



# Centennial Elementary School

Shannon Ritter, Principal

January 2018

## Message from Assistant Principal Scott Nye

As we have turned the corner into our New Year of 2018, I would like to welcome you all back after our long winter break. I also want to welcome in our new families to Centennial and trust that you will find yourselves to be part of an outstanding and supportive learning community.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who spent time assisting and helping out in the month of December. We had a lot of school wide celebrations and programs including our winter choir concerts, band and strings programs, Friday Sing, and individual classroom activities to kick off the winter season. Our staff could not have made these as successful without your support.

This is the time of year when our staff and students re-establish routines and continue to teach and practice our school wide expectations of being Responsible, Respectful, and Safe. As we continue to move through the month of January, students and teachers will be busy gearing up for benchmark assessments and preparing for final semester grades. Please continue to do your best to get your students here at school, on time, all day, every day.

An exciting event already for the month included a visit from The Pacific Science Center with their Space Odyssey Exhibition on January 8th & 9th. This event consisted of a whole school assembly, interactive, hands-on workshops, and exhibits. This annual event, in its seventh year at Centennial, is funded by our October Pumpkin Fun(d) Run. We also have our Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly on January 12th. Please continue to check your student's backpacks for information supporting our Battle of the Books, our Kindergarten Program, February Reading Month and the CES Science Fair.

I want to say thank you to all of our families for all you do in supporting our students and staff here at Centennial. As your new Assistant Principal, I have found in the past four months that Centennial is truly a very special place with a talented and professional staff, and a wonderful group of students. I look forward to an amazing and exciting rest of the year!

## January is School Board Appreciation Month

We would like to thank the Olympia School District Board of Directors for their service to our district!

## Reading Month & Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books will start practice on January 29th running through February 23rd, during 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades' library class time. Reading month will begin February 5<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The theme this year is **Read for the Gold!**

- **Used Book Sale February 22<sup>nd</sup>**
- **Character Day March 2<sup>rd</sup>**
- **Battle of the Books Championship March 13<sup>th</sup>**



## Wanted Used Books

The library is now accepting gently used books for the ASB Used Book Sale until February 21.

## Olympia Junior Programs

Information regarding the Olympia Junior Programs (OJP) will be coming home shortly. These plays are presented by various groups from around the country. The plays take place at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Olympia. It is a wonderful experience for your child. Booster Club's OJP representative is Rocky Ricarte, who will be coordinating the plays for Centennial. More information will be going home regarding the cost and permission slip. Your signature on the envelope is imperative in order for your child to go. Plays this year are:

- 2/12      *Waters of the Earth*    grades 4-5
- 2/23      *The Adventures of Bella & Harry* grades 1-3
- 3/19      *Frindle* grades 4-5
- 4/16      *Mr. Popper's Penguins*    grades 1-3

## Learn All About Kindergarten event set for February 11

The Olympia School District will hold its annual "Learn All About Kindergarten" informational event from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 10 at Capital High School.

If you know of neighbors or friends who have a child entering kindergarten in the Olympia School District in the fall of 2018, please share this information with them and encourage them to attend this free event. Capital High School is located at 2707 Conger Ave. N.W. in Olympia.

The event begins at 10:00 a.m. with a welcome by Superintendent Patrick Murphy. Families will then have until 11:30 a.m. to visit school booths set up in the high school gym and learn about a variety of topics related to kindergarten and school in general.

Among other things, families may learn about kindergarten program options, riding the bus, how to register for kindergarten and how to use the district's Family Access student information system to stay updated on everything from grades to lunch accounts. The school district's Transportation department will also have a school bus on site for parents to learn about bus safety and rules, and to see the inside of the bus.

A reminder that children should be 5 years old by August 31, 2018 to be eligible to start kindergarten in September 2018. The event is geared for adults of incoming kindergartners in the Olympia School District. Childcare is not provided.

## In Case of Emergency

Keeping your contact information up to date is vital in an emergency. When your child has been injured at school or is sick, the office needs to have accurate contact information. It is also necessary for teachers to have up to date contact information to keep you informed regarding your child's progress. Please send a note in with your child if you have a change to your phone number(s), address, or email information.

**Reminder to call the Attendance Line** at 596-8303 to report any absences or late arrivals. The office needs to know as soon as possible. *This is a 24-hour recording phone line. Please feel free to call this number at any time that you are aware that your child will be absent.*



## Mark your Calendars for Fifth Grade Outdoor School

Our fifth grade students will be attending Outdoor School at the Cispus Environmental Center in Randle, Washington, April 25 - 27. This will be a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday trip.

