entrance. Our buses are not able to get in when cars are parked there. Thank you for your extra patience in the parent pick-up line.

Our fantastic Booster Club will be inviting district personnel to share more about the modernization in early 2018 at a General Booster Club Meeting. More info to come! Mrs. Ritter

**Pumpkin Fund Run Thursday, October 12** Your classroom teacher will let you know when their *track time* is scheduled closer to the event. This is an annual ASB fundraiser for Centennial. Parents, helpers, and visitors need to check in at the office prior to going out to the field. Don't forget to wear orange that day!

## Spirit Week at Centennial October 9-12

Monday, 10/9 Silly Socks

Tuesday, 10/10 PJ

Wednesday, 10/11 Sports Day

Thursday, 10/12 wear orange – Pumpkin Fund Run

## Fall Conference Week

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held Tuesday, October 24-Friday, October 27th. School is dismissed at 12:05 p.m. Lunch will be served. Each conference is 20 minutes long. Our teachers are looking forward to meeting with you!

## Book Fair During Conference Week

The library is hosting its annual Scholastic Book Fair during parent conference week again this year, Monday through Friday, Oct. 23-27. Students will be able to shop during their lunch recess, and with their parents before or after their conferences. Book Fair will be open in the morning by 8:00 a.m. for the occasional morning conference and will stay open each night until 5:30 p.m. The Book Fair will be open on Friday 8:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

## Veterans Day Assembly

Mark your calendars. Centennial Elementary students will be presenting a Veterans Day program on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m. We will be acknowledging the veterans of our community's families. Informational letters will be going home.

*Please refrain from taking pictures or video of anyone other than your child. We have a large number of families who have requested their child not be photographed. Thank you for understanding.*

## Halloween

With Halloween approaching at the end of the month, we ask families to remember to have their child wear appropriate attire to school. Please check with your individual teachers regarding plans for the day. Students are asked not to wear costumes, masks or anything that might scare other children and no look-a-like weapons. Also, remember no candy, due to the school district's nutrition policy.

**Speak Clearly** To boost your child's communication skills, let her introduce herself when she meets people rather than doing it for her. Also, encourage her to be clear and specific when asking for help. If she says, "I can't do this," you might respond, "What are you asking for help with?" *Home & School Connection, October 2017*

## Free Parenting Workshops

The Olympia School District is pleased to offer free parent education workshops with Candyce Lund Bollinger. Bollinger is a parent educator and private parenting counselor in Washington State and has been practicing for more than 35 years. She provides classes and consultations for schools, colleges, civic groups, private organizations and has a private practice. She is the mother of four children and has two grandchildren.

### 2017-18 Workshop Details

**Time:** 6:30-8:30 pm

**Location:** Olympia Regional Learning Academy, 2400 15th Ave SE, Olympia, WA

#### Elementary Parent Workshops (K-5)

- Tuesday, October 10, 2017 - Managing your Parental Response
- Monday, November 6, 2017 - Positive Discipline
- Tuesday, January 23, 2018 - Safety Without Fear
- Tuesday, February 27, 2018 - Anger

#### Middle & High School Parent Workshops (6-12)

- Tuesday, September 26, 2017 - Managing Your Parental Response
- Tuesday, October 24, 2017 - Developmentally Appropriate Expectations/Ages 11-19
- Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - Positive Constructive Communication with Teens
- Tuesday, February 13, 2018 - Effective Teen Discipline
- Tuesday, March 13, 2018 - Teen Relationships/LGBTQAI

Workshops are free and no registration is required.

**With the rainy season upon us**, please be sure your child brings a coat to school each day. Please be aware that the school does not have the resources to provide dry clothes for all children. We will try to place a

call home for a change of clothes, when possible. We know it is very difficult for some families to get away from work to bring a change of clothes to the school. Note there will be times when a student may have to wear wet/damp clothes in class.

## Attention! Attention!

Staying focused during class will help your child do her best work. Here are strategies that can make a difference.

- **Role play.** Pretend you're the teacher, and have your youngster show you what a student who is paying attention looks like. She might sit quietly with her eyes focused on you.
- **Stretch attention span.** Suggest that your child do activities that require concentration. Examples include putting together jigsaw puzzles or building a house of cards.
- **Remove distractions.** Encourage her to keep only what she needs on her desk. For instance, she should put away art supplies during a social studies lesson. *Note:* If your youngster has trouble focusing at home, ask her teacher how well she focuses during school. The teacher can share what she notices and offer advice.  
*Home & School Connection, October 2017*

## Head Lice Article from our Nurse

Fall is in the air! Conference Week and Winter Break are just around the corner. This is often a time when we see more incidences of head lice. Prevention of head lice is key:

- Encourage children not to share personal items such as coats, hats, brushes, combs, hair barrettes/scrunchies, pillows, etc.
- Lice do not fly or jump, they crawl.
- If your child is scratching his/her head more than usual, this is a warning. Using a bright light, check for lice, nits & scratch marks.
- Lice & nits are very small. Adult lice are the size of a sesame seed. Nits feel like a little grain of sand stuck to the hair shaft and must be manually removed or they hatch into lice.
- If your child has been treated for lice, please check in at the main office prior to returning to school.
- The internet is a great resource for how to get rid of nits & lice.

