

Centennial Elementary School

Principal, Shannon Ritter

September 2016

Hello Centennial Family ~

The mission statement of Centennial is “to ensure high levels of learning for all”. As we wrap up our first full week, I have seen numerous examples of our school community working together, to support each other and ensure high levels of learning for all. Thank you!

You may have heard about our pirate inspired school theme for the year. “All Hands On Deck” for a great year! We are off to a super start already and it has been smooth sailing thanks to an all hands on deck approach by our students, staff and families.

The district recently adopted a new English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum called Wonders. It is a comprehensive program, aligned with the Common Core State Standards, full of fantastic resources to ensure high levels of learning for all. Teachers have been and continue to work collaboratively to bring this new curriculum alive in the classroom. It has been exciting to see their hours and hours of preparation come to life!

As always, thank you for partnering with us. It’s going to be another great year.

Aargh! Mrs. Ritter 😊

CURRICULUM NIGHT

Tuesday, September 20

For Parents and Teachers

Meet in the classrooms at Centennial

5:00-5:45 p.m. grades K-2

6:15-7:00 p.m. grades 3-5



ELA Implementation Days

What is this?

Olympia School District adopted a new english language curriculum (*Wonders*) at the elementary school level this spring. Teachers will be spending several days over the 2016-17 school year learning about this new curriculum. Student will be dismissed from school at 12:05 p.m. on September 28, 2016, November 16, 2016 and January 18, 2017.

FAIR TICKETS AVAILABLE



Tickets are available at the school office for the Washington State Fair in Puyallup, September 2 - 25. One per Centennial student. Send a note to the school if you would like a ticket sent home with your child.

SCHOOL PICTURES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Monday, October 3rd
K, 1st, 2nd 3rd, 4th and 5th

Clintworth Photography will send a picture order form/envelope home at the end of September.

NEEDED ART DOCENTS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Olympia School District is piloting an Elementary Visual Arts Program in a number of our K-5 classrooms this year. OSD will offer convenient and flexible schedules to our docents.

Art docents deliver the actual art lesson - typically assisted by the classroom teacher and a work study staff member. Each art lesson is 60-75 minutes and lesson-specific materials are delivered to the school ahead of time. They will use the much acclaimed Deep Space Sparkle curriculum. Art docents are trained by our district's Visual Arts Coordinator. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested in helping, contact our school office at 596-8300 and we will give your name to the coordinator.

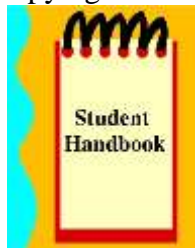
Tardies and Early Release

New guidelines have been implemented for elementary schools in Olympia School District regarding tardies and early release of students at the end of the day. Students will be marked:

- **Tardy** 9:00-9:30 a.m. (30 minute window)
- After 9:30 (9:31 a.m. on) the student is considered a **Half Day Absent (AM)**
- If a family takes a student out early from school (before 2:52 p.m.) it is an **Half Day Absent (PM)**
- If the children leave within the last ½ hour of the end of the school day (2:52-3:22 p.m.) it is recorded as an **Early Departure**.

STUDENT HANDBOOK ONLINE

Centennial's Student Handbook is online at centennial.osd.wednet.edu. To save resources (paper, money and time) we are only copying a few handbooks for those families that do not have access to a computer or the internet. If you need a hard copy let your teacher or the office know by September 23 that you would like a copy.



Food Bank Weekend Food Bags

The food bank, in conjunction with the local school districts, has created a weekend program, which provides a bag of food items for kids to eat on the weekend. The food bank realizes that families sometimes have trouble getting to the food bank due to transportation and/or work schedules. They want to ensure that students have kid friendly food items that they can eat with minimal adult support if needed over the weekend.



The food bank will take into account your child's age to create a weekend food supply. They are happy to provide siblings, both older and younger, a bag of food also. If you would like to have each of your children be given a bag with food they can bring home on Fridays, contact the school office at 596-8300.

NOTES from home.....

Post-it-notes are not a good way to send notes to school. We are finding them *attached to all sorts of things....* Any other type of scratch paper will work to ensure that your child's information makes it to the right place.



PLEASE RETURN

- ❑ Student Enrollment Information
- ❑ Student Health Information
- ❑ Transportation Form
- ❑ Student Right's Handbook *to be sent home the week of September 22nd (2 pages must be returned- Acknowledgement page and Military page)*
- ❑ Emergency Release Forms
- ❑ Emergency Kits



BIRTHDAYS TREATS AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS

If you are interested in helping your child celebrate his/her birthday at school, please note that due to our nutrition policy, food items that do not meet nutritional guidelines will not be allowed. Please talk with your child's teacher about ideas for birthday celebrations.



PARKING AT CENTENNIAL

As we all know, Centennial has a limited number of parking spaces. This is why there are two different time schedules for Curriculum Night in September, why we have only grade level performances at Centennial, and why we use the Olympia High School Performing Arts Center (PAC) for all choir performances.



As a courtesy to our neighbors that live near the school, we would like to remind parents to be careful where they park. Some neighbors were concerned that people had parked on both sides of the street making the road too narrow for the residents to reach their homes. Any carpooling, walking or biking is much appreciated.