Cost is \$150.00 per student. You are welcome to start making payments on your child's Outdoor School tuition.

More information to follow.

## Fifth Grade Parent Meetings for Middle School

3/12 Parent Meeting @ Washington Middle School at 6:00-7:00 p.m.

## Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books is another reading incentive program offered to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at Centennial Elementary during February's Reading Month. The goals of this program are to encourage students to broaden their reading interest, increase reading comprehension and promote academic achievement.

Battle of the Books is a team effort. Each student is part of a team. Students choose to read books from a list of selected titles. They discuss the books, quiz each other on the contents, and then compete in teams to correctly answer questions based on the books in the list. Students can check out the books at the CES library or the public library. Practices take place in the library during the student's regularly scheduled library visits starting in February. The final championship will be on March 13. Parents are welcome to attend.

## 4th Annual OSD Technology Fair is January 20th

Mark your calendars for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual OSD Technology Fair on Saturday, January 20 at Capital High School. The free event, which is open to all students, families and the community, will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the high school Commons, 2707 Conger Ave. N.W. in Olympia. School booths will be open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will showcase a variety of ways that students and teachers use digital tools to support the learning process.

## Activity Corner - Make a Crystal "Garden"



This sparkly science experiment will show your youngster how crystals form.

1. Save the shells from 4 eggs that you've cracked in half. Have your child rinse them and place into an empty egg carton.
2. Measure 1/2 cup boiling water into a mug. Your youngster should stir in about 1/4 cup salt, a little at a time, until it won't dissolve anymore.
3. Let your child pour 1 tbsp. water into each shell and add a drop of food coloring.
4. Have her check the shells twice a day and record what she sees. Over several days, colorful crystals will form.
5. She could paint her crystals with clear nail polish to preserve them.

**The science:** As salt dissolves, the water molecules drive apart the salt molecules. When the water evaporates, the salt molecules go back together, forming a regular geometric pattern called a crystal. Snowflakes and diamonds are real-world examples of crystals. *January 2017 Home & School Connection.*

## Centennial's Science & Engineering Fair Sponsored by Centennial Booster Club

We would like to invite all K-5 students to take part in this year's Centennial Elementary Science Fair! The fair will be the evening of Tuesday, March 6. We hope your student will take part in this fun and educational opportunity! Science Fair registration packets will be available online starting February 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Upcoming Events

**1/8-1/9** Science on Wheels Assembly & Classroom Lessons - *Planetarium*

**1/9** Booster Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**1/12** Martin Lutheran King Jr. Assembly 9:15 a.m.

**1/15** MLK Jr. Holiday – No School

**1/20** 4th Annual Tech Fair 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**1/26** Friday Sing – 2:45 p.m. (note this is a change in date)

**1/31** Kindergarten Program 7:00 p.m.

**2/2** Early Dismissal at 12:05 p.m.- Teachers working on report cards

**2/6** CES Science Fair Registration Forms - available online

**2/7** First Grade Program at 7:00 p.m.

**2/10** OSD District-Wide Kindergarten Information Event at Capital High School 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**2/12** Olympia Junior Program Field Trip grades 4 & 5 *Waters of the Earth*

**2/16** Report Cards go home in backpacks for 1<sup>st</sup> semester

Friday Sing at 2:45 p.m. (note this is a change in date)

**2/19-20** Mid-Winter Break No School

**2/22** ASB Used Book Sale

**2/23** Olympia Junior Program Field Trip grades 1-3 *The Adventures of Bella & Harry*

**3/2** Character Day

Friday Sing 2:45 p.m.

**3/6** CES Booster Club's Science Fair 5:30- 7:30 p.m.

**3/13** Battle of the Books Championship

Booster Club Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

### 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, [jcarpenter@osd.wednet.edu](mailto:jcarpenter@osd.wednet.edu), (360) 596-8544
- Ken Turcotte, Section 504 and ADA Coordinator, [kturcotte@osd.wednet.edu](mailto:kturcotte@osd.wednet.edu), (360) 596-7542
- Steve Rood, Director of Career and Technical Education, [srood@osd.wednet.edu](mailto:srood@osd.wednet.edu), (360) 596-6109
- Scott Niemann, Affirmative Action Officer and Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator, [sniemann@osd.wednet.edu](mailto:sniemann@osd.wednet.edu), (360) 596-6193. All four individuals may also be contacted at [1113 Legion Way S.E., Olympia, WA, 98501](http://1113.Legion.Way.S.E.,Olympia.WA,98501).