

Chimacum Middle School Newsletter

March 10, 2009

Whitney E. Meissner, Ed.D, Principal
Frank D. Delgado, Assistant Principal



Contents

Upcoming Events	1
Student Led Conferences	1
Summer School	2
WASL Info	2
Yearbook News	3
Free Autism Screening Info	3
Sixth Grade News	3
School Emergency Info	3
Calendar of Events	4
CMS Fundraiser (escrip)	4
Girls Basketball Schedule	5
Track Schedule	5

Upcoming Events

- ◆ End of Trimester
March 12th
- ◆ Student Led
Conferences
March 25th
- ◆ Spring Break
Mar. 30-Apr. 3

Student-Led Conferences on March 25, 2009

Over the past several weeks, our students and staff have been working with the kids to help them put the finishing touches on their collections of "Best Works" portfolios.

As in the past, student-led conferences will be facilitated through your son/daughter's Eagle Time advisor. However, this year we have set aside a whole day, Wednesday, March 25th, during which we can hear the conferences.

Hopefully, you have seen a letter from your student's Eagle Time advisor explaining the purpose and requesting input into the time for your conference. We expect all students to participate.

If March 25th does not work with your schedule, please feel free to contact the advisor to request either an alternate time or to have your student present his/her portfolio to another caring adult.

In addition to helping kids learn to organize and collect work samples, we hope this process builds reflection skills, a research-based strategy that will improve student learning. In addition, learning to speak about goals, school skills, test scores, and other portfolio elements will assist kids in meeting several state communication standards and prepare them for several school graduation requirements.

The desired results from this process are as follows:

- 1) Students will accept personal responsibility for their academic performance.
- 2) Students will learn the process of self-evaluation and reflection.
- 3) The process will facilitate the development of students' organizational and oral communication skills and increase their self-confidence.
- 4) More parents will be more involved in the education of students.

The CMS staff is eager to have you share in our students' educational growth. We want all of our students to be successful and pass all their classes. We believe your participation will help achieve this goal.

Daily Bulletin

The CMS daily bulletin can now be accessed on the Middle School Website.

Go to the District Website at

www.csd49.org

click on Middle School

We are currently working on updating our website so parents have access to all of the latest news in our building.

Summer School

According to Ruth Curran Neild, Robert Balfanz, and Lisa Herzog, the students that will eventually drop out of high school send major distress signals as early as the 6th grade. Their research showed that students who send early warning signals, such as a failing grade in English or math, attendance below 80% for the year, or unsatisfactory behaviors in 6th grade have at least a 75% probability of dropping out of high school.

According to the ACT report, *The Forgotten Middle: Ensuring that All Students Are on Target for College and Career Readiness before High School*, "the level of academic achievement that students attain by eighth grade has a larger impact on their college and career readiness than anything that happens academically in high school".

While at first this information seems a little daunting, we are excited by the challenge of helping students understand that we hear their distress signals. We will be working to support students who fit this profile.

Again this year, we will be offering two summer school programs to support students' extended learning needs. Information about this will be available at Student Led Conferences and will be sent home to nominated students.

The Middle School Summer School program will be available to students currently in 6th - 8th grade and will develop basic skills in reading, writing, math, physical education, social students and science.

This four week program will run Monday - Thursday, June 22 - July 16, 9:00 - 12:00.

There is a \$10 nonrefundable registration fee used for snacks and supplies.

The Freshman Academy will be available to students currently in 8th grade and is a one-credit jump start course open to all students interested in learning more about the hidden rules of high school, such as how to set goals, communicate with teachers, stay on top of the mounds of homework, and navigate the high school graduation requirements.

Dates for Freshman Academy are pending, but will likely be late July/early August. This is a two-week, all day program.

If you have any questions or would like to register for one or both of these programs, please feel free to contact the office.

WASL

This is just a reminder that WASL is coming. Middle School testing is schedule for April 14 - 16 and April 21 - 23.

Students and families are encouraged to read about changes to the testing program on the OSPI website: www.k12.wa.us. Sample test questions, helpful hints for successful test-taking, and many other resources are available to students and parents here.

**Purchase
Your
Yearbooks
Now**

**Supplies will be
Limited!**



School Emergency Information

For school closure or late start due to weather conditions, please check our District Website. Here's the links:

www.csd49.org or
www.schoolreport.org

This link will notify you if we are on a late start schedule, school closure or snow bus route schedule.

Eighth Grade News

Parents of Ms. Lowrie's 8th graders:

Classroom information is now available to you @

<http://new.schoolnotes.com/ShannonLowrie/>

This link is available on the District Website, then click on the Middle School link, choose staff, you will then see her link.

Please check the site regularly as Ms. Lowrie will update daily for homework and notices.

It is a work in progress-so please be patient as she develops the page into the most useful resource she can for students and parents.