**Student Handbooks** Centennial's Student Handbook is online at [centennial.osd.wednet.edu](http://centennial.osd.wednet.edu). Inside you will see information on our schedule, teacher voice mail number, homework information and much more.

## Planned Absence Request Forms

Remember, if you are going on a vacation or on a trip, please complete a Planned Absence Request Form. These forms are available in the office **or call us and we will send a form home with your child. Please see the 2017/18 District Calendar & Handbook** and Centennial's Student Handbook, both explain absences from school.

**Changes of Clothes** – The Health Room could use boys and girl's pants or sweatpants all sizes. Drop any gently used pants at the office. Thank you.

**Check out the "Parent Resources" Tab** on Centennial's (link) or Olympia School District web page.

There are instructions for managing your Family Access Account:

- Skylert Notifications in Family Access
- Timberland Library Card
- Changing your Family Access e-mail
- Forgot your Family Access password

**New Island on Boulevard and 45th Ave** – Please note we have a new island at the entrance of Boulevard and 45<sup>th</sup> Ave. Buses making a left turn from 45<sup>th</sup> onto Boulevard going south will need to swing into the right turning lane on 45<sup>th</sup> Ave (at the intersection) to make that sharp left turn. Please keep the lane free when you see the buses approach the intersection. Also note, we do have adult Crossing Guards that are walking out to the island to cross students. Please help us by stopping your car when the flag is out, and until the Crossing Guard returns to the curb. They must walk the children out and then have to walk back to their station.

**Pumpkin Power** What’s orange and round and full of opportunities to learn? A pumpkin! Your child can try these activities.

- **Math** Have your youngster estimate how many “stripes” (ridges) are on a pumpkin and count to see how close she came. She could paint each stripe as she counts it, switching colors to create a pattern. The colors will help her keep track of the number of stripes—and she’ll have a pretty pumpkin to display!
- **Writing** Suggest that your child design a brochure for an imaginary pumpkin festival. Encourage her to give her festival a name and describe features, such as mini pumpkin hunts, pumpkin catapults, or hayrides.
- **Science** Your youngster may be surprised to discover that pumpkins float. Let her try making boats out of them. She could start with a whole pumpkin boat (cut off the top and scrape out the insides). Then, help her carve boats of different sizes and shapes, perhaps deep and wide or shallow and narrow. How does the design affect whether they float or sink? *Home & School Connection*, October 2017

## Upcoming Dates

**10/6** Friday Sing at 2:45 p.m.

**10/11** Early Release Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-2:32 p.m.

**10/9-12** School Spirit Week

**10/12** ASB Pumpkin Fund Run

**10/13** No School Teacher In-Service Day

**10/18** Early Release Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-2:32 p.m.

Fourth Grade Program at 7:00 p.m. Centennial Gym

**10/23-27** Book Fair CES Library

**10/24-27** Conference Week- dismissal at 12:05 p.m.

**11/3** Booster Club’s Fall Social at Centennial 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**11/8** Third Grade Program at CES Gym at 7:00 p.m.

**11/9** Veterans Day Assembly at 9:15 a.m.

**11/13** Field Trip - Fourth Grade – morning

**11/14** Booster Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m. – Guest Speaker Superintendent Patrick Murphy

**11/17** Friday Sing at 2:45 p.m.

**11/22-24** Thanksgiving Break

**11/30** Centennial Choir Concert at OHS PAC at 7:00 p.m.

**School Menu** - Starting the month of October the Child Nutrition Department will no longer be printing menus for every student at the Elementary Schools. They will provide a few menus for the office counters. The menus can be found on the school district's web site under Child Nutrition. If parents would like a hard copy they can print it from the website or there is a link on the menu page to have it emailed.  
<https://osd.nutrislice.com/>

**Now Hiring Bus Drivers. For more Information Please call [360-596-7727](tel:360-596-7727)**

## OSD 2017-18 Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Olympia School District will provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without discrimination based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request to individuals with disabilities.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies, reports of alleged sexual harassment, concerns about compliance, and/or grievance procedures: Jeff Carpenter, Title IX Officer, (360) 596-8544; Ken Turcotte, Section 504 and ADA Coordinator, (360) 596-7542; and Scott Niemann, Affirmative Action Officer and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, (360) 596-6193. All three individuals may also be contacted at 1113 Legion Way S.E., Olympia, WA, 98501.



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ELEMENTARY