COMMUNITY FLYER DISTRIBUTION

Olympia School District is not distributing hard copies of community flyers to all students at the elementary school level. Instead, OSD will post flyers electronically to the school district's website. You can find approved flyers in the "Activities & Services" section at:

http://osd.wednet.edu/activities__services/activities__services



UP-COMING EVENTS

- 9/20 Curriculum Night
5:00-5:45 p.m. K, 1, 2 grades
6:15-7:00 p.m. 3, 4, 5 grades
- 9/28 Early Dismissal 12:05 p.m. - ELA Implementation Day for Teachers
- 10/3 Individual School Picture Day
- 10/5 Collaboration Day- Early Dismissal 12:05 p.m.
- 10/10-13 – Centennial Spirit Week
- 10/14 In-Service Day for Teachers- No School
- 10/25-28 Conference Week – Early Dismissal 12:05 p.m.
- 11/2 Collaboration Day- Early Dismissal 12:05 p.m.
- 11/16 Early Dismissal 12:05 p.m. - ELA Implementation Day for Teachers
- 11/23-25 Thanksgiving Holiday – No School

NUTRITION POLICY BASIC GUIDELINES:

- Shall be under 200 calories per unit
- Less than 10% of the calories from a combination of trans/saturated fats
- Nuts - which do not need to fall within the fat guidelines but should have no added saturated fats (Please note that we have numerous peanut allergies in the building and some allergies to tree nuts. Please talk with your child's teacher before sending any items with nuts or nut oils.)
- Yogurt and cheese products need to be made with 2% or lower milk fat
- Foods that contain minimal nutritional value as defined by the USDA, cannot be dispensed at school during the academic day- this includes items such as popsicles, chewing gum, hard candy, jellies and gums, marshmallow candies, licorice, fondant, spun candy, coated popcorn, etc.
- Office has a list of snack ideas

ARRIVAL AT CENTENNIAL

Please remember that there is no staff supervision for students before 8:50 a.m. Students should not be dropped off prior to that time. This includes being dropped off early to the playfield. If a parent is supervising their child on the playfield, then this is the only exception to the policy.

After School Change in Plans...Riding the Bus

If your child is going to ride the bus to another friend's house the following information is needed to complete a bus pass for your child to board a bus after school:

- date
- child's name
- address of the friend's house (friend's name included)
- Bus Route (22, 23, 26 or 24/29)
- Guardian/Parent's name/signature



OSD Transportation Department has implemented this procedure. A bus pass with the above information is now required. Please make changes prior to school in the AM.

GOING GREEN

For families that do not have access to a computer, there are about 20 extra copies of community flyers at the school. Check the "Local Sport Camp Information" kiosk across from the office. Notices from the Booster Club and Centennial are located in the office on the shelves on the front counter. CES monthly newsletters will be sent to families via Skyward - Message Center, and can be found on our school webpage. A few copies will be at the front counter.



Spirit Week at Centennial October 10th - 13th

- Monday: Silly Socks
- Tuesday: PJ's
- Wednesday: Sports Day
- Thursday: Wear Orange (Pumpkin Fund Run - afternoon)
- Friday: No School – In-Service Day



PUMPKIN FUND RUN

Thursday, October 13

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!



FYI_ - If you cannot access your Family Access Account we may not have your correct email address. Send a note to the office or the teacher.

For the safety and security of our children at Centennial we are requesting that the only adults on the playground are our staff members during the school day. Only exceptions will be parents assisting at recess with the Star Strider Recess Running Club, Fall Pumpkin Fund Run activity and the end of the year Field Day activity. Thank you for your understanding.



Notice of Nondiscrimination 2016-17 School Year

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; **Kari Lewinsohn, Section 504 and ADA Coordinator**, (360) 596-7538; 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.



After School Pick Up Procedures



Striped area of parking lot is the only area to load/unload students.

Students that are being picked up by a parent/guardian should wait under the "Student Pick-up Area" sign.

Cars will slowly work their way along the sidewalk lane until they are in the striped area in front of the "Student Pick-up Area".

Please **do not** pick up your child prior to this area, for the safety of your child as well as other students.

Once you are at a complete stop in the striped area, your child may go to your car. Be sure to **pull as far forward as possible** to allow as many cars to pick up at one time as room allows.

Only children that have permission to walk/bike home should be on the sidewalk area. All others should be waiting under the "Student Pick-up Area" sign.

If you do not see your child and you are at the front of the striped pick-up area, please either park or loop back around, in order to keep the pick-up line moving. Staff have radios to communicate if you feel your child may not be where they are supposed to be.

If you want to greet your child at the front of the school, please park and stand to the opposite side of the pick-up area, to alleviate congestion.

Cell phones should not be used while picking up or dropping off your students.



We appreciate your cooperation as it is key to making this a successful pick up routine.

PE Homeplay

In keeping with the “Let’s Move!” Initiative and the NFL PLAY60, Centennial students are encouraged to accumulate 60 minutes of “active play” every day! ACTIVE PLAY means using your “big muscles” and participating in a game, sport or activity that makes you breathe harder than normal and get hot and sweaty.



Students can earn a FANTASTIC FEAT AWARD for each day that they accumulate 60 minutes of activity with either a note from home or an email to jgedde@osd.wednet.edu. Please include the student’s first and last name, teacher’s name, and parent signature. FANTASTIC FEAT AWARDS are presented at PE, so it’s helpful to have reports for the week turned in before PE class.

Attendance and Phone Calls



Please be aware if your child is not in school for an approved reason (*see the back of the 2016/17 Calendar & Handbook*), you will get an automated phone call from School Messenger alerting you that your child is absent, even if you have contacted the school office regarding the absence.

Please bring a note from your doctor or dentist when returning to school after your medical appointment.

When leaving a message on the absence line (596-8303) please be specific regarding the reason for the absence.