8th Grade Olympic Odyssey

The 8th grade Olympic Odyssey annual trip is coming up May 18 - 22.

The cost for this trip is \$125. Please try to have this paid for prior to May 15th. Monthly installment payments are gladly accepted.

Information packets will be coming home with your student soon.

Yearbook News

The Yearbooks are hard cover and full color with extra signing pages! Prices go up to \$30 after spring break. Please purchase early because there won't be enough books for everyone this year!

Sixth Grade News

Parents and students in Mr. Gonzalez's Science classes can access homework assignments on his website:

http://www.educatoral.com/extra_credit.html

Planting Trees

The 6th grade classes planted trees on March 2, 3, and 6th.

**Spring Break
March 31 - April 3**

Free Autism Screenings

This April, the University of Washington Autism Center in Tacoma will be offering free, walk-in autism screenings to the community. Please see the attached flyer. Screenings will be offered April 7th and 21st from 9-11AM and April 14th and 28th from 3-5PM. Families will be served on a first come/first served basis.

These screenings are part of the UW Autism Center's mission to increase knowledge and awareness about autism in the general public. Please keep this opportunity in mind when speaking with families concerned that their children are showing signs of an autism spectrum disorder or general developmental delay.

If you have any questions, contact Nathan Ketzner, Parent Resource Coordinator, at 253-692-4721.

Calendar of Events

March

- 2 6th gr. Tree Planting/1st period
- 3 6th gr. Tree planting/1st period
- 4 MS/HS Band Adjudication
- 6 6th gr. Tree Planting/6th period
- 12 Early Release / 12:15
- 12 End of 2nd Trimester
- 13 No School / Non-Student Day
- 16-20 Spirit Week
- 25 No School / Student Led Conferences
- 25 MS/HS Choir Adjudication
- 26 March Awards Assembly
- 30-31 Spring Break

April

- 1-3 Spring Break
- 8 Girls BB Awards Night/6:30
- 8-30 WASL Testing Window
- 16 Music Assembly @ 12:30
- 24 ASB Dance 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 30 April Awards Assembly



Dates to Remember

School Fundraising Opportunities

Dear Parents:

Chimacum Middle School has some exciting news! We've just joined the eScrip Recycling Program. This program is FREE and provides a convenient location for collecting laser, inkjet cartridges, used cell phones, iPods and laptops while raising funds for our school.

How the program works: Collection bins, clearly marked and accessible during normal school hours, will be placed in the Middle School office. You can drop off your recyclable cell phones, cartridges, iPods and laptops whenever it's convenient for you. Periodically, our school will mail the items collected at our school to the **eScrip Recycling** offices. **eScrip Recycling** will then deposit funds electronically in our school groups account!!!

Did you know that every second of every day nine ink cartridges are thrown away? Help us turn this waste into CASH! Please donate your cell phones, cartridges, iPods and laptops by placing them in the collection bins at school.

Not only is this an easy way to raise funds, it also teaches our students valuable lessons about the variety of materials that can be recycled and it helps them develop life long patterns.

This program will not be successful without the support of the community and people like you.

Thank you for your help in recycling.

We can also earn dollars by shopping online. You can get information from the following links:

= "<https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/group/onlinemall/groupmallredirect.jsp?gid=8561424>" or

= "http://groups.escrip.com/omlink/escrip_online_mall.gif



Chimacum Middle School

91 W. Valley Rd.
PO Box 250
Chimacum, WA 98325

Phone:

(360)732-4219

Fax:

(360)732-6859

E-mail:

E-mail address

We're on the Web!
Csd49.org
Click Middle School

Sports Schedule - Girls Basketball

March

- 2 Port Angeles - White @ Chimacum
- 5 Forks @ Forks
- 9 Blue Heron @ Chimacum
- 12 Sequim @ Chimacum
- 16 Port Angeles - Blue @ Port Angeles (Stevens)
- 18 Blue Heron JV only @ Blue Heron
- 19 Port Angeles - White @ Port Angeles (Stevens)
- 23 Forks @ Chimacum
- 26 Blue Heron @ Blue Heron (PT)

Game Time: 3:30

Sports Schedule - Track

April

- 22 Stevens, Chimacum @ Forks
- 30 Stevens (?), Chimacum @ Blue Heron

May

- 6 Sequim, Chimacum @ Forks
- 14 Chimacum @ Stevens
- 21 Chimacum @ Sequim
- 28 League Meet @ Blue Heron

Track Practice begins on April 6th

Chimacum Middle School
91 W. Valley Rd.
PO Box 250
Chimacum, WA 98325

US POSTAGE
PAID
Chimacum, WA
Permit No. 3
Non-Profit

**RECIPIENT NAME
STREET ADDRESS
ADDRESS 2
CITY, ST ZIP CODE**